

State of California  
Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

Department of Food and Agriculture  
A. G. Kawamura  
Secretary

Division of Animal Health and  
Food Safety Services  
Annette Whiteford, D.V.M.  
Director

## California Brand Book

2010

Bureau of Livestock Identification  
Greg Lawley  
Chief



Livestock Identification Advisory Board  
Jack Sparrowk  
Chairman

Hank Van Exel  
Matt Echeverria

Jim Keegan  
Max Olvera

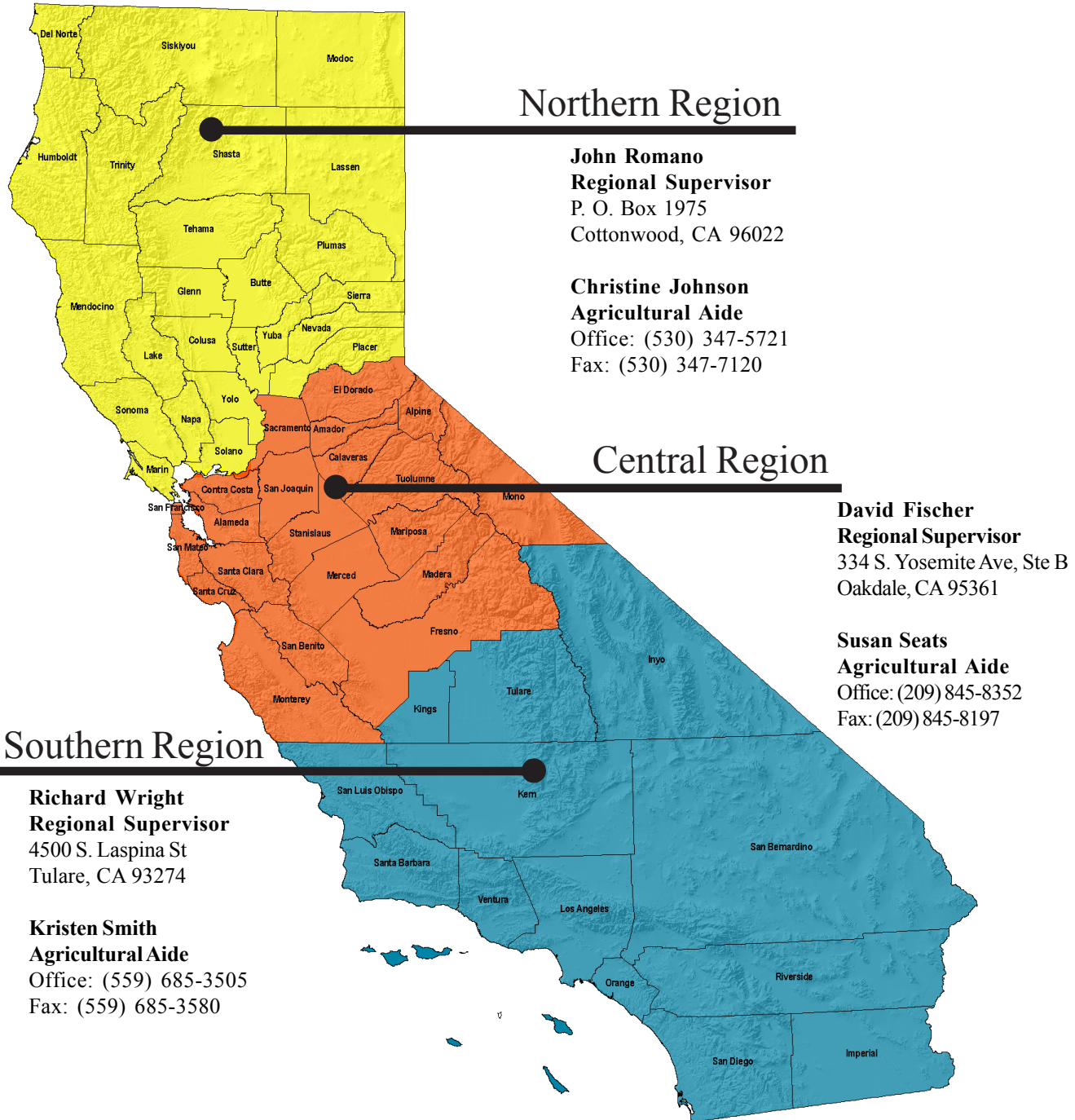
John Lacey  
Walter Bledsoe

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# California Brand Inspection Regions



Special Acknowledgment to  
Johnny Tran of Animal Health Branch  
for technical assistance

**Supervisor John Romano 530-204-7807**

<b>Brand Inspector</b>	<b>County(s)</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Awbrey, Don	Tehama	Cottonwood	530-605-6164
Beeson, Gerald	Lake, Mendocino	Potter Valley	707-815-1298
Blakeman, Mark	Butte, Nevada, Sutter, Yuba	Marysville	530-604-5246
Brundy, Jorie	Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity	Eureka	707-688-3238
Corriea, Thomas	Eastern Lake, Solano, Yolo	Williams	530-723-2915
Edwards, Bob	Shasta	Cottonwood	530-945-7133
Frutuozo, Tony	Modoc, North Lassen	Cedarville	530-604-3287
Gorden, Leonard	Siskiyou	Montague	530-510-3413
Herman, Toni	Modoc, Siskiyou	Tulelake	530-604-5730
McClure, Erin	Del Norte, Humboldt	Blue Lake	707-815-9592
Smith, Daniel	Western Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma	Petaluma	707-688-3237
Stockton, Robert	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, South Tehama	Orland	530-604-4562
Taylor, Colleen	Lassen, Modoc, Shasta	McArthur	530-336-6686
Taylor, Lynn	Lassen, Modoc, Shasta	McArthur	530-336-6686
Wilburn, Rick	Lassen, Plumas, Sierra	Janesville	530-204-7808

**Supervisor David Fischer 209-605-0180**

Adams, Wallace	Alpine, Mono	Gardnerville	775-783-9600
Azevedo, Stan	Merced, San Benito	Gustine	209-485-1265
Call-Jacques, Dant	Fresno	Sanger	559-905-8580
Campbell, Carol	Fresno	Coalinga	559-935-3728
Jackson, Marina	Fresno, Madera	North Fork	559-905-8557
Jess-Burtschi, Jill	Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne	Escalon	209-482-6510
Jones, Will	Fresno, Kings	Lemoore	559-246-5778
Leslie, David	Merced	Merced	209-482-7716
Mackey, Elizabeth	Madera, Merced	Merced	209-626-9706
Mahon, Roger	Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Sacramento, San Joaquin	Elk Grove	916-803-6107
Miller, Sally	Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey, San Mateo, Santa Clara	Morgan Hill	408-832-6608
Ramont, Jim	Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, Tuolumne	La Grange	209-482-5741
Ramont, John	Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus	La Grange	209-482-8010
Selvey, Dean	Stanislaus	Oakdale	209-620-5129
Simpkins, Kaitlin	San Joaquin	Oakdale	209-617-2282
Strain, Randy	Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin	Acampo	209-482-8011
Tex, Summer	Fresno, Merced	Chowchilla	559-331-6347
Tosti, Dennis	Alameda, Contra Costa, San Benito, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus	Ceres	209-485-1831

**Supervisor Richard Wright 559-905-8573**

Barron, Pete	Kings	Lemoore	559-924-5317
Carroll, Edward	Tulare	Exeter	559-331-0052
Drewry, Bill	Tulare	Three Rivers	559-283-2507
Duncan, Connie	Monterey, San Luis Obispo	Shandon	805-338-1437
Evans, Joey	Kings, Tulare	Visalia	559-905-8708
Factor, George	Kern	Granite Station	661-303-5122
Friend, Joanne	Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino	Yorba Linda	951-317-1798
Green, Lanee	Kern, Tulare	Terra Bella	559-905-0914
Hansen, Kathy	Imperial	Imperial	760-831-6357
Helfrich, Robert	Kern	Tehachapi	661-203-1613
Lovelace, Julie	Ventura, Kern	Piru	805-320-0377
Moody, Tina	Tulare	Visalia	559-905-8744
Pope, Geoffrey	Inyo, Mono	Bishop	760-920-3500
Sanchez, Karla	San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara	Orcutt	805-338-9840
Schwarte, Armell	Riverside, San Bernardino	Hemet	951-202-1894
Topete, Rolando	San Bernardino, Riverside	Riverside	951-316-9035
Valdibieso, Michael	Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	Ramona	951-201-4058
Williams, Wayne	San Diego	Brawley	760-861-2583

