

More cattle culled in Britain

by UPI

PIRBRIGHT, England -- Britain's prime minister is assuring tourists his country is open for business even as new cattle are being culled to curb an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. "While there is a national ban on the movement of pigs, cattle and sheep, people are free, outside the protected zone, to continue with their holidays," Prime Minister Gordon Brown said Sunday. British leaders fear significant damage to tourism and farming if the outbreak is not contained quickly, The Times of London reported Monday. More cattle were ordered killed Sunday after another cow tested positive for the viral disease. The cow came from the same farm as the cows found infected last week, but was kept on a different site in Surrey, the Times reported. Government officials have identified Merial, a U.S.-based vaccine-producing company, as the likely source of infection. Merial, located about three miles from the infected animals, admitted to producing a recent batch of vaccine containing the same viral strain found in the infected cattle.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

More cattle culled in Britain by UPI