68.1 percent. That's the percent of the U.S. dairy operations infected with the organism known to cause Johne's disease, according to the NAHMS DAIRY 2007 study. Results of the same National Animal Health Monitoring Systems study also suggest that at least one-fourth of U.S. dairy operations may have a relatively high percentage of Johne's-infected cows in their herds. And this costs dairy producers, dearly, as a previous NAHMS study determined

#### Yes No Risk Factor

Do heifers have contact with cows or their manure? Is it possible for manure from cows to contaminate the feed? Is it possible for manure from cows to contaminate the water used by heifers? Do heifers share pasture with mature cattle? Is manure spread on pasture then used by or fed to heifers?

# Cow Group

Even though cattle more than 24 months of age are believed to be less susceptible to Johne's, infected cattle may shed MAP and other pathogens in their feces and add

environment. Ultimately, you should strive to reduce the pathogen load in the environment.

## Yes No Risk Factor

Is it possible for feed to be contaminated with manure? Is manure contamination of the water possible? Do cows have access to accumulated or stored manure? Is manure spread on pasture and grazed or fed the same season? Are cows showing chronic diarrhea and weight loss left in the general population without being tested for Johne's?

## Additions & Replacement Groups

A key to Johne's prevention and control is to not introduce infected animals into the herd.

#### Yes No Risk Factor

Do you purchase animals from herds of unknown Johne's and health status? Do you lease or borrow any stock, including bulls from multiple sources or herds of unknown Johne's and health status?

## **General Management**

Yes No Risk Factor Do you use the same equipment to handle feed and manure? Do you prevent mature cow manure contamination of all feed and water, including standing run-off water?