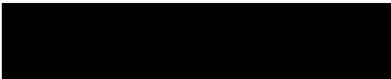




OIA21-1281

29 November 2021



Thank you for your email of 18 November 2021 requesting information relating to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested:

*“All studies and/or reports in the possession, custody or control of the Ministry for Primary Industries that uses purified bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis to prove causation of the alleged Tuberculosis disease in animals and/or humans.”*

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) wishes to advise you that *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* is not likely to affect farmed animals in New Zealand as it is a disease that primarily affects humans.

Therefore, MPI is declining this request under section 18(g) of the OIA as we do not hold this information. It has been deemed that the information you are seeking is more closely connected with the functions of Ministry of Health (MoH) and is the best agency for handling the response.

MPI has consulted with the MoH who advised they have received the same request and will provide a response.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at [Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz). Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

Mary van Andel  
**Chief Veterinary Officer, Biosecurity New Zealand**