Bovine Tuberculosis Wildlife Information for Hunters



Bovine tuberculosis (bTB) is an infectious, chronic, bacterial disease that can infect many species of animals and humans. On Molokai bTB has been found in cattle, axis deer, feral swine and mongoose. Recently, bTB was detected in cattle, domestic swine and axis deer.

The following pictures show what might be seen in a carcass of an infected feral pig or Axis deer.

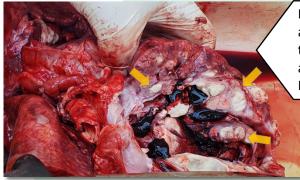


Photo shows many whitish and yellowish lumps found in the lungs of a bTB infected axis deer from West End of Molokai (2022)

> Tuberculosis-infected deer with multiple pea size tan or yellow lumps on the rib cage.



Multiple small lumps scattered throughout lungs of an axis deer with a severe case of bovine tuberculosis (West End Molokai-2022). Less severe cases may have only a few lumps or lesions.



Questions and inspection of hunter samples will be coordinated by:

Mr. Gene Ross Davis Livestock Inspector Hawaii Department of Agriculture (808) 852-8185

It is unlikely that a person would contract bTB from field dressing or eating thoroughly cooked meat of an infected animal. However, always exercise care when handling tissue that could be infected and do not consume meat from carcasses with abnormal conditions.

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