



***Mycoplasma bovis* (*M. bovis*)**



What is *M. bovis*?

Mycoplasma bovis is a newly emerging bacterial disease in Wyoming pronghorn. A known disease of cattle and bison, and occasionally seen in white-tailed deer and mule deer. This disease was first recorded in pronghorn, February of 2019.

*Note this is not the same disease as *Mycobacterium bovis* (bovine tuberculosis) which is also abbreviated *M. bovis*.

Where is *M. bovis* found?

M. bovis occurs globally in cattle. It is known to infect bison, white-tailed deer, mule deer and most recently pronghorn. The cases of pronghorn are currently restricted to the Gillette area in Wyoming and are typically observed in late winter and early spring.

How is it spread?

It is likely spread by direct contact of nasal and respiratory secretions.

What are some clinical signs of disease?

Clinical signs can include lethargy, anorexia, coughing and nasal discharge. Abnormal behavior such as an isolated individual lying down or finding multiple carcasses on the landscape can be indicators of *M. bovis*.

How does this disease affect me?

Mycoplasma bovis is not known to infect humans. It is yet to be determined how this disease will impact pronghorn populations.

Information for ranchers:

Mycoplasma bovis can be a serious disease in cattle. Disease symptoms observed in cattle include pneumonia, mastitis, arthritis, fever, otitis, nasal and ocular discharge. Contact your veterinarian if you suspect *M. bovis* in your herd.

For additional information on *Mycoplasma bovis* or any other wildlife disease, please contact the WGFD Wildlife Health Laboratory at 307-745-5865.