

A Necessary Cull

- 1 About 5,000 badgers are likely to be shot in the next six weeks in Somerset and Gloucestershire. Their deaths will be legal and planned under pilot schemes that have sparked protests from animal welfare organisations and celebrities such as Brian May and Joanna Lumley. The protests are ill-judged. The cull is not an attack on badgers: it is an attack on tuberculosis (TB). The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is right to pursue this belated and necessary course to control the spread of the disease.
- 2 The problem is TB in cattle. Bovine TB is infectious and has spread rapidly over the past ten years. Nearly 40,000 cows were destroyed last year after they were tested positive for TB. The total over the past decade exceeds 300,000. That too is an issue of animal welfare, which imposes heavy costs on Britain's farmers.
- 3 There are various ways in which bovine TB can be transmitted but there is evidence that badgers are one of the causes, owing to the presence of their urine or faeces in farmyards. Prolonged tests, known as Randomised Badger Culling Trials, conducted by Defra, showed that removing badgers could reduce the incidence of bovine TB. Ireland and New Zealand, whose economies are far more reliant on cattle farming, have sharply reduced TB after badger or possum culls.
- 4 The cull has the weight of evidence on its side. The protesters have on theirs the mythology of the place of the badger in English country life.
- 5 That place is not static: the badger population has grown dramatically since it was made illegal to interfere with badgers' setts. Defra has a public obligation to control TB in cattle, lest it spread to other livestock and further still, perhaps to domestic animals too. Whatever the pantomime of protest, that duty remains. It is founded on sound science and environmental concern.

The Times, 2013

Tekst 2 A necessary cull

- 1p 3 What becomes clear from paragraph 1?
- A Badger culls undermine the TB prevention programme.
 - B Curbing the badger population is ineffective.
 - C Protests against the badger cull are unlawful.
 - D The badger cull is a long overdue necessity.
- 1p 4 Which of the following is in line with paragraph 3?
- 1 Financial interests have undermined the success of previous culling programmes.
 - 2 Further research is needed in order to link badgers conclusively to the spread of TB.
- A only 1 is true
 - B only 2 is true
 - C both 1 and 2 are true
 - D neither 1 nor 2 is true
- 1p 5 Met welk woord laat de schrijver in alinea 5 zien dat hij de tegenstanders van de dassenruiming niet serieus neemt?
Citeer dit woord.

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.