

# PROTECT YOURSELF FROM BOVINE TB



Cook meat well done until no pink remains.

Wash hands after handling animals and carcasses. If unable to use soap and water, rinse as much blood off as possible and use hand sanitizer.



Jerky, smoked meat, sausage, and dried meat should be cooked thoroughly before eating to kill any bacteria.

Do not drink unpasteurized milk or food made from unpasteurized milk.



Hunters & Slaughterhouse Workers:



- Wear a **mask**
- Hunters should wear **disposable gloves** when handling raw meat
- Slaughterhouse workers should wear **industrial gloves**
- Hunters should not consume the meat of animals that look unhealthy

## LEARN MORE

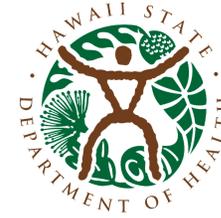


Hawai'i Department of Agriculture  
hdoa.hawaii.gov  
(808) 852-8185



Hawai'i Department of Health  
health.hawaii.gov/tb  
(808) 553-7880

## DOH OFFERS FREE TB SKIN TESTING



Communicable Disease and Public Health Nursing Division

# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Information for the Moloka'i Community

Lanakila Health Center  
TB Control Branch  
Updated 5/18/2022

**Bovine tuberculosis (bTB)** is a disease in cattle, other domesticated animals, and some wildlife such as deer, pigs, and mongoose on Molokaʻi. Humans can also get Bovine TB.

Between June 2021 and March 2022, six cattle herds in Central and Western Molokaʻi were infected with Bovine TB.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (DOA) is testing commercial herds and the wild animal population to determine how widespread Bovine TB is on Molokaʻi.

If hunters see something abnormal, contact DOA Molokai Livestock Inspector Gene Ross Davis at (808) 852-8185. You can also take a picture of what you feel is abnormal and send that picture to Mr. Davis.

Those at increased risk for Bovine TB include:

- Individuals who might come into contact with infected animals, such as ranchers or slaughterhouse workers
- Hunters
- Individuals who drink unpasteurized milk or eat food made with unpasteurized milk

## HOW IS BOVINE TB SPREAD?

- Drinking unpasteurized milk or eating foods made from unpasteurized milk
- Eating meat or meat products from an infected animal if the meat is not thoroughly cooked, including smoked meat, sausage, or jerky that is not thoroughly cooked
- Inhaling air from an infected person close by who is coughing, talking, or singing
- Inhaling air from an animal affected with Bovine TB in their lungs (lower risk)
- If you handle infected meat and have cuts on your hands, the bacteria can enter your body through those cuts (lower risk)

## BOVINE TB SYMPTOMS IN HUMANS

- Fever/chills
- Unexpected weight loss
- Night sweats
- Enlarged lymph nodes in the neck
- A cough that lasts for 3 weeks or more
- Infection in the gastrointestinal tract: Abdominal pain, diarrhea, loss of appetite

**If you are at risk, have symptoms, or were exposed to an infected animal, DOH recommends TB skin testing.**

Free testing is available. Molokaʻi residents should call (808) 553-7880.

Not everyone will have symptoms.

If a skin test is initially negative, DOH recommends getting retested in two years. If a skin test is positive, DOH will work with you and your doctor to seek appropriate care.