

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023

## Activities in 2023

This report has been submitted : 28 juin 2024 11:42

### Laboratory Information

<b>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAHO Reference Laboratory:</b>	Contagious agalactia
<b>Address of laboratory:</b>	Animal and Plant health Agency, Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone Surrey KT15 3NB Weybridge UNITED KINGDOM
<b>Tel.:</b>	02080269457
<b>E-mail address:</b>	anne.ridley@apha.gov.uk
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency</a>
<b>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</b>	Dr Jenny Stewart (Acting CEO)
<b>Name (including Title and Position) of WOAHO Reference Expert:</b>	Dr Anne Ridley, Mycoplasma Team and National Reference Laboratory Lead and Exotic Bacteria Workgroup Lead
<b>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</b>	Governmental

### TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.?

(Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

Yes

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in WOAHO Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
<b>Indirect diagnostic tests</b>			
ELISA for Mycoplasma agalactiae Ab		264	6
Immunoblot for Mycoplasma agalactiae Ab		26	4
<b>Direct diagnostic tests</b>			
M. agalactiae PCR		34	0
Mycoplasma species PCR-DGGE		211	5
Mycoplasma species culture		210	0
M. capricolum subsp. capricolum		2	0
M. mycoides subsp. capri		3	0

### TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOAHO?

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAHO-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAHO Members?

Yes

TYPE OF REAGENT AVAILABLE	RELATED DIAGNOSTIC TEST	PRODUCED/ PROVIDE	AMOUNT SUPPLIED NATIONALLY (ML, MG)	AMOUNT SUPPLIED INTERNATIONALLY (ML, MG)	NO. OF RECIPIENT WOA H MEMBER COUNTRIES	COUNTRY OF RECIPIENTS
antigen	M. mycoides subsp. capri	Produced Provided	2ml	0	1	UNITED KINGDOM,
control antisera	M. mycoides subsp. capri CFT	Produced Provided	2ml	0	1	UNITED KINGDOM,
antigen	M. capricolum subsp.capricolum CFT	Produced Provided	2ml	0	1	UNITED KINGDOM,
control antisera	M. capricolum subsp.capricolum CFT	Provided	2ml	0	1	UNITED KINGDOM,
Control strain	M. agalactiae PCR and culture	Produced/provided	0	4ml	1	GEORGIA,
COntrol strain	M. mycoides subsp. capri - mycoides cluster PCR and culture	Produced Provided	0	2ml	1	GEORGIA,
Control strain	M. capricolum subsp. capricolum Mycoides cluster PCR and culture	Produced /provided	0	2ml	1	GEORGIA,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOA H Members?

No

### TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?

Yes

NAME OF THE NEW TEST OR DIAGNOSTIC METHOD DEVELOPED	DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCES (PUBLICATION, WEBSITE, ETC.)
qPCR tests for M. capricolum subsp capricolum	currently being validated

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOA H Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOA H Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

### TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOA H Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOA H Member?

Yes

NAME OF THE WOA H MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY	PURPOSE	HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED
GEORGIA	laboratory training in PCR and ELISA testing for M agalactiae and mycoides cluster agents of contagious agalactia. Provision of a proficiency panel for serology and PCR	laboratory exchange visits, emails, provision of methods and technical advice
POLAND	Proficiency testing - PCR and serology tailored to tests	testing of archived samples and provision of feedback by report and email
TURKEY	Proficiency testing - PCR and serology	communication by email
	Proficiency testing - PCR and serology	testing of archived samples and

ITALY	tailored to tests	provision of feedback by report and email
NIGERIA	continued communication and support on diagnostics	email and provision of report

## TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAAH Members other than the own?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)	WOAH MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY
Exotic Mycoplasma – Ensuring tools & capability to detect threats & reduce disease risk from incursions	4 years	Improve diagnostic tests, understand disease epidemiology and investigate disinfectant efficacy and	IZS, Palermo, Sicily (subcontractor)	ITALY
Strengthening capacity for diagnosis, prevention and control of avian and small ruminant mycoplasmosis in Georgia.	2 years	developing capacity to perform diagnostics tests and assess seroprevalence of M agalactiae in Georgia through screening of small ruminant serum samples	State laboratory of Agriculture	GEORGIA

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs\* relevant for WOAAH?

