

## IDEXX **xChek**\*: Creating a User-Defined Assay for the Pourquier\* Brucellosis Serum Screening ELISA – Pooled Samples

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 titled “BasicGraphs” and scroll to the end of the section.
5. Enter “BabSP-IP=17.”
6. 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 “BabSP-IP” into the Code field, “Institute Pourquier Brucellosis Pooled Serum Screening” into the Name 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.

**New Assay**

Name:

Code:

Kit Lot:  Expiration:

Comment:

Assays

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

Case Type: Animal	Samp Filter: 450
Template: BabOUS vert	Ref Filter: 0
Species: Cattle	Dilution: 20
Technology: ELISA	Wells: 1

**New Assay**

Case Type:       Samp Filter:      

Template:       Ref Filter:      

Species:       Dilution:

Technology:       Wells:

- 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: 0.20

Suspect Cutoff: 0.20

Comparison: >

Second Calculation:

Variable: None

Positive Cutoff: 0

Suspect Cutoff: 0

Comparison: None

**NOTE:** xChek is unable to support the S/P % calculation. Instead, xChek will calculate an S/P value. The cutoff values have been updated to match the new calculation and the interpretation will be the same.

**New Assay**

**Formulas**

"S" Part of Ratio:      

"P" Part of Ratio:      

"N" Part of Ratio:      

Blocking Factor:

**First Calculation**

Variable:

Positive Cutoff:

Suspect Cutoff:

Comparison:

**Second Calculation**

Variable:

Positive Cutoff:

Suspect Cutoff:

Comparison:

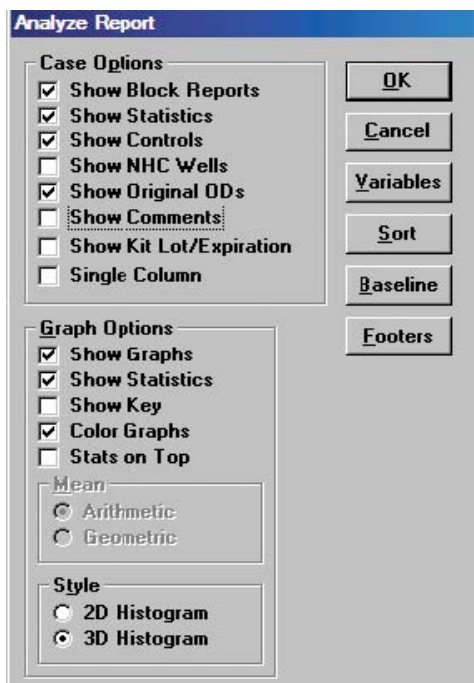
- Click **OK** to save these settings and then click **OK** again to save the assay to the database. You can now test for antibodies against *B. abortus* using the xChek Assay Management System.

**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, please refer to the Validation Criteria section in the insert provided with this test kit.

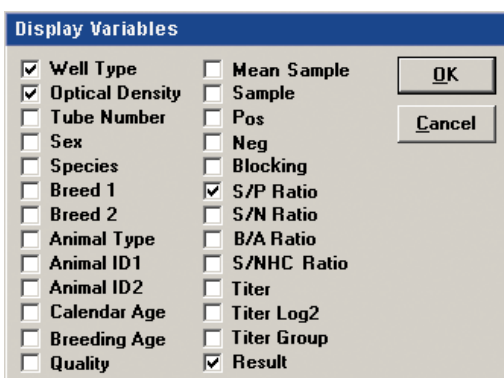
## Setting Up Additional Display Variables

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

1. From the xChek menu bar, choose **Reports > Analyze Cases** to open the Filter Criteria for Analyze dialog box.
2. 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.



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



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

For more information, call IDEXX Switzerland AG at **41-41970-6260**, contact your area manager or visit us on the Web at [idexx.com](http://idexx.com).

**IDEXX**  
LABORATORIES

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