



Dave Heineman
Governor

State of Nebraska

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
GREGORY A. IBACH
Director

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STATE OF NEBRASKA

DR. DENNIS HUGHES)	
STATE VETERINARIAN)	
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH)	
PROTECTION)	
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)	SECOND AMENDED TRICHOMONIASIS
STATE OFFICE BUILDING)	IMPORT ORDER
301 CENTENNIAL MALL SOUTH)	March 8, 2012
FOURTH FLOOR)	
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68509)	

Trichomoniasis *Tritrichomonas foetus* (*T. foetus*) causes a venereal disease of cattle characterized by fetal abortions, pyometra, and open cows. This Order is being issued to protect the health of Nebraska livestock as the result of Trichomoniasis infections in surrounding states.

Pursuant to the authority of Neb. Rev. Stat. §54-701 and §54-753.05, this Order is issued this 8th day of March, 2012, for the purpose of taking immediate action to protect the health status of Nebraska's dairy and beef cattle industry from imported bulls and cows which may be infected with *T. foetus*. This Import Order is in addition to the requirements found in the current Animal Importation Act and Animal Importation Regulations (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§54-784.01 to 54-796, and 23 NAC 2).

DEFINITIONS:

- Individual Identification Number** means a unique number which is assigned to a bovine animal for purposes of interstate movement, disease control, or both. Individual identification may be: (a) a Department accepted eartag as defined herein; (b) an Radio Frequency Identification tag; or (c) a legible breed registry tattoo.
- Nebraska Department of Agriculture (Department) **Accepted Eartag** means an eartag that bears a unique identification number for each individual bovine animal and the unique identification number on such eartag shall be recorded in a manner which allows the animal to be traced to the location where the tag was applied to the animal. Such eartag shall be tamper resistant and have a high-retention rate in the animal.

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ORDER:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. **For purposes of this Order, all beef and dairy breeding bulls and beef and dairy breeding females imported into Nebraska for breeding purposes shall:**
 - a. Be individually identified with a Department accepted eartag or other permanent means of identification, except that registered brands shall not be considered individual identification for purposes of this Order; and
 - b. Enter Nebraska with a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) which includes the individual identification number recorded therein.

2. **Exceptions to Individual Identification Requirements:**
 - a. Beef and dairy breeding bulls, cows, and heifers shall be exempt from the individual identification requirements of this Order, if they are:
 - (1) Consigned to a feedlot for feeding purposes and then direct to slaughter; or
 - (2) Consigned directly to a licensed slaughter establishment or to a licensed livestock market and then directly to a licensed slaughter establishment.

3. **Health Requirements for Beef and Dairy Breeding Bulls:**
 - a. All bulls over 24 months of age and all non-virgin bulls less than 24 months of age shall have:
 - (1) Three consecutive official negative trichomoniasis culture tests at least one week apart; **OR** one negative PCR test within 30 days prior to importation; **AND**
 - (2) Samples submitted for testing shall be collected by an accredited veterinarian and the test be conducted by a laboratory accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD); **AND**
 - (3) Not been used for breeding purposes between the tests and the time the bull(s) is/are imported into Nebraska; **AND**
 - b. A CVI signed by an accredited veterinarian for bulls covered under this Order shall bear the following statement:

The bull(s) represented on this CVI is/are not from a known positive T. foetus herd and has/have had three consecutive official negative T. foetus culture tests which were at least a week apart; or one negative PCR test within 30 days prior to importation, and there has been no breeding activity since the first culture test or the PCR test.

- c. All bulls offered for sale at an auction market, imported for breeding purposes, must meet the requirements of this Order prior to being offered for sale.

4. **Exceptions to Testing Requirements for Bulls:**

- a. Virgin bulls aged 24 months of age or less must be accompanied by a CVI containing a signed statement from an accredited veterinarian that the bulls have had no contact with breeding females.
- b. Bulls imported into Nebraska for slaughter only or those consigned directly to a licensed slaughter establishment or to a licensed livestock market and then directly to a licensed slaughter establishment, are exempt from Trichomoniasis testing requirements.
- c. Bulls imported into Nebraska not to be used for breeding purposes, such as bulls imported for exhibitions, rodeos, bull test stations, or feedlots for feeding purposes and then direct to slaughter, are exempt from Trichomoniasis testing requirements.
- d. Nebraska origin breeding bulls going to another state for seasonal grazing purposes may return to Nebraska without testing, if accompanied by a CVI with the following statement, "these breeding bulls have not commingled with any other herd." The CVI must be issued within 30 days of import into Nebraska.