**Patrick Taylor**  
Assistant Bureau Chief / Brand Registrar

**John Suther**  
Senior Special Investigator

**Janus Gustafson**  
Office Services Supervisor II

**Mila Matthews**  
Staff Services Analyst

**Judy Garig**  
Account Technician

**Chuck King**  
Office Technician

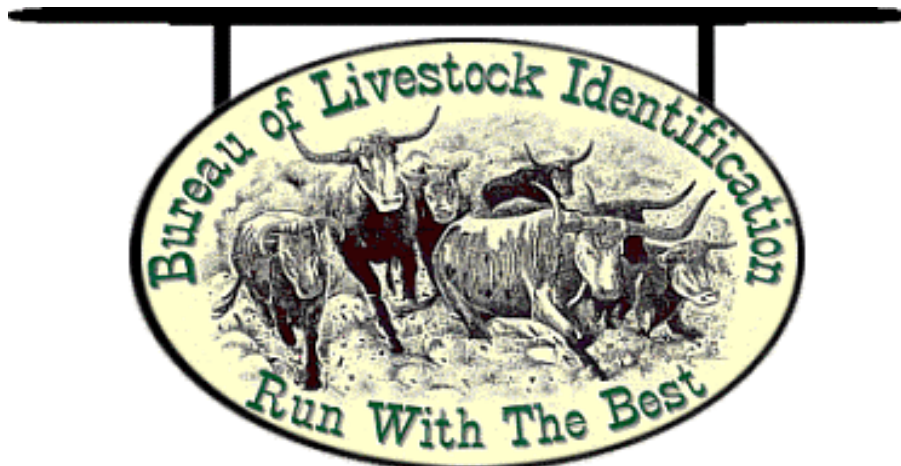
**Meriam Tkalec**  
Account Clerk II

**Austin Borgman**  
Office Technician

**Andrea Anderson**  
Office Assistant

**General Correspondence**  
Department of Food & Agriculture  
1220 "N" Street Room A-130  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Ph. (916) 654-0889  
Fax (916) 653-5190

**Cashier**  
Department of Food & Agriculture  
Bureau of Livestock Identification  
P.O. Box 942872  
Sacramento, CA 94271



# **The Bureau of Livestock Identification is Working for You**

Your cooperation and assistance is needed so the Brand Inspector may improve service provided to you.

1. Advance notice of your inspection needs will permit better scheduling by the Inspector.
2. Twenty-four hours minimum notice is requested. Adequate notice will improve the Inspector's ability to be available when requested.
3. Cattle shipments should be scheduled Monday through Friday whenever possible.
4. Telephone messages to the Inspector should normally be made between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
5. Cattle should be ready for inspection at the scheduled time. The Inspector usually has several inspections scheduled and may not be able to wait for you. Your delays hold up all other shippers in the area.
6. Sunday inspection requests should be avoided. Services on Sunday may be provided in emergency situations. The Inspector must be notified by noon on Saturday for necessary Sunday inspections.

## **Immediately Report Your Missing or Stolen Livestock to the Local Brand Inspector and Local Law Enforcement Agency**

- It establishes that a problem exists or that a loss has occurred.
- It assists the Brand Inspector in recovering your losses.
- It advises the department as to the extent of cattle theft and assists us in an effort to prevent or deter future crimes.

# **Agricultural Code Sections**

## **Pertaining to Brand Inspection**

### ***Branding:***

- 20604 It is unlawful for any person to brand any animal except in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- 20605 It is unlawful for any person to use an unrecorded, forfeited, or canceled brand.
- 20606 It is unlawful for any person to apply a recorded brand in any location on the animal except that which is specified on the brand registration certificate. The use of a brand on any location except that which is specified on the brand registration certificate is the same as the use of an unrecorded brand.
- 20222 Any person who uses an unrecorded, forfeited, or canceled brand shall pay a penalty upon a first violation of one hundred dollars (\$100); upon a second violation within the same 12-month period, a penalty of two hundred dollars (\$200); and upon a third or subsequent violation within the same 12-month period, a penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500), which is in addition to any other penalty provided by law.

### **Documents Required for Transporting Cattle**

**(All cattle shipments must have one of the following)**

#### ***1. Brand Inspection Certificate***

This certificate must always accompany the shipment when the cattle are subject to brand inspection under conditions prescribed in the Food and Agricultural Code.

- 21051 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, cattle shall be inspected as follows:
- (a) Whenever cattle are sold or ownership is transferred.
  - (b) Prior to movement out of state.
  - (c) Prior to movement out of any designated modified point-of-origin inspection area, for purposes other than sale or slaughter and no change of ownership is involved.
  - (d) Exception to above: If cattle are moved to a destination point (sales yard, slaughterhouse, or registered feedlot), they will be inspected at the destination point instead of point of origin.
  - (e) Upon entry into a registered feedlot.
  - (f) Prior to slaughter.
  - (g) Prior to release or sale from a public salesyard or public or private cattle sales market.
  - (h) Prior to transportation or movement from premises designated as quarantine, restricted, or isolated areas pursuant to Section 9565.
- 21051.5 When brand inspection is not required under Section 21051, any person, upon his request, shall receive brand inspection of cattle. Any such person who requests the inspection shall pay to the secretary a time and mileage charge established by the secretary to equal the cost of providing such an inspection. Nothing in this section shall exempt any person from any other inspection requirements for the same cattle at any later time under Section 21051, nor shall such a person be exempt from any statutory inspection fees provided for by this division.



Bureau of Livestock Identification  
 1220 "N" Street, Room A-130  
 Sacramento, CA 95814  
 Phone: (916) 854-0889  
 Fax: (916) 853-5190

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
 Department of Food & Agriculture

8801 - 01

3 / 1 / 10  
 Date of Inspection:

BRAND INSPECTION CERTIFICATE

Activity Code: **64**

<b>FROM: Consignor</b>			<b>TO: Buyer</b>			<b>Agent</b>		
<i>John Rancher</i>			<i>Agri Beef</i>					
Name			Name			Name		
<i>3279 Prospect Road</i>			<i>P.O. Box 6640</i>					
Address of Owner			Address			Address		
<i>Mariposa</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>95538</i>	<i>Boise</i>	<i>ID</i>	<i>83707-6640</i>			
City	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code
<i>( 209 ) 645 - 1222</i>			<i>Boise, Idaho</i>					
Phone Number			Destination					
<i>Big Oak Ranch</i>			<i>Mariposa</i>	<i>Mariposa</i>	For Transportation Purposes <i>11:59 P.M.</i> on <i>3 / 1 / 10</i>			
Place of Inspection			City	County	this Certificate Expires: Time Date			

Number	Sex	Brand	Location of Brand	Age	Color or Breed	Comments	Number	Sex	Brand	Location of Brand	Age	Color or Breed	Comments
1	72	Str	JR	RR	Yrig	Blk, Bwf	8						
2	JI						9						
3							10						
4							11						
5							12						
6							13						
7							14						

Total Cattle & Calves: 72 Hides \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Suckling Calves: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Pasture Movement Only)  
 Supplemental Certificates Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Inspected: 72 @ \$ 1.05

Health Certificate No.: 93-123456  
 Permit No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Premises Id No.: 0045OKQ  
 Latitude: 3 8 \* 5 7 5 3  
 Longitude: 1 2 1 \* 4 9 3 4

Service Charge: \$ 12.00  
 Brand Inspection: \$ 75.60  
 CA Beef Council Fees: \$ 72.00 Exemption Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ x Hours: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ x Mileage: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Due: \$ 159.60**  
 Date Fees Received 3 / 1 / 10  
 Cash  Check & No.: 2562

I hereby certify that I have personally inspected the above livestock and have accurately recorded the brands and marks thereon.

