

## IDEXX xChek\*: Creating a User-Defined Assay for the IDEXX *M. bovis* Ab Test

Creating a user-defined assay is an easy process of two tasks—editing an xChek\* file to allow you to create an assay, and then creating the assay within xChek.

### To edit the xChek.ini file:

1. From the task bar, choose **Start> Run** and type “xchek.ini” into the text box. Click the **OK** button.
2. After the xChek.ini file opens, locate the line labeled “AllowNewAssays.”
3. If the value for that line is “0,” change it to “1.” If the value is already “1,” do not do anything.
4. Locate the section labeled [BasicGraphs], scroll to the end of the section, and then enter “Mbovis=11”.
5. From the menu bar, choose **File> Save**, and then choose **File> Exit**.

### To create the assay:

1. From the task bar, choose **Start> Programs> xChek> xChek** to open the xChek program.
2. From the menu bar, choose **Database> Assays> All** to open the Assay dialog box.
3. Click the **New** button, and enter “IDEXX Mycobacterium bovis Antibody Test Kit” into the Name field, “Mbovis” into the Code field, and “unknown” into the Kit Lot field. Today’s date (mm/dd/yyyy) is automatically entered into the Expiration field.

**Note:** When you begin testing, update the information in the Kit Lot and Expiration fields with the actual kit lot number and expiration date.

The screenshot shows the 'New Assay' dialog box with the following fields and values:

Name:	IDEXX Mycobacterium bovis Antibody Test Kit	OK
Code:	Mbovis	Cancel
Kit Lot:	unknown	Expiration: 1/24/2011
Comment:		
Basic    Calculations    Titters    Bins		

4. Click the **Basic** button, and select or enter the following information for the respective fields:

Case Type: Animal	Samp Filter: 450
Template: NEO Vert	Ref. Filter: 0
Species: Cattle	Dilution: 50
Technology: ELISA	Wells: 1

The screenshot shows the 'New Assay' dialog box with the following fields and values:

Case Type:	Animal	Samp Filter:	450	OK
Template:	NEO Vert	Ref Filter:	0	Cancel
Species:	Cattle	Dilution:	50	
Technology:	ELISA	Wells:	1	

5. Click **OK** to save the settings.

- Click the **Calculations** button, and select or enter the following information:

Formulas:

"S" Part of Ratio: Sample1 - Negative

"P" Part of Ratio: Positive - Negative

"N" Part of Ratio: None

Blocking Factor: None

First Calculation:

Variable: S/P

Positive Cutoff: 0.30

Suspect Cutoff: 0.30

Comparison: >=

Second Calculation:

Variable: None

Positive Cutoff: 0

Suspect Cutoff: 0

Comparison: None

**New Assay**

**Formulas**

"S" Part of Ratio: Sample1 - Negative

"P" Part of Ratio: Positive - Negative

"N" Part of Ratio: None

Blocking Factor: None

**First Calculation**

Variable: S/P

Positive Cutoff: 0.30

Suspect Cutoff: 0.30

Comparison: >=

**Second Calculation**

Variable: None

Positive Cutoff: 0

Suspect Cutoff: 0

Comparison: None

OK

Cancel

Reset

- Click **OK** to save these settings, and then click **OK** to save the assay to the database. You can now test for *M. bovis* antibodies using the xChek Assay Management System.

**Note:** xChek does not evaluate controls or results for validity when you use a user-defined assay. You must evaluate the results from each assay in accordance with good laboratory practices. To evaluate your assay validity, refer to the insert provided with the test.

### Setting Up Additional Display Variables

Only OD values are displayed in the reporting options for this user-defined assay. To set up additional display variables, follow the directions below.

- From the xChek menu bar, choose **Reports> Analyze Cases** to open the Filter Criteria for Analyze dialog box.
- Enter the desired search criteria and click **OK**. The Select Cases for Analyze dialog box appears.

3. Select the desired cases and click **OK**. The Analyze Report dialog box appears.

**Analyze Report**

**Case Options**

- Show Block Reports
- Show Statistics
- Show Controls
- Show NHC Wells
- Show Original ODs
- Show Comments
- Show Kit Lot/Expiration
- Single Column

**Graph Options**

- Show Graphs
- Show Statistics
- Show Key
- Color Graphs
- Stats on Top

Mean

- Arithmetic
- Geometric

Style

- 2D Histogram
- 3D Histogram

OK  
Cancel  
Variables  
Sort  
Baseline  
Footers

4. Click the **Variables** button to open the Display Variables dialog box.

**Display Variables**

- Well Type
- Optical Density
- Tube Number
- Sex
- Species
- Breed 1
- Breed 2
- Animal Type
- Animal ID1
- Animal ID2
- Calendar Age
- Breeding Age
- Quality
- Mean Sample
- Sample
- Pos
- Neg
- Blocking
- S/P Ratio
- S/N Ratio
- B/A Ratio
- S/NHC Ratio
- Titer
- Titer Log2
- Titer Group
- Result

OK  
Cancel

5. Select the desired options and click **OK**. Click **OK** again to save the settings.

For more information, call IDEXX Technical Services at 00800 727 43399 (outside of U.S.) or 1-800-548-9997, option 2 (U.S.); contact your local area manager; or visit [idexx.com](http://idexx.com).

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**IDEXX**

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One IDEXX Drive  
Westbrook, Maine 04092 USA