



RISTO HUNT DREAMSTIME

Tick-borne encephalitis

A new risk assessment published by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) reports that tick-borne encephalitis is now likely to be present in England.

While the risk to the general public in the UK remains very low, there have been three cases of probable or confirmed tick-borne encephalitis acquired in England since 2019, including one linked to the Yorkshire area in 2022, the first confirmed case in England. The virus has also been detected previously in the Hampshire and Dorset, and Norfolk and Suffolk border areas but may also be present elsewhere as the tick species that carries the virus is widespread in the UK.

The tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBEV) is a virus carried by ticks and is common in many parts of the world, including many countries in Europe. It causes a range of disease, from completely asymptomatic infection, to mild flu-like illness and severe infection in the central nervous system such as meningitis or encephalitis. Symptoms can include a high fever with headache, neck stiffness, confusion or reduced consciousness.

UKHSA has recommended changes to testing in hospitals so that any further cases can be detected promptly and will be enhancing surveillance – including asymptomatic surveillance in people in the areas where TBEV has been detected.

The public are reminded that they should seek GP advice if they are unwell after a tick bite, and should seek urgent medical attention if they or someone they know:

- **has symptoms of meningitis:**
 - severe headache
 - stiff neck
 - pain looking at bright lights
- **develops neurological symptoms:**
 - a fit (seizure), if not known to be epileptic
 - sudden confusion or change in behaviour
 - weakness or loss of movement in arms and legs
 - facial drooping, change in vision or slurred speech



Norfolk estate donates venison to Country Food Trust

Raveningham Estate in south east Norfolk has made a donation of venison to The Country Food Trust, a registered charity that provides free, nutritious high protein meals to people experiencing food poverty.

With over 13.1 million people in the UK facing food poverty, the Trust provides high protein, low-fat meals to those in need. Their current menu includes venison bolognese supplied in 300g retort pouches and 2kg catering packs, both with a shelf life of one year from manufacturing and with no refrigeration required. Additionally, the charity donates raw meat to charities with cooking facilities, enabling them to create nutritious meals and teach beneficiaries about healthy eating, as well as community kitchens that provide free hot meals within the community.

Raveningham supplied 51 Chinese

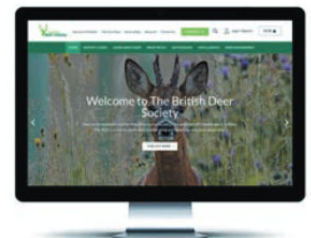


water deer carcasses culled as part of its ongoing deer management operation. Estate owner Sir Nicholas Bacon commented: "We are delighted to support The Country Food Trust in their mission to tackle food poverty in the UK. We believe that everyone deserves access to healthy, high-quality food, and we are proud to be able to contribute to this important cause."

WEBSITE REFRESH

Over the summer we are refreshing the website structure to make information easier to find and to bring the content up to date with our focus to 'educate and inspire everyone about deer in their environment', and advocate for their welfare.

We are planning to add even more information and resources to the site over time to keep up with the growing demand and wide variety of enquiries we receive daily. Remember to keep your eyes on www.bds.org.uk



New Deer Distribution Maps

Members will be delighted to hear that updated deer distribution maps are being finalised and we hope to have new maps ready for the website and as part of our show displays soon.

Work is continuing on surveying deer across the nations as we develop new and more accurate ways in which to record deer populations across the UK, so watch this space.