

Spring 2019 Bovine Abortion/Neonatal Death Summary

Thirty-six cases of bovine abortion, stillbirth, or neonatal death (defined as within the first week of life) presented to the MU VMDL between January 1st, 2019 and April 1st, 2019. These thirty-six cases represent the examination of tissues or carcasses of forty-six bovine neonates/fetuses.

In 52% of cases, no infectious cause of poor reproductive performance was identified. Infections considered to be opportunistic presented as pneumonia, peritonitis, enteritis or meningitis with various pathogens isolated including: *E-coli* and *Salmonella*. It is likely that many of the cases in this category involved some degree of failure of passive transfer. In cases where nutrition was likely a factor, trace mineral deficiencies (copper, selenium, zinc) or hypovitaminosis A were identified in fetal tissues. Specific infectious etiologies are listed individually below.