Yes

### Research need : 1

**Please type the Research need:** Global epidemiology of contagious agalactia- understanding of factors from genomics and standardisation of clinical data.

Development of laboratory models to determine efficacy of disinfection against agents of contagious agalactia using a disinfectant suspension model

**Relevance for WOAAH** Disease Control, Facilitation of international collaboration,

**Relevance for the Codes or Manual** Manual,

**Field** Epidemiology and Surveillance,

**Animal Category** Terrestrial,

**Disease:**

Contagious agalactia

**Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases)** Transboundary diseases,

**If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title**

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

*Answer:*

**Notes:**

*Answer:*

## TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

seroprevalence - preliminary investigation with limited samples

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

whole genome sequencing

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

0

b) International conferences:

1

*International Organisation for Mycoplasma Conference 2023*

c) National conferences:

1

*Poster Presentation of methods being developed for disinfection*

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

1

*presentations of data as part of laboratory twinning project*

## TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAHA Members?

Yes

a) Technical visit : 2

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 1

d) Internships (>1 month) 0

Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)	Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training	No. participants from the corresponding country
A	GEORGIA	10
C	GEORGIA	3

## TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO 17025:2017	PDF	UKAS_ISO17025_APHA_2023.pdf
ISO9001:2015	PDF	ANIMAL PLANT HEALTH AGENCY - Certificate UK013916 - ISO 9001 - exp. 25-07-2026.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
PCR-DGGE including for contagious agalactia agents	UKAS ISO17025:2017
CFT - Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. capri and Mycoplasma capricolum subsp. capricolum	UKAS ISO17025:2017
specific PCR - including for contagious agalactia agents	UKAS ISO17025:2017

Immunoblot - Mycoplasma agalactiae, M Mycoides subsp. capri, M. capricolum and other CA agents	UKAS ISO17025:2017
Mycoplasma agalactiae ELISA	UKAS ISO17025:2017

20. Does your laboratory maintain a "biorisk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

Contagious agalactia is an exotic disease in Great Britain and as such two of the disease agents are listed under the Specified Animal Pathogens Order (SAPO) which is legislation in the United Kingdom that regulates the contained use of specified animal pathogens. APHA holds a SAPO licence that authorises holding of SAPO agents and carriers. Laboratory work on SAPO organisms is undertaken in laboratories meeting a minimum of SAPO2 containment requirements. All work is subject to regularly reviewed risk assessments.

## TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHP?

No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAHP?

No

## TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAHP REFERENCE LABORATORIES

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

Yes

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

NETWORK/DISEASE	ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAHP REF. LABS
Contagious agalactia	co reviewers	6	IZS Palermo, Sicily, Italy

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

PURPOSE OF THE PROFICIENCY TESTS: 1	ROLE OF YOUR REFERENCE LABORATORY (ORGANISER/ PARTICIPANT)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAHP REF. LABS/ ORGANISING WOAHP REF. LAB.
Mycoplasma agalactiae serology	Organiser	4	1
contagious agalactia agent PCR	Organiser	4	1

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAHP Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

Yes

TITLE OF THE PROJECT OR CONTRACT	SCOPE	NAME(S) OF RELEVANT WOAHP REFERENCE LABORATORIES
Exotic Mycoplasma – Ensuring tools & capability to detect threats & reduce disease risk from incursions	collaboration is on disease control - role for ticks in endemism and environmental survival and control	IZS Palermo, Sicily

## TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAHP Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons <sup>1</sup>	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the Test	WOAHP Member Countries
assessing diagnostic competence	organiser	1	M. agalactiae / Mycoides cluster qPCR (VetMax kit)	GEORGIA,
assessing competency	organiser	1	M. agalactiae IDVet ELISA	GEORGIA,

## TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOA?H?

Yes

KIND OF CONSULTANCY	Location	SUBJECT (FACULTATIVE)
review of WOA?H Manual Chapter on contagious agalactia	N/A	Contagious agalactia Terrestrial Manual Chapter

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

*Fewer than expected activities relating to international collaborations and visits which was due to major laboratory moves which carried out over approximately 6 months with considerable time for preparation*