To Avoid Late Fees, Send All Payments Due to the Brand Inspector Within 30 Days

<i>Joe Inspector</i>	<i>Joe Inspector</i>	<i>X John Rancher</i>
Print Name	Signature of Brand Inspector	Signature of Owner or Authorized Agent
<i>1220 N Street</i>	<i>( 916 ) 654 - 0889</i>	<i>Hillcrest Transport</i>
Address	Phone Number	Name of Transporter
<i>Sacramento</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>95814</i>
City	State	Zip Code

If Certificate Issued for Proof of Ownership - Retain Blue Copy  
 This Certificate is VOID if Altered

## **2. Proof of Ownership**

- 16521 An inspector shall seize any bovine animal, horse, mule, or burro, or the hide or carcass of any such animal, which is within any of the following classes:
- (a) Found in the possession of a person that cannot prove ownership.
  - (b) Presented for inspection and which is not claimed by the consignor or consignee.
- 16522 Evidence of ownership of an animal or hide may include any of the following:
- (a) A recorded brand registered in the name of the person in possession of the animal or hide.
  - (b) A brand inspection certificate.
  - (c) A bill of sale from the owner of the brand on the animal or hide.
  - (d) In the case of an unbranded animal or hide, a bill of sale which gives a description of the breed, sex, color, and natural markings, if any.
  - (e) A dairy exemption number.
- 16522.5 (a) A dairy exemption number shall be evidence of ownership of cull beef cows and bulls of a recognized dairy breed presented for sale at a registered or posted salesyard, or licensed slaughter plant for immediate slaughter. Any person owning a dairy farm as defined in Section 32505 may apply to the secretary for an exemption number.
- (b) Every five years, the secretary may charge a fee to cover the cost of issuing and renewing a dairy exemption number. The fee may not exceed fifty dollars (\$50). The secretary may refuse to issue such number to persons who have violated any provision of Division 9 (commencing with Section 16301), Division 10 (commencing with Section 20001), or Division 11 (commencing with Section 23001) of the Food and Agricultural Code, or to persons convicted of livestock theft.
  - (c) The dairy exemption number shall be written on the bill of consignment, defined in Section 21703, when the cattle and consignment slip are presented to an inspector at the registered or posted salesyard, or licensed slaughter plant. The salesyard operator shall display the letters "EX" in the description line of the salesyard outbilling. An exemption number shall be deemed to meet the identification information requirements of Section 21703. The cows shall be consigned, owned, and sold in the name of the person having the exemption number.
  - (d) The secretary may revoke the dairy exemption number of any person who violates any provision of the Food and Agricultural Code or who is convicted of theft.
- 32505 "Dairy farm" means any place or premises upon which milk is produced for sale or other distribution and where more than two cows or six goats are in lactation.

## **3. Bill of Sale or Consignment**

- 21066 Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (h) of Section 21051, all cattle transported within the state for pasture or feeding purposes with no change in ownership shall be accompanied by a certificate of consignment which contains the information specified in Section 21703.
- 21702 A person shall not buy, sell, or accept any animal, unless the seller or donor gives, and the buyer or donee receives, at the time of the delivery of the animal, a written bill of sale or written instrument from the owner or his agent which gives the number, kind, breed, sex, and, if branded, the brand and location of the brand on each animal.
- 21703 Except as provided in Section 21058, bills of sale or consignment required by any provision of Division 9 (commencing with Section 16301) or Division 10 (commencing with Section

20001) shall be made on the "Bill of Sale or Consignment" form approved by the secretary, and shall state all of the following information for animals sold or consigned:

- (a) The date of sale or consignment.
- (b) The loading point.
- (c) The name and address of the owner or the consignor, or both.
- (d) The destination.
- (e) The number and description of the animals including their brands, if any.
- (f) The name and address of the buyer or consignee, or both.
- (g) The name of the transporter or carrier and the license number of the vehicle used to transport the animals.
- (h) The signature of the owner or his authorized agent.

74-036Y (Rev 05/09) \$2.00 per pad	<b>STATE OF CALIFORNIA</b> <b>BILL OF SALE OR CONSIGNMENT</b> Approved and Distributed by: Bureau of Livestock Identification, Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 "N" Street, Room A-130, Sacramento, CA 95814 - Phone: (916) 654-0889 <b>FOR USE WITHIN CALIFORNIA ONLY</b>	Date <u>6 / 27 / 2010</u>																																																							
<b>Check One:</b> Pasture Movement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consigned <input type="checkbox"/> Sold <input type="checkbox"/>	Name of Buyer, if applicable _____ Buyer's Phone No. _____																																																								
Transported by: <u>Acme L/S Hualing - ATE1342</u> <small>Carrier's Name and Vehicle License</small>		I hereby certify under penalty of perjury, that the information provided is true and correct, and that all eligible female cattle are Burcellosis vaccinated and bear the evidence of such vaccination as required by the California Food & Agricultural Code, Sections 10351 and 10512. I further certify that, to the best of my knowledge, none of the cattle described herein are adulterated within the meaning of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (i.e., none of the cattle have been fed any feed containing protein derived from mammalian tissues, e.g. meat and bone meal, not in compliance with 21 CFR 589.2000 and none of the cattle have an illegal level of drug residues). This document is subject to the provisions of any underlying sale or consignment agreement.																																																							
Loaded at: <u>Fresno</u> <small>Town or Feedlot</small>																																																									
Destined for: <u>Sacramento</u> <small>Feedlot, Auction Yard, Town, Slaughterhouse</small>																																																									
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: x-small;"> <thead> <tr> <th># HEAD</th> <th>SEX</th> <th>BRAND</th> <th>LOC</th> <th>COLOR/BREED</th> <th>LOT #</th> <th>CERT #</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>EARTAG</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>Cows</td> <td>JR</td> <td>LH</td> <td>Blk</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>Strs</td> <td>None</td> <td></td> <td>Blk, Bwf</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>Hfrs</td> <td>None</td> <td></td> <td>Blk, Bwf</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			# HEAD	SEX	BRAND	LOC	COLOR/BREED	LOT #	CERT #						EARTAG		30	Cows	JR	LH	Blk			20	Strs	None		Blk, Bwf			10	Hfrs	None		Blk, Bwf																						
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10	Hfrs	None		Blk, Bwf																																																					
Buyer's Address _____ City _____ State _____																																																									
Owner's Name <u>Joe Rancher</u>																																																									
Owner's Address <u>123 Cowtrack Lane</u>																																																									
City <u>Sacramento</u> State <u>CA</u> Zip Code <u>95814</u>																																																									
County <u>Sacramento</u> Phone No. <u>916-321-7654</u>																																																									
Signature of Owner or Authorized Agent _____																																																									
<b>YOUR CATTLE CAN BE HELD IF THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT FULLY COMPLETED</b>																																																									

### Strays and Estrays

#### **Strays**

21175

The shipper or person in charge of cattle being shipped or offered for inspection is responsible for sorting out stray animals and identifying such strays to the brand inspector prior to inspection.

- (a) Any expense for feed and transportation incurred in the recovery of stray animals shipped without inspection, or shipped for inspection at destination, without the knowledge and consent of the owner, shall be recovered from the person responsible for the shipment.
- (b) Any person failing to cut out or identify stray animals which are shipped without inspection or shipped for inspection at destination shall pay a penalty upon a first violation of fifty dollars (\$50) for each animal; upon a second violation within the same 12-month period, a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each animal; upon a third violation within the same 12-month period, a penalty of two hundred dollars

(\$200) for each animal; and upon the fourth or subsequent violation within the same 12-month period, a penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each animal to the Bureau of Livestock Identification which is in addition to any other penalty provided by law.

- (c) For purposes of determining subsequent violations, each shipment of cattle to a single destination point in one calendar day constitutes one violation.

### ***Estrays***

- 17041 Except as provided in Article 5 (commencing with Section 17121) of this chapter, any person that finds any estray domestic animal upon his premises, or upon premises to which he has the right of possession, or upon any highway which is adjacent to such premises, may take up the animal and have a lien for all expenses which are incurred in taking up, keeping, and caring for it.
- 17042 Any person that takes up an estray animal shall confine it in a secure place, and shall immediately file with the secretary a notice containing all of the following:
- (a) A description of the animal seized.
  - (b) The marks and brands, if any.
  - (c) The probable value of the animal.
  - (d) A statement of the date and place where it was taken up and confined.

## **Areas Devoted Chiefly to Grazing**

### ***Cattle on the Road Way***

- 16902 A person that owns or controls the possession of any livestock shall not willfully or negligently permit any of the livestock to stray upon, or remain unaccompanied by a person in charge or control of the livestock upon, a public highway, if both sides of the highway are adjoined by property which is separated from the highway by a fence, wall, hedge, sidewalk, curb, lawn, or building.

### ***Grazing Areas***

- 17122 In any county or part of a county devoted chiefly to grazing and so declared pursuant to this article, a person shall not have the right to take up any estray animal found upon his premises, or upon premises to which he has the right of possession, nor shall he have a lien thereon, unless the premises are entirely enclosed with a good and substantial fence.
- 17123 The following counties or parts of counties are declared to be devoted chiefly to grazing:
- (a) That portion of Trinity which is outside of the area described in Section 17125.
  - (b) That portion of Shasta outside of the area which is described in Section 17126.
  - (c) Siskiyou, Lassen, and Modoc.
  - (d) Any county or part of a county which is declared to be devoted chiefly to grazing pursuant to Section 17124.
- 17124 The board of supervisors of any county may by ordinance declare that such county, or part of such county, is devoted chiefly to grazing.

# Recording of Livestock Brands

It is unlawful to use a brand upon livestock in California without first recording the brand with the California Bureau of Livestock Identification, Sacramento, California. The entire State of California is one branding district.

