



### Mission Statement

The Animal Health Branch is California's organized, professional veterinary medical unit that protects livestock populations, consumers, and the State's economy from catastrophic animal diseases and other health or agricultural problems.

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# Animal Health Branch Newsletter

Volume 20

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## Animal Disease Traceability

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) final rule for Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) for interstate movement of livestock became effective on March 11, 2013. The following cattle being moved interstate require official identification (ID) and an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI) listing official ID:

- Dairy breed females of any age.
- Dairy breed males of any age born after March 11, 2013. A difference between dairy bulls and dairy steers is that although both must travel on an ICVI, the official identification of dairy steers does not have to be listed on the ICVI.
- Sexually intact cattle and bison over 18 months of age.
- All cattle used for rodeos, exhibitions or recreational purposes.

Approved official identification devices and methods for cattle:

### 840 Tags

A 'button' type Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) or visual 'bangle' type tag or combination RFID/bangle. These types of tags have a unique 15-digit number beginning with 840. 840 tags may only be applied to cattle born in the US.



### Silver/ 'Brite' or NUES Metal Tags

Historically, these tags have been used by accredited veterinarians for disease testing and program implementation purposes. Producers can now order the National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags from your local CDFA Animal Health office and apply them themselves.



### Brucellosis or 'Bangs' Tags (Heifers Only)

Orange metal or RFID tag must be applied by accredited veterinarians at time of brucellosis vaccination of heifers.



*Note: In an effort to reduce costs this newsletter will only be sent electronically.*

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## Animal Disease Traceability (*continued*)

Other means of identification, such as brands and registered tattoos, may be used when the shipping and receiving State animal health authorities agree on their use. USDA-approved backtags are acceptable identification to move animals to a recognized slaughtering establishment; however, the animals must be harvested within three (3) days of movement.

Although the emphasis of the rule incorporated new requirements on cattle, all equine moving interstate must now have a valid ICVI issued within 30 days before movement. Existing requirements for poultry, swine, sheep and goats remain in effect.

This information is specific to federal requirements. However, states may have additional requirements.



## Equine Updates

### **Equine Infectious Anemia - Proposed Legislative Change**

Existing law requires that any horse or other equidae brought into the state be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection and verification of having been equine infectious anemia (EIA) test negative within the preceding six (6) months. In 2013, the Assembly Committee on Agriculture sponsored AB 1388 that proposes to change the EIA test requirement to verification of a negative EIA test within the preceding twelve (12) months. The bill was approved by the Assembly and was moved to the Senate in the next step in the legislative change process. If the Senate approves AB 1388, the bill will be sent to the Governor for final approval and signature. ***If approved and signed by the Governor, the new EIA test entry requirements would become effective on January 1, 2014.***

For more information on California's equine entry requirements visit:

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal\\_health/horses\\_and\\_equidae.html](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/horses_and_equidae.html)

### **California Equine Medication Rule - Proposed Change**

The California equine industry sponsored legislation in 1971 to prevent the misuse of drugs and medications in equines (horses, ponies, mules and donkeys) in public shows and sales. The law is the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) Sections 24000-24018, which outlines the California Equine Medication Rule for equines in California public shows, competition and sales. Since original implementation, there have been limited revisions of the California Equine Medication Rule. At the request of the equine industry, the CDFA began the rule change process in 2011. Following a review of pharmacologic advances for performance horses and evaluation of existing performance horse medication rules, EMMP staff prepared a legislative change proposal to the California Equine Medication Rule. After approval of the FAC change proposal by the EMMP Advisory Committee and the CDFA Legal Department, the proposal was submitted in 2012 for the 2013 Legislative Session. Assembly Bill 1388, sponsored by the Committee on Agriculture, includes the proposed California Equine Medication Rule regulation changes. The bill was approved by the Assembly and moved to the Senate for the next step in the legislative change process. If the bill receives Senate approval it will be sent to the Governor for final approval and signature. If approved

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## Equine Updates *(continued)*

and signed by the Governor, the revisions to the California Medication Rule would become effective on January 1, 2014. The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), the largest governing body for US equestrian sports, and the CDFA EMMP are currently collaborating to align the future drug rules of the two programs.

