

To Protect the Health of Our Livestock

California is currently classified by the USDA as “Modified Accredited Advanced” (MAA) for bovine tuberculosis (TB). With some exceptions, Federal rules require that intact cattle over six months of age leaving California have a negative TB test within 60 days prior to interstate movement – and some states have additional requirements.

Producers and their veterinarians must check the TB-testing requirements of the state of destination at least a week before moving cattle out of state. TB tests take at least 72 hours to complete, and are required for breeding cattle leaving California, except cattle moving under a Pasture-to-Pasture permit and cattle from Accredited Free Herds.

The USDA waived (is not enforcing) the TB test requirement on feeder cattle, however, some states require them to be tested. Some states exempt the test on feeder cattle moving to feedlots **approved** for feeding cattle in slaughter channels.

A special “TB Test Exemption Permit” has been developed between California and Colorado, Washington and Montana to exempt some feeder cattle moving in feeder channels (includes pastures) from their state requirement of a TB test. These permits may be requested from California or the destination state; they take several days to process, and must be approved by both states before cattle can be moved. The permit requires that the feeder cattle:

- Originate from an area of California that is not linked to a TB investigation,
- Have not commingled (occupied the same enclosure) with Mexican origin cattle,
- Bear Official Individual Identification,*
- Shall not occupy common grazing enclosures with breeding cattle in the destination state,
- Have a NAIS Premises of Origin Identification Number,
- Have a NAIS Premises of Destination Identification Number (Colorado only),
- Shall remain in slaughter channels, and
- Are brand inspected at the premises of origin.

A copy of the approved **TB Test Exemption Permit**, the **Brand Inspection Certificate**, and a **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection** from an accredited veterinarian with certification that “*the cattle are not linked to a TB investigation and have not commingled with Mexican origin cattle*” shall accompany the cattle.

Failure to comply with the permit may result in corrective actions or TB testing of the cattle.

The permit is good for multiple shipments of cattle to and from the same premises for one grazing season.

The TB Test Exemption Permit may be requested *prior* to assembling feeder cattle into groups, provided the cattle meet all the requirements given for the TB Test Exemption Permit, and:

- Are USDA recognized source and age verified feeder cattle, **OR**
- Bear Official Individual Identification* **linked** to the Premises Identification Number.



***Official Individual Identification includes:**

- Official brucellosis calfhood vaccination tags.
- USDA silver brite tags applied under the direct supervision of an accredited veterinarian.

- USDA approved 840 RFID tags.
- USDA approved 840 visual tags.

Animal Health Officials	
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Montana (406) 444-2976	Fax (406) 444-1929
Washington (360) 902-1878	Fax (360) 902-2087
Livestock Industry Officials	
Matt Byrne CCA	(916) 444-0845
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