To record a new brand, an application shall be filed with:

**California Department of Food and Agriculture  
Bureau of Livestock Identification  
P. O. Box 942872  
Sacramento, CA 94271-2872  
(916) 654-0889**

The application shall contain:

- (a) A facsimile of the brand sought to be recorded.
- (b) A statement of location on animal where brand is to be applied.
- (c) Name and address of applicant.
- (d) Signature of parent or guardian if applicant is under age 18.

A mark may be recorded only with a brand.

When the application is accepted by the Bureau, and the fee has been paid, the brand will be recorded, and one Duplicate Cattle Brand Registration Certificate will be returned to the applicant. Fees are subject to change.

The payment of the fee for recording a brand confers upon the owner of the brand the right to use it until the following April 1st. For the right to continue to use a brand, the owner thereof shall, on or before April 30 after its recordation, pay to the Bureau a renewal fee.

Should the right to use a brand be suspended due to failure to pay fee, it may be reinstated within one year from the date of suspension, upon payment of a reinstatement fee. When the right to use a brand is suspended for more than one year, it is forfeited and the brand may be re-recorded by the owner or applied for by another person according to the Food and Agricultural Code.

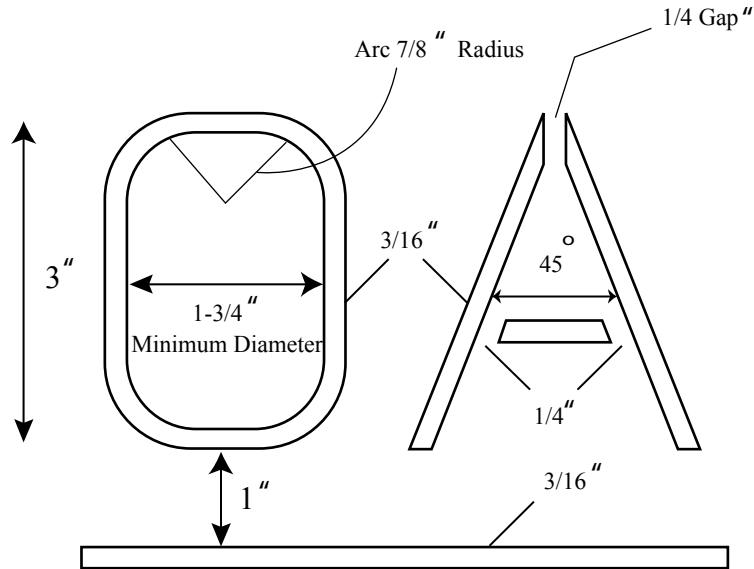
There is a fee for recording the transfer of a brand and such fee shall include a new certificate. No transferee of any brand shall use such brand until the transfer has been recorded by the Bureau.

A brand registration certificate confers upon the person to whom it is issued the right to use the recorded brand in a given location on an animal, until the right is forfeited or cancelled. Such right is a property right and may be sold or transferred. A recorded cattle brand may be used on all classes of livestock if not in conflict with a prior recording.

The renewal period is every two years beginning April 1 and ending March 31. Renewal fees must be paid by April 30 of the renewal year to retain the use of the brand.

# The Art of Branding

Even though hot iron branding has been around for more than 4,000 years, it is just as tricky a thing to do today as it was for the ancient Egyptians. We have attempted in this chapter to alleviate some of the frustration and aggravation of getting a good brand on the hide of live cattle by passing on a little information from the experts.



First, you should select a proper design...One that is plain enough that anyone can tell whether it is XYZ or 493 and not one that is just a jumble of ridges. In other words, you should select a brand that will not blotch and that anyone can read when it is properly applied.

**Blotching.** This running together of the lines on your iron can be prevented if you keep your design simple and keep the blotching problem in mind. Some suggestions to help you guard against blotching are:

- Avoid a complex design or one with many corners, angles and small circles.
- A circle should be even larger if a figure is placed inside, otherwise it is apt to burn together because the iron surrounds an area of hide and the heat alters the hair follicles in all the area inside the circle if it is too small.
- Parallel lines or nearby elements of a brand should be at least 1 inch apart. This will prevent merging.
- In intersecting lines or elements, leave a small gap where they join to prevent a blotch. The gap for angles should be at least 1/4 inch. An iron may change direction without a gap by using a curve or bending the iron, as in the letter "L" made as a single element. The curve should be formed in a radius of at least 7/8 inch.

**Edge Width.** Also of great importance is the edge width of the iron that forms the burning or branding surface. Remember that a brand makes its design apparent by causing a warping or dislocation of the hair follicles and that the new hair growth at different angles from the natural hair makes the design on the animal. If the iron surface is too narrow, it will not disrupt enough hair follicles and the brand will not be legible. On the other hand, if the iron surface is too wide, it is more apt to blotch because of the increased heat applied in the general area. It also is more difficult to hold the iron in position. The wider the branding edge, the greater the tendency of the iron to slip and blur or blotch the brand. The recommended iron width is 3/16 to 1/4 inch. A width of 3/16 inch of burning surface will make a very legible brand and can be applied with little or no slippage, if reasonable care is used.

## Using the Brand

**Heating the Iron.** One mistake a novice makes when first using a brand on cattle is misjudging temperature. Sometimes these mistakes require years to rectify. The branding iron may be hot enough to burn only the hair without making any permanent mark on the hide, and a year later there will be no legible brand. This may be worse than no brand at all because it may appear different from the recorded iron.

How can you tell when an iron is too hot or too cold? Color is the secret. An iron heated in a flame will accumulate carbon early and appear very black. A very black iron is too cold. It may be hot enough to burn or singe the hair but not hot enough to deform the roots of the hair follicles, which is so essential for a permanent mark. It is also a mistake to get the iron too hot. How, then, do we tell when the branding iron is the right temperature?

A gray color is the secret. A gray color means the iron is hot enough to burn away the carbon deposits and yet not so hot that it will ignite the hair. There is a considerable range of temperature in which the iron can be gray; at the very low range it will be something less than satisfactory. Avoid this. If the iron is so hot that it is just nearly red, it is too hot. Only experience can show you the gray at which you can best maintain the heat and use the iron. It is important that it is not at the low or the high range in the gray shades. If the branding iron is copper, it will not appear gray but will show its natural dull copper color when hot; however, it will collect carbon and appear darker when cold.

**Moisture.** One factor that can affect the quality of the brand is wet hair on the animal at the time of branding. A rainy day is definitely not the time to brand. It is harder to maintain the fire and keep the irons at the right temperature, and the wet hair can blur the brand despite the perfect temperature of the iron. If the hair is wet when the brand is applied, two things may prevent a good brand:

1. The iron loses temperature rapidly, especially on the surface in immediate contact with the hair, because moisture conducts heat to its own surface.
2. The moisture and hair tend to form a flake of material when the heat is applied. This prevents penetration of the heat to the hair follicles in the hide.

Remember that a brand is a burn, not a scald, and that in branding, fire and water do not mix. While it is true the animal's hair or hide does not have to be completely dry to make a satisfactory brand, it is far more difficult and requires a great deal more care and time if hair and hide are very wet.

**Dirt.** An excess amount of sand or dirt on the hide will also affect the quality of the brand. Too much dirt will prevent the surface of the branding iron from coming into direct contact with the hide and will act as an insulation between the hide and the iron.

## Electric Branding Iron

The electric branding iron continues to become more popular. The electric branding iron is made of the same material as the heating element of an electric stove and is about the same width ... 3/16 to 1/4 inch. There is also a built-in thermostat set at the proper temperature to control the heat of the iron. This overcomes two common branding problems. The iron remains at the proper temperature, not too hot or too cold, and is wide enough to burn a good design on the hide.

Some people claim that the electric iron slips more than other irons. This will change with experience. Since the electric iron is not heated by fire, a residue from burnt hair and dirt may build up on the iron. This will greatly affect the iron as the dirt acts as an insulation and will prevent the iron from burning the hide properly. It may be necessary to keep a wire brush nearby to brush off the residue. Rubbing the iron in a bucket of fine sand is also successful.

**Application.** The design of the branding iron should not be so small it will result in a blotch instead of a brand; therefore, it is not unusual for irons to be six inches or more in overall length. An iron of this size will not make an even burn on the shoulder, ribs, or hip if applied in a single stamping action and held there. To make an even application, move the handle of the iron in a slow, rocking motion to vary the pressure. This will avoid both overburn or underburn in any one spot.

**Timing.** Most people do not like the thought of branding and the novice is no exception. The natural dislike of the procedure is the cause for many poor brands. It is well to realize that the pain is the greatest on the first touch of the branding iron. Therefore, the iron should be held to the hide long enough to make a permanent brand, otherwise all the pain, work and difficulty will be for nothing.

If the burning edge of the iron is quite narrow, it will burn through the hide instead of burning the hide when held as long as a slightly wider edge. A wide burning surface requires a long application to burn through the hair and onto the hide. Applying a hot branding iron too long is unwise because it makes a wound that is slow to heal. The branding is quicker and more humane if the hide is dry, the iron hot and applied only long enough to make a brand having the color of well-worn saddle leather.

