Rodeo, Exhibition, or Recreational Cattle Entry Requirements

Entry Documentation
(3 CCR §831.4; FAC 10610)

California requires an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit for all cattle entering solely for rodeo, exhibition, or recreational purposes, including one-time event cattle used in team penning, roping, and cutting events.

To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

California requires a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) for cattle within 30 days before movement into the state.

Official Identification (ID)
(3 CCR §831.3, §831.4; FAC 10610)

All rodeo, exhibition, or recreational cattle require official ID, and it must be listed on the CVI.

See CDFA’s Fact Sheet “Cattle—Official Identification Options” for detailed information on options for official ID for cattle.

Note: Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.

Brucellosis
(3 CCR §753.1; FAC 10326, 10327)

California requires official brucellosis calfhood vaccination and a legible brucellosis tattoo for female dairy breed cattle 4 months of age and over and female beef breed cattle 12 months of age and over before entry. Sexually intact cattle of any age moving from a Designated Brucellosis Surveillance Area require a negative brucellosis blood test obtained within 30 days before entry and a Special Entry Permit.

Tuberculosis (TB)
(3 CCR §758; FAC 9932)

California requires a negative TB test for all dairy breeding cattle 6 months of age and older, and beef breeding cattle 6 months of age and older if originating from states/zones that are not classified as “TB Free.” A negative test must be obtained within 60 days before movement into the state.

Trichomonosis
(3 CCR §820.3; FAC 10610)

Bulls that will remain under confinement at the exhibition location without access to sexually mature female cattle are exempt from trichomonosis test requirements. Please call the AHB permit line at (916) 900-5052 for more information.

If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station.

Animal Health and Food Safety Services
Animal Health Branch
Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
Redding District - (530) 225-2140
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah

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