

## **Johne's Disease** (*Mycobacterium avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis*)

Johne's disease typically affects domestic ruminants such as cattle, sheep and goats. It is a progressive, incurable, wasting disease caused by bacterial infection of the intestines and other tissues. It is transmitted from an infected animal to herdmates primarily via the fecal-oral route.

Johne's disease is predominantly sub-clinical, meaning infected animals do not show outward signs of illness. This makes identifying infected animals and managing the disease difficult. However, with diligence and patience, a herd's level of infection can be reduced. Left undetected and uncontrolled, Johne's disease can prove costly to dairy or beef herds or small ruminant flocks.

In order to control Johne's disease, producers should work with a veterinarian familiar with Johne's risk assessment and management to develop a control strategy that fits your goals.



**For more information, contact Vermont's Designated Johne's Coordinator:**

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