The saddle leather test is made by rubbing the new brand briskly but with light pressure to remove the charred hair. If the animal has been properly branded, the deep brown color of the hide will appear. On the other hand, if the iron was not hot enough, only the hair will be burned or if it was too hot or held too long, it will burn through the hide and the white color of the tissue under the hide will appear.

It is impossible to determine an exact amount of time the iron should be held to the hide because conditions of the hair, temperature and size of iron vary. If the test described above is used, experience will soon decide the time required to make a good brand under your conditions.

## ***Branding Of Livestock***

***The brand of a Cattleman is his trademark for his line of production. The most successful cattlemen take great pride in branding their livestock.***

***Your brand is your Livestock's return address.....***

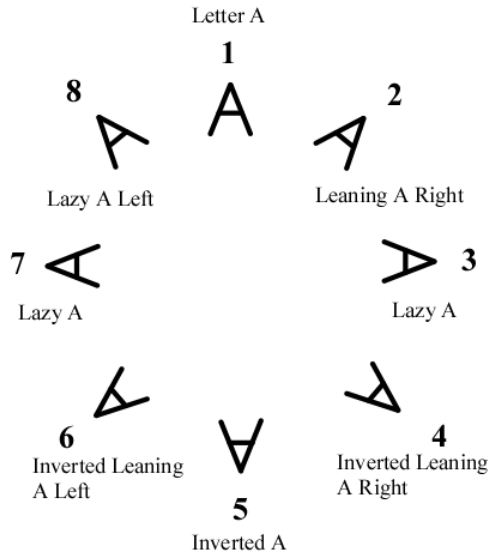


# How to Read the Brand Book

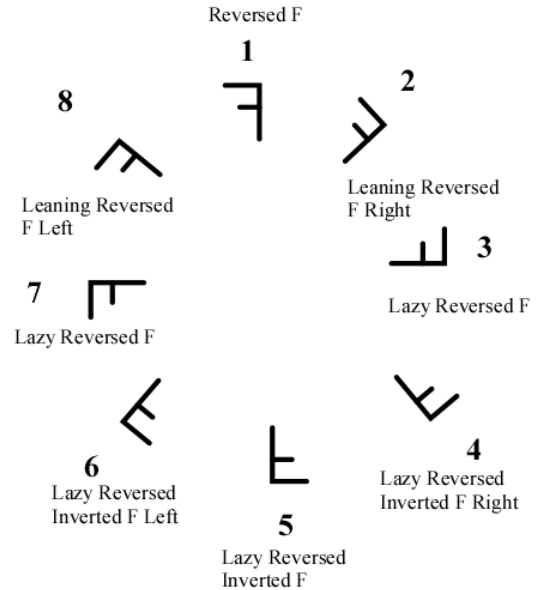
The brand book is in a brandabetical order, starting with numbers 2 thru 9, followed with letters A through Z, then symbols, with miscellaneous symbols being last. The numeral 1 is filed under the letter I.

Letters, Numbers & Symbols are sorted in a clockwise order, there are 8 positions.

## 8 Positions Clockwise Forward

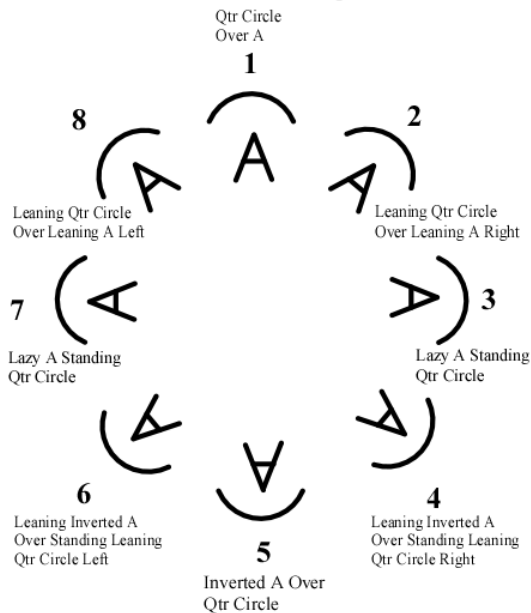


## 8 Positions Clockwise Reverse

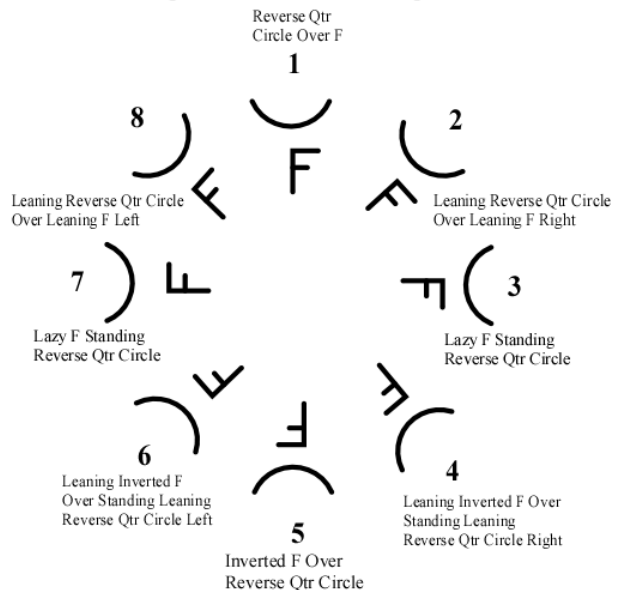


Quarter circles turn in, reverse quarter circles turn out and there are 8 positions. They rotate in a clockwise order with Letters, Numbers and other Symbols.

## Quarter circles rotate 8 positions



## Reverse quarter circles rotate 8 positions



## Secondary Symbols



# Reading Brands and Earmarks

## BRANDS

Brands are read:

Left to right



Letter A side bar  
Letter B

Top to bottom



Letter A over bar  
over letter B

Outside to inside



Circle inner letter A



Lazy letter S  
over numeral 6



Qtr circle over  
double letter I



U over qtr circle



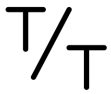
Shining milliron  
over letter L



Numeral 7 letter F  
combined over  
reverse qtr circle



Rocking letter A



T slash  
offset T



Rafter over reverse  
letter B letter C



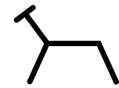
Letter C inner reverse  
letter L letter R combined



Letter T over  
lazy letter T



Hook over slash



Animal (Horse)

## EAR MARKS



Illegal ear mark



Double under fork



Swallow fork,  
Double under split



Shoestring,  
Swallow fork



Under 7,  
Under 7



Crop split,  
Shoestring



Swallow fork  
under 7,  
Crop



Under split,  
Keyhole



Hole punch,  
Steeple fork



Under bit,  
Under slope



Over slope,  
Jingle bob



Crop,  
Upper half crop



Double under split,  
Swallow fork



Under half crop,  
Over bit



L 7,  
Crop



Split,  
Over fork



Crop,  
Under slope



Double over split,  
Double under fork




























































































Swallow bit,  
Split



Double split,  
Over bit

# Alphabetical List of Brand Symbols

Acorn		Cloverleaf		Hoove		Scissors	
Anchor		Crecent Moon		Horseshoe		Shield	
Animals		Cross		Hourglass		Shining (Sunrise)	
Animal Head		Crown		House		Slash	
Anvil		Cup		Key		Sled	
Arrowhead		Diamond		Keyhole		Spade	
Arrow		Dollar Sign		Knife (Seaving)		Spanish	
Axe		Dots		Keystone		Spring (Coil)	
Bar		Fish		Ladder		Spur	
Bell		Flag		Laddle		Star	
Bench		Flower		Leaf		States	
Bird (Swan)		Fork		Lightning Bolt		Staple	
Bridle Bit		Fruit		Man		Steps	
Bone		Glove (Mitten)		Milliron		Stirup	
Boot		Gun		Mountain		Stump	
Bottle		Hanger		Music Note		Tadpole	
Box		Hammer		Ox-Yoke		TeePee	
Bug		Hat		Pin (Cotter)		Track (Turkey)	
Cactus		Heart		Pitcher		Tree	
Chair		Hexagon		Pipe		Triangle	
Check Mark		Hook		Rafter		Wine Glass	
Circle Quarter				Rake		S Wrench	
				Pick		Wrench (Wagon)	

# Cattle Rustling Still Alive in the West

Cattle rustling is defined as the act of stealing livestock. Some people think that cattle rustling is confined to the past, but it is very much alive today. The cattle industry has changed over the years from predominately open range to fenced grazing operations or confined facilities, such as dairies. The methods used by cattle rustlers also have changed, from driving cattle off their natural range to loading livestock in the darkness of night in a trailer and transporting the cattle long distances, in a short period of time. Another method a thief will use is to steal another rancher's cow to raise its calf, then sell the calf annually and return the cow several years later.

