



The Veterinary Risk Assessment & Management Plan V-RAMP

Johne's Disease is a very widespread infection in cattle and a major challenge to farming in Northern Ireland. The last stages of disease are characterised by wasting and chronic diarrhoea. Key to controlling the infection is identifying what the risks are for the infection to get into, establish and spread within the herd and taking measures to reduce those risks.

The key part of the Northern Ireland Johne's Disease Control programme is the V-RAMP which has been designed by AHWNI to assist herdowners and their vets to identify the most important risks on farms and put in place measures to reduce those risks.

The V-RAMP uses a system which assigns scores based on the risks identified by the farmer and their vet. Those areas that score highest are deemed riskiest for the introduction and transmission of infection. The assessment examines five elements of farm management and biosecurity practices: inward movement history (animals/products), calf management, heifer management, adult animal management and management of the calving areas. Once the risks have been assessed, the vet and farmer agree up to three actions that are achievable and can be carried out to reduce the most important risks identified.

Key Risks for Johne's Disease