**For more information on the California Equine Medication Monitoring Program visit:**

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/emmp/](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/emmp/)

### West Nile Virus Surveillance Testing

Reminder: The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) **will provide free-of-charge (as available funding permits) West Nile Virus (WNV) serologic diagnostic testing of clinically affected horses at the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory.** We appreciate participation in this important public health surveillance program. For more information on WNV, visit the California WNV website at <http://www.westnile.ca.gov> and CDFA WNV website at [http://cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/WNV\\_Info.html](http://cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/WNV_Info.html)



## Bovine Tuberculosis Update

The investigation of cattle associated with the bovine TB-affected dairy herd identified in Tulare County in February 2013 is nearing completion. Eighty-nine (89) herds had epidemiologic investigations performed and cattle in thirty-six (36) herds were examined for brands from the affected herd. Sixty-three (63) trace herds (approximately 121,000 cows) were tested with no detection of disease spread from the affected herd. Several trace herds will be retested in the fall/winter of 2013. The affected herd remains under quarantine on a "test and removal" plan. On the first removal test of adult cattle, fourteen (14) animals were found with lesions compatible with bovine TB. Public Health and OSHA oversight of the dairy personnel is in place. This bovine TB genotype isolated from the index animal was previously isolated from two related US herds in 2002-2003. The strain matches infected dairy herds in Mexico; there are no matching strains from people or other animals in the US.

There is an ongoing investigation of the origin of a TB-infected cow identified in California at slaughter in April 2013. Inadequate animal identification was collected at slaughter to confidently trace this cow to its herd of origin. The genetic analysis of the breed from the tissue associated with the TB-lesion failed to identify any probable breed, but did rule-out the four major dairy breeds. The whole genomic sequence of the isolate shows that this is a unique bovine TB strain not closely related to any previous case in the US; the most closely related isolate is from a Mexican steer killed in Texas in 2001.

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal\\_health/TB\\_Info.html](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/TB_Info.html)



## Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL), confirmed the first detection of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) in the United States in swine samples from Iowa in May 16, 2013. As of June 25, 2013, the disease has been confirmed in laboratory accessions related to 199 premises in thirteen (13) states. PED virus is an emerging disease in the US, but is not a regulatory reportable disease. PED virus poses no risk humans or species other than swine and does not affect the safety of pork. PED is a widespread production-related disease in many countries, but is not a trade-restricting disease. Although no direct connection has been identified to outbreaks around the globe, researchers report that the current circulating strain of the virus in the US is 99.4 percent similar in genetic structure to the 2012 PEDV outbreak in China. Economic losses due to the disease can be significant.

PED is caused by a member of the family *Coronaviridae* that is only distinguishable from the Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE) coronavirus by laboratory tests. PED transmission is direct by the fecal-oral route without implication of vector spread or identification of a reservoir; indirect transmission may occur by contaminated personnel, equipment and fomites. In young pigs, the clinical presentation of both diseases is characterized by watery diarrhea within 12-36 hours of onset and vomiting; the morbidity and mortality of PED in neonatal piglets can be 80 to 100 percent. There is no USDA licensed PED vaccine available for use. Producers who see TGE-like signs of illness in pigs should notify their herd veterinarian; swine practitioners are well versed in managing TGE-like diseases. Biosecurity practices for swine facilities remain an important means of protecting swine herd health.

For the additional information:

USDA, APHIS:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/swine/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/swine/)

American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV):

<http://www.aasv.org/aasv%20website/Resources/Diseases/PorcineEpidemicDiarrhea.php>

National Pork Board (PEDV) Biosecurity:

<http://www.pork.org/News/3904/NationalPorkBoardStatementOnPEDV.aspx>



## Cattle Health - News Briefs

### CAHFS Lab - New TB-Gamma Testing Schedule

The California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) Laboratory is now processing gamma interferon blood tests for bovine tuberculosis two times each week. If samples are received at the laboratory by Tuesday morning, reports of results will be available on Wednesday afternoon. If samples are received at the laboratory by Thursday morning, reports of results will be available Friday afternoon. Please keep these time parameters in mind when scheduling tuberculosis testing of cattle.

*Please contact your AHB District Office when large numbers of cattle are being scheduled for tuberculosis testing. Veterinarians, who practice in remote areas of the State, may receive approval to collect and ship samples for gamma interferon blood tests. For more information, contact your AHB District Office.*

### Livestock Movement Into California - Checklist

The following requirements apply to most livestock movements into California:

- Permit Number
- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)
- Individual Animal Official Identification
- Vaccination/Testing Requirements

Entry requirements may vary by species and disease risk.

Contact the AHB Livestock Movement Section at (916) 900-5052 for species entry requirements.

### Livestock Movements From California

State of destination requirements must be met before movement of livestock from California.

Contact the State of Destination to obtain the current entry requirements for the state.

### International Shipments of Livestock

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS) has the regulatory authorities for movement of animals and animal products into and from the United States. Please direct questions about importation and exportation of animals to the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Sacramento office at 916-854-3900.

