



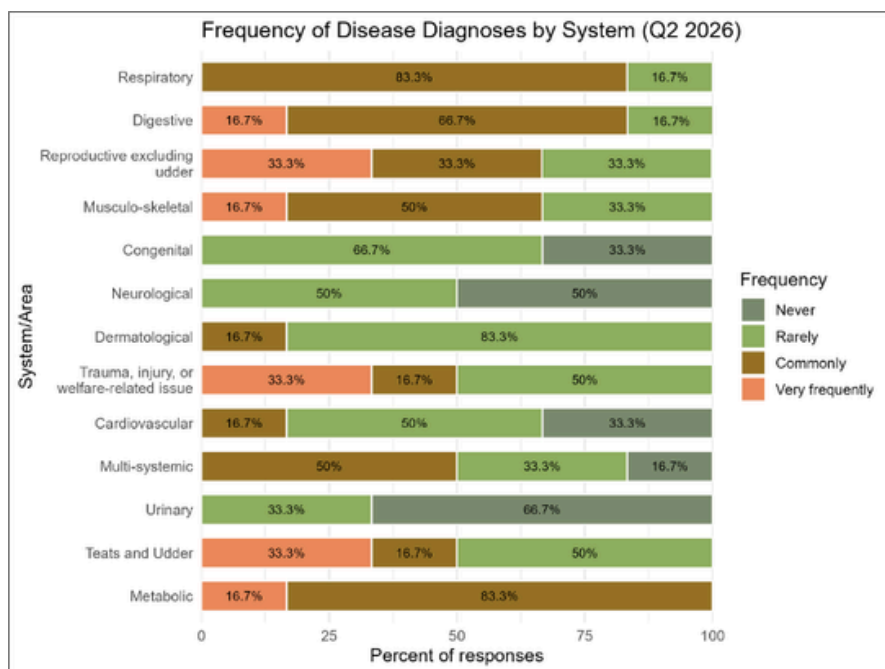
The WeCAHN Dairy Network held a quarterly videoconference meeting on August 27th, 2026, to discuss animal health events from April to July 2026. The session brought together veterinarians, diagnosticians, researchers, and industry representatives. Data were synthesized from clinical impressions surveys completed by practitioners and laboratory submissions from Manitoba Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS), Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS), the University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Diagnostic Services Unit (UCVM DSU) and the BC Animal Health Centre (AHC).

1) Interesting Cases

- **Case study:** *Salmonella* Dublin abortions in heifers and close-up cows in a closed herd. The infection was suspected to have been brought in by visitors entering animal pens. The farm strengthened biosecurity and cleaning and planned herd-wide vaccination (autogenous vaccine) followed by ongoing vaccination.
 - **Alberta project:** Cattle Health Surveillance System (CHeSS) project includes *Salmonella* Dublin monitoring, with a second phase enrolling 40-50 farms ([LINK](#)).
- **Case study:** Rectal injuries and inflammation in ~40 heifers during natural cover by a large bull. Removed the bull. Affected heifers were labelled as unsuitable for future breeding.
- **Practitioner observations**
 - Increased interest in marketing dairy-beef cross steers; potentially reflecting greater sale value and feed availability. Space and manure management remain constraints.
- Pink eye has been a persistent problem over the past 2 years. *M. bovoculi* vaccine results varied, from 50% improvement to no protection ([O'Connor et al., 2019](#)).
- **Case study:** Pneumonia in approximately 20 to 30 of 150 cows. Initial nasal samples were negative, and repeat testing detected influenza D.
 - *Illustrates the challenge of needing multiple rounds of testing to identify the virus responsible for the disease.*
- **Case study:** *Serratia marcescens* mastitis in a Holstein-Friesian with milk clots.
 - *S. marcescens can survive and grow in chlorhexidine-based teat dips!*



3) Syndromic Surveillance



- Pneumonia remained common in clinical impression surveys (CIS).
- *E. coli*, rotavirus and coronavirus trends were generally stable or decreasing. Research suggests repeated introduction of *Salmonella* Dublin onto BC farms, likely through cattle movements from the U.S. ([Boyd et al. 2026](#)).
- Abortions and infectious infertility were rarely reported.
- Compared to the previous quarter, foot rot was reported stable to increasing.
- Ringworm was reported frequently, led by 4-H cases; increased reporting may reflect differences in who reports cases.
- Septicemia was rarely reported in the CIS. Septicemia diagnoses increased compared with the previous year at PDS.
- Acute and chronic mastitis remained commonly reported. *Staphylococcus aureus* trends varied, while *S. haemolyticus* and *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* showed increasing trends.

3) Scan and Other Updates

- New World screwworm (NWS) cases continue in Mexico ([SENASICA dashboard](#) [Spanish]). NWS was detected in cattle the U.S. (TX and NM) in June ([ABC News](#); [screwworm.gov](#)).
- Shamonda-like virus, transmitted by midges, was detected in cattle in Europe causing diarrhea, fever and temporary drop in milk production. Reproduction effects are unknown ([beaconbio.org](#)).
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has not been detected in Canadian dairy cattle ([CFIA, 2026](#)). In the U.S., 11 new dairy herds were affected between July 8 and August 7, 2026 ([LINK](#)).



Producer Takeaways:

1. A *Salmonella* Dublin abortion outbreak in a closed herd highlighted the risk of disease introduction through farm visitors. Strengthen biosecurity, especially by managing visitor access and animal movements.
2. Contact your veterinarian early when multiple adult cows develop respiratory disease. In one outbreak, Influenza D was only identified after repeat testing, showing that some respiratory infections can be difficult to diagnose.
3. Review your pinkeye prevention plan with your herd veterinarian. Vaccination showed variable success, so focus on fly control and reducing environmental risk factors.
4. Shamonda-like virus is spreading in several countries in Europe causing diarrhea, fever and drop in milk production in ruminants. The virus, transmitted by midges, is similar to the Schmallenberg virus and producers are concerned about possible reproductive effects.

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