At one time, cattle rustling was considered a very serious offense. In the 'Old West', cattle rustlers may have been lynched on the spot, or vigilantes would take the law into their own hands. Over the years, however, more serious offenses have taken priority with local law enforcement. Criminals caught stealing cattle today have received short prison sentences or in many cases just probation. Producers demanding stricter sentences from their local law enforcement officials may influence a reversal of this trend.

Each year continued urbanization has created a shortage of grazing land, with a corresponding decrease in the number of cattle. With business costs rising, less grazing land available, and losses due to cattle theft, it has become increasingly difficult to keep an operation profitable. When a cow is stolen, the producer not only loses the value of the animal itself, they also lose the potential value of the offspring that the animal would have produced for up to 10 years. Some producers spend extra time and money on particular bloodlines in order to produce top quality animals in order to compete for top dollar in the marketplace. A producer suffers an even greater loss when one of these valuable animals is stolen.

From 2007 to 2008 there was a 25% decrease in the number of cattle reported stolen or missing. This was due, in part, to road enforcement activities performed by the Bureau of Livestock Identification and the California Rural Crime Prevention Task Force. In addition, the Bureau produces a weekly bulletin that is distributed to brand inspectors and law enforcement agencies throughout the western United States and Canada. From 2008 to 2009 there was a 5% increase in the number of cattle reported stolen or missing, which many believe is primarily attributed to the downward turn of the economy.

There are several forms of identification that can be used to deter cattle rustlers. The best identification is to brand your livestock. If done properly, a brand is a permanent mark that is not easily altered. Branding your livestock is a great way to ensure that even if your cattle stray or are stolen, they can be returned to you. Remember, that it's important to take your time when branding to ensure the brand is clear and legible. A blotched brand is as good as no brand at all.

Other ways to identify your livestock are: Identification tags with your name and phone number or RFID tags (the downside is they can be easily removed), tattoos, ear marks, waddles and photographs. In addition to brands, all of these identification methods may be used to recover your livestock.

## **Cattle rustling prevention tips:**

- ◆ **Brand all your cattle and brand calves as soon possible. Branding is permanent and hard to alter.**
- ◆ **Check your cattle often and get a regular count.**
- ◆ **Keep good records so that if your livestock comes up missing you can provide an accurate description**
- ◆ **Keep your local Brand Inspector's and law enforcement officer's phone numbers handy.**

- ◆ Immediately report any missing cattle to your local Brand Inspector and Law Enforcement. Even if you think they could have strayed in to the neighbor's pasture, make a report because the longer you wait the more difficult it will be to find your missing cattle.
- ◆ Make sure you notify neighbors of any missing cattle and be sure to let everyone know when you find them.
- ◆ Maintain fences to keep your livestock on your ranch or facility.
- ◆ Be aware of suspicious vehicles; watch for slow driving vehicles scouting livestock; record the license plate number for future reference if needed by local law enforcement.
- ◆ When you leave for an extended period of time, do not tell people that you will be gone. Have a family member or trusted neighbor help by collecting newspapers, picking up your mail, and checking on your place regularly.
- ◆ When possible, keep cows with young calves away from easily accessed roads and keep valuable animals close to main buildings.
- ◆ Be alert to a cow with a full udder walking up and down the fence, she most likely is looking for her calf, which may have been stolen.
- ◆ When hiring new employees, perform complete background checks of their previous employment and residence. Some enforcement authorities have suggested caution in hiring employees that are related to your current employees.
- ◆ Install security cameras and dusk to dawn lights.
- ◆ Keep locks on corrals and install gates and locks on any access (such as canals) that could be entered on the backside of your property. You may need to get permission from your irrigation district.
- ◆ Be aware of orchards that boarder your property, this is a perfect way for a cattle theft to enter your property with your knowledge.
- ◆ A good guard dog will usually alert you to any suspicious activity.
- ◆ Set up a neighborhood watch.
- ◆ Use other forms of identification: Plastic ear tags, RFID tags, waddles, ear marks, tattoos, bangs tags, metal identification tags or photographs.



**REPORTED MISSING OR STOLEN**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
 Department of Food & Agriculture  
 Bureau of Livestock Identification



**NO: 10 - 26**

Website: [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Livestock\\_ID](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Livestock_ID)

July 2, 2010

Anyone with information regarding the following livestock, please contact the Bureau of Livestock Identification, 1220 "N" Street, Room A-130, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 654-0889, or the reporting Brand Inspector.

*Greg Lawley, Bureau Chief*

County of Origin: Sacramento - 34

Inspector: Joe Inspector

Brand, Location, Earmarks

Case No.: 10M-071

No Brand - No Earmark    2 Blk Steers 2 Yrs 1100#

J R    LH - No Earmarks

10 Rwf, Bwf Heifers 10 mo 650#

*Information: Last seen in the area of 123 Cowtrack Lane Sacramento, CA 95814. Two (2) Black steers, last seen 4/14/2010, are not branded, the other 10 Red White Face and Black White Face heifers, were last seen 6/1/2010, are branded with a JR, Left Hip.*



# REWARD



CALIFORNIA  
CATTLEMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION

OFFERS A

# R E W A R D

FOR SUBSTANTIAL AND ACCURATE INFORMATION ON  
PERSON(S) STEALING, MAIMING OR SLAUGHTERING CATTLE IN  
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

CALL

1 - 800 - 671 - 4327

WITH ANY INFORMATION ON THEFTS OR INJURY TO CATTLE.  
INFORMANTS MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

Full information on conditions for payment of a reward may be secured from the  
California Cattlemen's Association, 1221 H Street Sacramento, CA 95814.

# Brand History

Branding has been around for thousands of years. There is Biblical evidence that Jacob, the great herdsman, branded his stock. Egyptians have shown ancient brands on tombs and drawings of the actual work of branding.

Introduction of cattle by the Spaniards led to the development of the cattle industry of the Southwest and the eventual spread of the great herds to California in the days of the Missions. Hernando Cortez brought the first branding irons to the New World; Cortez's brand design was three crosses representing Christian the Trinity. The middle cross was larger than the two crosses on either side.

The California Hide and Brand Law was first sponsored in 1915 by the state's cattlemen, but as the proposed legislation made no provision for revenue necessary for its enforcement, the 1915 Legislature would not act upon it. The sponsors were advised that before it could become law, it would be necessary for them to provide revenues for its administration.

With this provision in mind, the Hide and Brand Law sponsored by the cattlemen of California was approved as Chapter 678, of the 1917 Legislature on May 28, 1917, and it became effective July 27, 1917. For two years, it was administered by a board known as the Cattle Protection Board.

In 1918 the board issued a list of "Cattle Brands and Licensed Slaughterers" as of December 31, 1918, in compliance with "An act to create a Cattle Protection Board, to define its powers and duties, to protect the breeders and growers of cattle from theft, to provide for the registration of cattle brands and the licensing of cattle slaughterers and sellers of the meat thereof, to provide for inspection of cattle and cattle hides for brands and marks, to provide for the collection for license and cattle protection fund, and to provide penalties for violations."

The law provided for establishing branding districts, registering cattle brands, licensing cattle slaughterers and the inspection of all cattle for shipment or slaughter, and the inspection of hides.

The first law did not apply to registered purebred cattle or purebred cattle which could be identified as being entitled to be registered, nor did it apply to the dressed carcasses of veal with unmarked or unbranded hides, nor did it apply to cows used for dairy purposes. Later all bovine animals were included in its provisions.

In 1919, the Cattle Protection Board was abolished and Cattle Protection Service became a part of the Department of Food & Agriculture on July 27, 1919.

In 1929, the law was revised to include a new section to the code providing for the licensing of cattle dealers who transported cattle they bought for sale or slaughter in their own conveyances. Due to the increased expense of administering this section, the cattle Protection Service received an appropriation of \$15,000 from the General Fund. This is the only appropriation the Bureau has ever received from the General Fund.

In 1935, the registration of horse, mule, burro and sheep brands and the inspection of horses offered for slaughter were added to the duties of the Cattle Protection Service.

