

Johne's Disease in Dairy Cows

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Abstract

Johne's disease is caused by a paratuberculosis bacterium infecting the gastro-intestinal tract. It causes diarrhea, weight loss and death and has a substantial economic impact on domestic cattle. In dairy cows it is of particular concern since it has been suggested that this bacterium may be linked to Crohn's disease in humans. An individual level stochastic model is used to describe the spread of the disease in a dairy herd.