

Country experiences on bovine TB/ zTB diagnosis, surveillance and control Fiji

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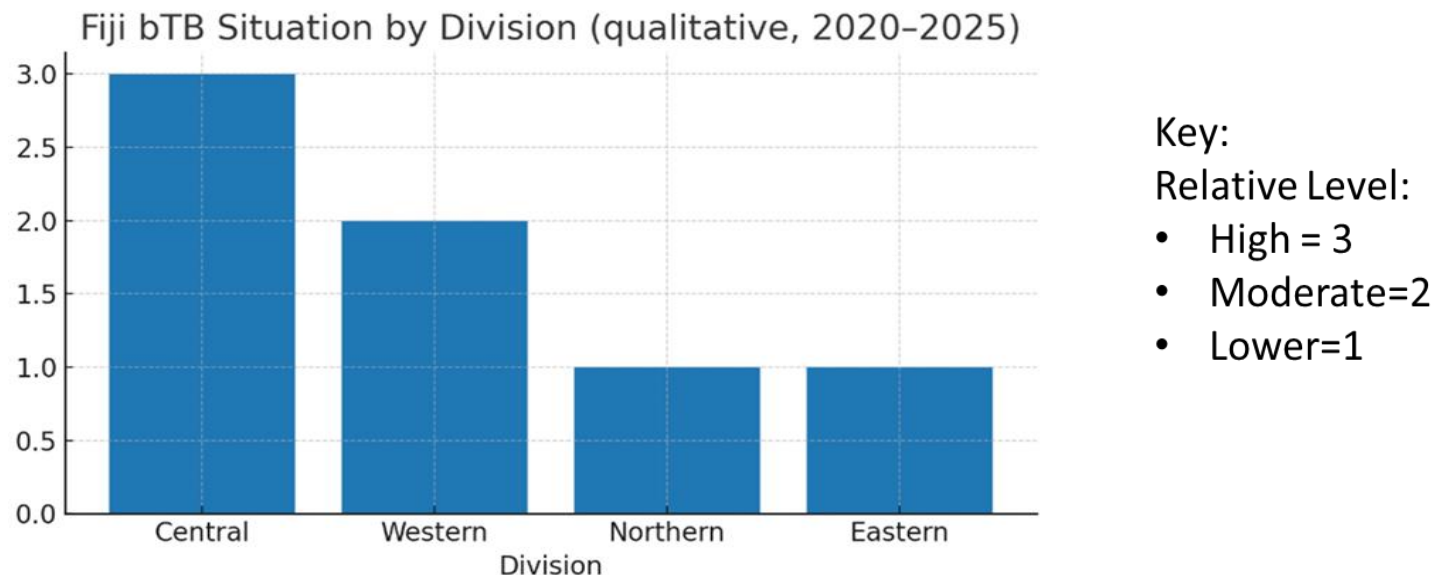
中国动物卫生与流行病学中心
China Animal Health And Epidemiology Center

**WOAH Regional Hands-on Training on
Zoonotic TB Diagnosis**
Qingdao, China P.R., 1 – 5 September
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- **Animal species affected:** Mainly cattle (dairy and beef).
- **Bacterial species:** *Mycobacterium bovis*
- **Prevalence:** Estimated 2–5% herd prevalence in certain high-density dairy areas (Central Division, parts of Western Division).
- **Economic burden:** Reduced milk and beef productivity, compensation costs for culled animals, and trade restrictions.





- Fiji has a central Veterinary Pathology Laboratory located in the central division in Koronivia.
- **Diagnostic tests include:**
 - Single Intradermal Tuberculin Test (field-level)
 - Post-mortem examination of suspected cases.
 - Laboratory support for culture and PCR (limited, sometimes samples sent overseas for confirmation).



➤ ***Disease Surveillance***

- Routine testing of dairy cattle herds.
- Abattoir surveillance (meat inspection for TB lesions).
- Collaboration with human health for zoonotic TB cases.

➤ **Addressing Challenges**

- Awareness campaign for farmers.
- Strengthening field staff training.
- Exploring one health collaboration with human health labs.





- Fiji implements a test-and-slaughter policy with farmer compensation.
- Movement restrictions on infected herds.
- Biosecurity advice provided to farmers.
- Ongoing One Health coordination with the Ministry of Health for zoonotic risks.
- **National Control Plan:** The Ministry of Agriculture has a national TB control program under livestock health services.



- Limited laboratory diagnostic capacity.
- Farmer's reluctance to cooperate due to economic losses.
- Resource constraints (funding, staff, equipment).
- Difficulties in accessing and monitoring remote farms and islands.
- Need for stronger One Health integration between human and animal health systems.



- Strengthen laboratory capacity with molecular diagnostics (PCR).
- Expand farmer awareness and compensation schemes.
- Improve coordination between Fiji BTEC Program of Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF)
- Enhance One Health collaboration for zoonotic TB surveillance.
- Strengthen field staff capacity and mobility (vehicles, training).
- Long-term strategy: move towards **progressive elimination** of bovine TB in Fiji by expanding surveillance coverage and ensuring compliance with test-and-slaughter.



Vinaka Vakalevu!

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