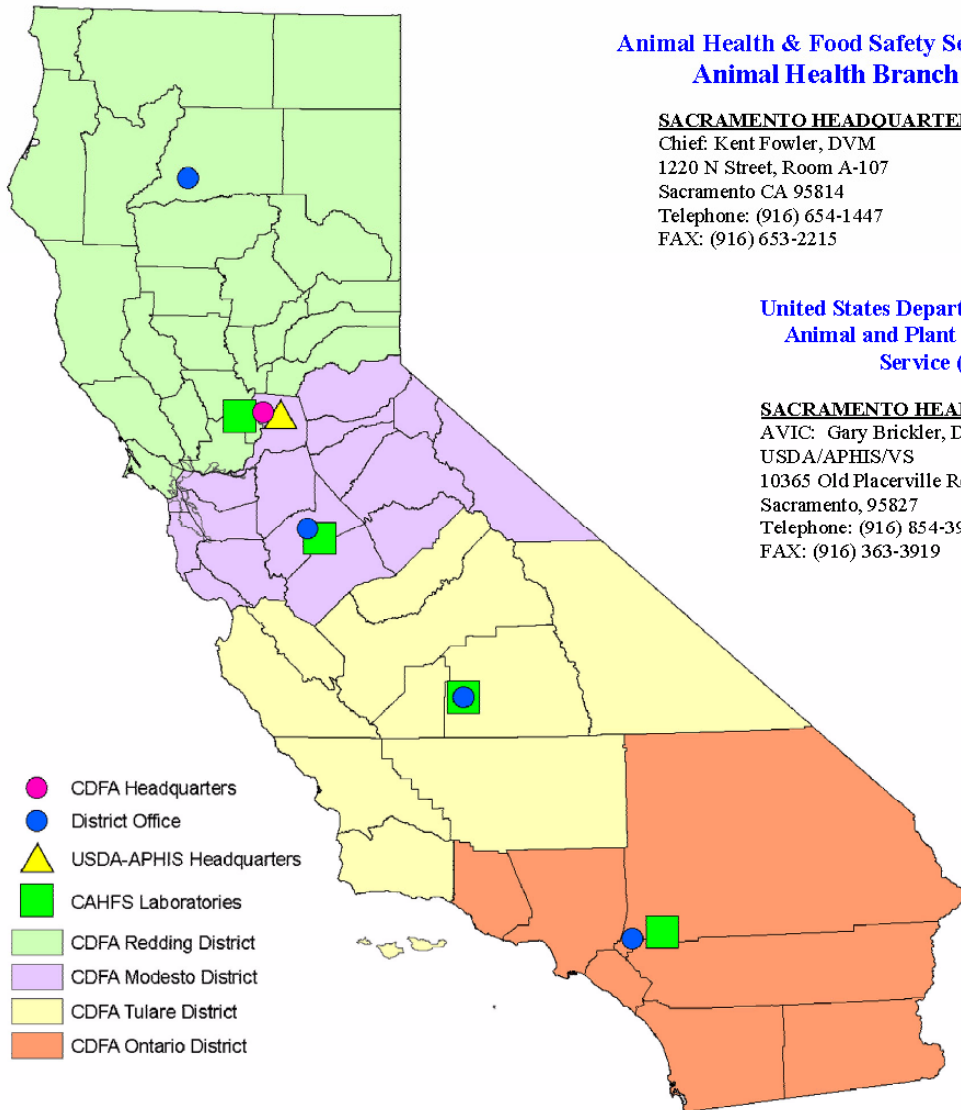
In 1936, the name of the Cattle Protection Service was changed to the Livestock Identification Service. In 1940, the Bureau of Livestock Identification was established. We have been protecting California's Cattle Industry ever since.

# CATTLE BRANDS OF CALIFORNIA MISSIONS

Name	Founded	Location	Brand	Cattle
San Diego de Alcala	1769	San Diego	ⓓ	8,000
San Luis Rey de Francia	1798	San Luis Rey	Ⓝ	26,000
San Juan Capistrano	1776	Capistrano	Ⓒ	10,000
San Gabriel Arcangel	1771	Los Angeles	Ⓝ	20,500
San Fernando Rey de Espana	1797	San Fernando	4	12,500
San Buena Ventura	1782	Ventura	Ⓐ	17,300
Santa Barbara	1786	Santa Barbara	Ⓝ	3,600
Santa Inez	1804	Santa Inez	Ⓜ	7,300
La Purisma Conception	1787	Conception	♀	10,500
San Luis Obispo de Tolosa	1772	San Luis Obispo	Ⓢ	8,600
San Miguel	1797	San Miguel	3	9,000
San Antonio de Padua	1771	Monterey Co	Ⓐ	5,000
Nuestra Senora de la Soledad	1791	Soldad	Ⓜ	6,600
San Carlos Borromeo del Carmelo	1771	Carmel	Ⓜ	2,050
San Juan Bautista	1797	San Juan	Ⓐ	11,000
Santa Cruz	1791	Santa Cruz	Ⓐ	3,500
Santa Clara	1777	Santa Clara	Ⓐ	9,000
San Jose	1797	Mission San Jose	Ⓝ	2,000
San Francisco Dolores	1776	San Francisco	F	4,200
San Rafael Archangel	1817	San Rafael	Ⓒ	1,200
San Francisco de Solano	1824	Sonoma	F	2,500







- CDFA Headquarters
- District Office
- ▲ USDA-APHIS Headquarters
- CAHFS Laboratories
- CDFA Redding District
- CDFA Modesto District
- CDFA Tulare District
- CDFA Ontario District

**Animal Health & Food Safety Services  
Animal Health Branch**

**SACRAMENTO HEADQUARTERS**

Chief: Kent Fowler, DVM  
1220 N Street, Room A-107  
Sacramento CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 654-1447  
FAX: (916) 653-2215

**United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection  
Service (APHIS)**

**SACRAMENTO HEADQUARTERS**

AVIC: Gary Brickler, DVM  
USDA/APHIS/VS  
10365 Old Placerville Rd., Suite 210  
Sacramento, 95827  
Telephone: (916) 854-3950  
FAX: (916) 363-3919

May 01, 2006

**California Animal Health & Food Safety (CAHFS)  
Laboratory System**

**REDDING DISTRICT**

VIC: Charles Palmer, DVM, MPVM  
2135 Civic Center Drive, Room 8  
Redding, CA 96001-2794  
Telephone: (530) 225-2140  
FAX: (530) 225-2240

**MODESTO DISTRICT**

VIC: David Willoughby, DVM, MPVM  
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center  
Tuolumne Building  
3800 Cornucopia Way, Suite F  
Modesto, CA 95358  
Telephone: (209) 491-9350  
FAX: (209) 491-9353

**TULARE DISTRICT**

VIC: Jeff Davidson, DVM  
18830 Road 112  
Tulare CA 93274  
Telephone: (559) 685-3500  
FAX: (559) 685-3503

**ONTARIO DISTRICT**

VIC: Predrag Pecic, DVM, MPVM  
1910 S. Archibald Avenue, Suite Y  
Ontario, CA 91761  
Telephone: (909) 947-4462  
FAX: (909) 923-5128

**CENTRAL DAVIS LABORATORY**

Director: Hailu Kinde, DVM, MPVM  
Telephone: (530) 752-8700

**TURLOCK LABORATORY**

Chief: Bruce R. Charlton, DVM, PhD  
Telephone: (209) 634-5837

**TULARE LABORATORY**

Chief: Patricia C. Blanchard, DVM, PhD  
Telephone: (559) 688-7543

**SAN BERNARDINO LABORATORY**

Chief: Francisco Uzal, DVM, PhD  
Telephone: (909) 383-4287

# Identification and Record Requirements for Moving Cattle

## Information for Dealers, Saleyards and Owners

**Cattle moving within California** may be inspected en route or after arrival, and must meet brand inspection requirements. Documents must be presented for inspection upon request of a government official. Female dairy cattle and female beef cattle sold for breeding must be **vaccinated for brucellosis** and be tattooed in the right ear with the official brucellosis tattoo.

### **California cattle dealers must:**

- Be licensed with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Market Enforcement.
- Maintain records of each animal sufficient to identify the animal, the seller, and the buyer for two (2) years, and be available for examination and copying upon request by the Department.

### **Cattle moving into California require:**

- **Entry permits** - for all female cattle, dairy bulls more than 6 months and beef bulls more than 18 months of age. No diversion is allowed from the permitted destination. Each load must have a copy of the documents required for entry to present for inspection upon request.
- **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection** - for dairy females more than 4 months of age, beef females and dairy bulls more than 6 months of age, and beef bulls more than 18 months of age.
- **Approved identification** - for all cattle tested and all cattle two (2) years of age or over, except steers, spayed heifers, and cattle moved during normal ranching operations without change of ownership.
- **Brucellosis vaccination** - for female cattle, unless entering for immediate slaughter or feeding in a registered feedlot before slaughter.
- **Brucellosis test** - for cattle from states that are not brucellosis "Class Free".
- **Trichomonosis test** – for bulls 18 months of age and over.
- **Tuberculosis test** – for all dairy breeding cattle more than 6 months of age, and beef breeding cattle more than 6 months of age from states not "Class Free".