For additional information see the USDA/APHIS website: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/>

### Costs for Brucellosis Vaccine and Shipping

The current prices for Brucellosis Vaccine remain at \$4.70 for 5 dose vials and \$21.00 for 25 dose vials.

Please note that the cost for overnight shipping of Brucellosis Vaccine has been increased to \$50.00/shipment.

**Reminder:** Vaccination data is a critical element for tracing cattle to their herds of origin in a disease outbreak. **Completed Brucellosis Vaccination forms must be sent to your AHB District Office within fourteen (14) days of vaccinating calves.**

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Cattle Health - News Briefs (*continued*)

***Brucella abortus* Infection – Greater Yellowstone Area**

*Brucella abortus* infections continue to be found in animals in and around the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA). Brucellosis genotypes similar to those in local wild elk have been identified in cattle and bison herds in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming in recent years.

California requires evidence of a negative Brucellosis test for cattle from the GYA Designated Surveillance Area before movement into California.



Removal of Official Identification from Livestock - Violation and Fine

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently fined a California producer \$1875.00 for the removal of official eartags on 413 steers. Official identification devices are a means of permanent identification of livestock in use to ensure the ability to find the source of an animal disease outbreak. A USDA regulation [Title 9 Part 86.4 (d)] prohibits the removal of any official identification (ID) device from livestock. Removal of these devices, including devices applied to imported animals in their countries of origin and recognized by the Administrator as official, is prohibited except at the time of slaughter, death of the animal or under special circumstances, such as an infection of the eartag site.

**Title 9 86.4(d)**

**(d) Removal or loss of official identification devices. (1) Official identification devices are intended to provide permanent identification of livestock and to ensure the ability to find the source of animal disease outbreaks. Removal of these devices, including devices applied to imported animals in their countries of origin and recognized by the Administrator as official, is prohibited except at the time of slaughter, at any other location upon the death of the animal, or as otherwise approved by the State or Tribal animal health official or an area veterinarian in charge when a device needs to be replaced.**



Staff Biographies

**Lisa Quiroz** began her CDFA career in 2000 in the Meat and Poultry Inspection Branch. Over the years, she has worked in many capacities including a term as Assistant to the CDFA Secretary and Undersecretary! Eleven (11) of her thirteen (13) years were devoted to emergency response and preparedness. Lisa's background includes response planning, training and exercise design, after action documentation and Emergency Operations Center multi-agency coordination. She has real-life experience in several animal disease emergencies, including the 2002 California Exotic Newcastle Disease Eradication, the 2008 and 2010-12 California Bovine TB Outbreaks and the 2012 BSE Incident, and numerous other statewide disasters and emergencies, including three (3) Presidential Declarations, two (2) major disaster declarations, and one (1) plant pest eradication. Lisa joined the Animal Health Branch Emergency Program staff in July 2012. In her role as Senior Emergency Services Coordinator, her knowledge and experience is being applied to responder preparedness and planning for emergency animal disease outbreak response.



Lisa enjoys spending free time with her husband and two daughters. Her oldest daughter, Sedona, will be entering college this fall and her younger daughter, Dineah, will be a freshman in high school. Lisa's hobbies include sewing, cooking, paper crafts, crochet and gardening.



**Nancy Ragen-Dyer** is a Management Services Technician in the Equine Medication Monitoring Program (EMMP). She was born and raised in a suburb of Dayton, Ohio and attended Wright State University before moving to California and completing her B.A. in Anthropology with a minor in Fine Art at California State University – Sacramento. After gaining experience in several private sector positions, Nancy began her state career in 2001 with the Victim's Compensation Board. In 2005, the Animal Health Branch was fortunate to have Nancy transfer into an EMMP position, where she manages equine event registrations and assists in other management elements of the EMMP program.

Nancy lives in Sacramento with her wonderful husband Philip, beautiful daughter, Kaelah and two silly cats! She enjoys cooking, sewing, crafts, and gardening in their small but productive suburban yard with its eleven fruit trees, grape vines and vegetable garden. A recent new hobby is the canning and dehydrating of produce for family use, but a local food bank also reaps some of the rewards from the bountiful garden efforts!

# Contact Information



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

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Website: [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/Index.html](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Index.html)  
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## Animal Health Branch

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## State Veterinarian and Director, Animal Health and Food Safety Services

Dr. Annette Jones  
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## District Offices Veterinarians In Charge (VIC)

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## Additional AHFSS Branches

Bureau of Livestock Identification  
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(916) 900-5006

Milk and Dairy Food Safety  
Dr. Stephen Beam, Chief  
(916) 900-5008

Meat, Poultry and Egg Safety  
Dr. Douglas Hepper, Chief  
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**United States Department of Agriculture**  
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