5. **Beef and Dairy Breeding Females:**

- a. Breeding females originating from a known positive *T. foetus* herd will **not be** allowed to enter Nebraska, unless they are consigned directly to slaughter.
- b. Breeding females imported into Nebraska and not consigned to an approved Nebraska Livestock Auction Market, must have **one or more** of the following statements placed on the CVI and signed by an accredited veterinarian of the herd of origin:
 - (1) "The heifers listed on this CVI are known virgin heifers."
 - (2) "Heifers listed on this CVI were exposed for their first breeding only to a known negative *T. foetus* bull* or artificially inseminated, and are not yet 120 days pregnant."
 - (3) "Cows or heifers listed on this CVI are at least 120 days pregnant."
 - (4) "The cows listed on this CVI **did not** originate from a known positive *T. foetus* herd, have a calf at side, and have not had any exposure to known positive *T. foetus* bull(s) or bull(s) of unknown *T. foetus* status since calving."
 - (5) "The cows listed on this CVI have had no exposure to other than known negative *T. foetus* bulls* since parturition."

- c. Breeding females offered for sale at an auction market, imported for breeding purposes, **must meet one** of the criteria listed below prior to or at transfer of ownership. Owners or custodians of these animals, the market veterinarian, or both shall sign an affidavit stating the breeding females being offered for sale meet one of the following criteria.
- (1) "The heifers being offered for sale are known virgin heifers."
 - (2) "The heifers listed being offered for sale were exposed for their first breeding, only to a known negative *T. foetus* bull* or artificially inseminated, and are not yet 120 days pregnant."
 - (3) "The cows or heifers being offered for sale are at least 120 days pregnant."
 - (4) "The cows being offered for sale **did not** originate from a known positive *T. foetus* herd, have a calf at side, and have not had any exposure to known positive *T. foetus* bull(s) or bull(s) of unknown *T. foetus* status since calving."
 - (5) "The cows being offered for sale have had no exposure to other than known negative *T. foetus* bulls* since parturition."

Breeding females unable to meet one or more of those criteria can only be purchased for feeding and/or slaughter purposes.

6. Exceptions to the Trichomoniasis statement requirements for cows and heifers

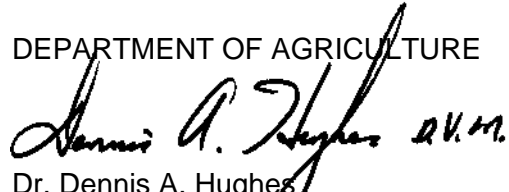
- a. Cows and heifers imported into Nebraska not to be used for breeding purposes, such as cows and heifers imported for exhibitions, rodeos, test stations, or feedlots for feeding purposes and then direct to slaughter do not require a Trichomoniasis statement. These cows and heifers shall be accompanied by a CVI.
- b. Nebraska origin breeding cows and heifers going to another state for seasonal grazing purposes may return to Nebraska, if accompanied by a CVI with the following statement, "these breeding cows and heifers have not commingled with any other herd." The CVI must be issued within 30 days of import into Nebraska and the individual identification of the animals shall be listed in the CVI.

*Known negative *T. foetus* breeding bulls have been tested and found negative for *T. foetus* by three consecutive official negative *T. foetus* culture tests which were at least a week apart or one negative PCR test within 30 days prior to importation, and there has been no breeding activity since the first qualifying test. Such tests shall be conducted by a laboratory accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. The three tests shall be conducted at least one week apart, and there was no breeding activity since the first test.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until notice is given by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Any additional exceptions to this Order will only be by approval of the State Veterinarian upon epidemiological evaluation and risk determination.

Dated this 8th day of March, 2012.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Dr. Dennis A. Hughes
Nebraska State Veterinarian