### **Federal interstate requirements for cattle:**

- Have approved identification:
  - An approved eartag or backtag on cattle moving to slaughter

- A brand registered with an official brand agency and accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate
- Registered purebred animals not moving to slaughter may be identified in a manner acceptable to the breed association.

- Documents, signed by the owner/shipper, stating:
  - a) Origin
  - b) Destination
  - c) Number of animals
  - d) Name and address of owner
  - e) Name and address of previous owner\*
  - f) Name and address of the shipper
  - g) Identifying numbers. The numbers may be maintained by the approved stockyard if cattle move directly from the yard to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
- Documents shall be delivered with the cattle to the management of the stockyard, slaughtering establishment or consignee, and shall be available for inspection upon request by a government representative at any time within the year from the date of their delivery.

### **Cattle moved interstate from a farm directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment (or approved stockyard for sale to a recognized slaughtering establishment):**

- May be individually identified and the numbers recorded on the establishment's receiving document **upon arrival**, if accompanied by documents signed by the owner/shipper, stating:
  - a) Origin
  - b) Destination
  - c) Number of animals
  - d) Name and address of owner
  - e) Name and owner of previous owner\*
  - f) Name and address of the shipper.
- May be identified by a registered brand and accompanied by a brand inspection certificate.
- Do not require individual identification if the slaughtering establishment maintains records of ownership by lot.
- Do not require an owner-shipper statement when moved from a farm where they have been for more than four months, and the farm has not had any cattle from any other premises within those four months.

**\*If ownership changed in the prior 4 months**

When moving animals out of state, call the state of destination for requirements:

**OR-** (503) 986-4680

**NV-** (775) 688-1180

**AZ-** (602) 542-4293

**All other states** call 1-800-545-USDA (8732) or visit their web page at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/sregs/>

## **Requirements for Livestock Entering CA**

**Note:** Requirements listed in this book are only valid at the time of printing and should be used as guidelines. Please check our web page <http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/permits.htm> or call (916) 651-6278 to check for updates.

- **Always include the physical address and the phone number of origin and destination for all shipments into CA. If available, shipment documentation should include a national premises identification number (PIN) for both origin and destination.**

### **Cattle Requirements**

A. Permits: Call (916) 651-6278

- **Interstate Entry Permits** - required for most sexually intact cattle, including cows and bulls directly to slaughter.
- Special Permits (call (916) 651-6278 for permit forms or visit our web page at <http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/permits.htm>):
  - **Pasture to Pasture Permit** - permit between CA and OR, NV, or ID for an officially calfhood vaccinated beef breeding herd moving between pastures in both states without change of ownership. Permits are valid for one grazing season, up to eight months. Animals must return to state of origin within this time.

B. **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection:**

- Required for all cattle requiring vaccination, tests, or official identification.
  - Exceptions:
    - Cattle directly to slaughter (need a brand certificate or other inspection form)
    - Steers and spayed heifers (check with state of origin for requirements on cattle leaving their state)

C. **Official Identification:**

- Required on all sexually intact cattle, exceptions are: female cattle under 4 months, dairy bulls under 6 months, beef bulls under 18 months, only if cattle originate from a Class Free State.
  - Types of official identification (**See section titled “Commonly Used Official Identification in California”**):
    - Official brucellosis calfhood vaccination tag
    - State of federal approved tag
    - “Premises Identification Number” tattoos
    - Registration tattoos
    - Any other device approved for use by CDFA or USDA
    - Registered brands may be substituted for official identification under certain circumstances

#### **D. Tuberculosis Tests:**

- Required on all sexually intact cattle over 6 months of age from Non-Class Free States
- Required on all sexually intact **dairy cattle** over 6 months of age, regardless of origin state status
  - Exception: cattle going directly to slaughter

#### **E. Brucellosis Vaccination:**

- All female cattle over 4 months of age must be vaccinated for brucellosis
- Female cattle 4 to 12 months of age must be vaccinated for brucellosis or have a special permit to be vaccinated on arrival (contact the AHB permit desk for more information)

#### **F. Brucellosis Tests:**

- Required on all sexually intact cattle 18 months of age and older from Non-Class Free States
  - Exception: cattle going directly to slaughter

#### **G. Trichomonosis Tests:**

- Required on all bulls 18 months of age and older
  - Exception for bulls:
    - Going directly to slaughter
    - Coming for exhibition and returning to origin
    - Going for Artificial Insemination semen collection to an approved facility







#### **H. Premises Identification Number (PIN)**

- Individuals can obtain a premises ID number using: 1) the internet at [www.californiaid.org](http://www.californiaid.org), 2) calling 866-325-5681, or 3) mailing a paper premises form to CDFA.
- A premises ID number is needed by individuals that want to purchase official identification devices with the 840 prefix (USA code) and to report certain animal events.

### **Horse Requirements**

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, within the last 30 days, with negative EIA test, within the last 6 months, listed including results, laboratory name, date of test negative, and accession number.
- Working Horse Permits between CA and NV can be issued for horses that are used for livestock husbandry or for other ranch related activities. These are issued in accordance with Chapter 3, Article 6, Section 9641.6 of the Food and Agricultural Code. Call (916) 651-6278 for more information.

## Commonly Used Official Cattle Identification (ID) in California <sup>(1)</sup>


					
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>USDA ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (AIN) TAG</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have imprinted:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 15 digit AIN #, starting with 840 (U.S. country code),</li> <li>– U.S. Shield</li> <li>– Unlawful to Remove</li> <li>– Manufacturer's logo or trademark</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Apply in left ear</li> <li>• One time use</li> <li>• USDA compliant</li> <li>• Multiple USDA approved manufacturers</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OTHER ISO<sup>(2)</sup> COMPLIANT EID<sup>(3)</sup> TAGS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have imprinted:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 15 digit unique number</li> <li>– First 3 digits are an ISO code assigned to the manufacturer of the ID device</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One time use</li> <li>• Multiple ISO approved manufacturers</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TAMPER RESISTANT BANGLE TAG</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have imprinted:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– State issued Premises Identification Number (PIN) that conforms to USDA or previous state numbering system</li> <li>– Individual Herd ID</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One time use</li> <li>• Multiple manufacturers</li> <li>• Must record PIN and Herd ID to consider official</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BRUCELLOSIS CALFHOD VACCINATION TAG (ORANGE METAL)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply in right ear</li> <li>• Distributed by CDFA</li> <li>• One time use</li> <li>• i.e. 93 VAC 1234</li> <li>• Currently, this is the only tag that can be used for calfhod vaccination in California.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>USDA SILVER BRITE TAG</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US. Shield</li> <li>• Distributed by CDFA and USDA</li> <li>• Starts with state code and letter A i.e. 93A for California</li> <li>• One time use</li> <li>• i.e. 93 ABC1234</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BREED REGISTRY TATTOO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be accompanied by official registration certificate issued by a recognized breed association</li> <li>• Multiple registries</li> </ul>

(1) It is unlawful to remove any official ID device (2) International Standards Organization (ISO) 11784 and 11785 (3) Electronic Identification Device

# Identification Devices with the Animal Identification Number (AIN) (June 1, 2007)

## Device type: Eartags

### Basic requirements/characteristics of AIN tags

- AIN tags are designed for one time use (tamper evident)
- AIN tags are Imprinted with:
  - AIN (15 digit number starting with 840)
  - US Shield  US
  - Unlawful to Remove
  - Manufacturers Logo or Trademark (printed or impression of)
- The de facto standard for some species is a visual eartag. For these species, eartags with radio frequency identification technology may be incased in the visual tag when the above printing criteria is met. Such technology is considered supplemental identification (the visual tag remains the animal's official identifier). Tags with RFID technology must have all 15 digits of the AIN printed on the tag pieces that contains the transponder.
- RFID button tags (a button front and button back pieces) must have the AIN imprinted on the tag piece with the transponder. The US Shield and text, "Unlawful to Remove" must be printed on the other piece (most commonly the male tag). Imprinting the AIN on the male tag is optional. In such cases, the tag set is packaged in containers or trays to keep the front and back tag piece together as a pair before being applied.

### How to obtain and use AIN tags?

- Producers must have a Premises Identification Number (PIN) in order to obtain AIN tags. Only AIN tag manager and resellers are authorized to provide devices to producers. Contact the AIN manufacturer for information on their AIN tag managers in your area.
- Attach the AIN tags according to the manufacturer's instructions and at a time most suitable for ones operation, but prior to the animals leaving the premises.

**Note:** Producers should not transfer or make available tags they have purchased to other producers, because all AIN tags they have purchased are recorded and linked to their PIN on the AIN Management System.



**CALIFORNIA**

**BUREAU OF LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION**

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**BRANDS OF CALIFORNIA**

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