



February 1, 2010

To: All Fairs and District Agricultural Associations

Subject: Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Testing for Dairy Exhibition Cattle Sold at California Fairs

Due to the ongoing bovine TB investigation involving one affected herd in San Bernardino County and the recent investigation of three affected dairy herds in Fresno County, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) requires that the California State Fair and county fairs throughout the state adopt TB testing requirements for 2010. Effective immediately, CDFA requires that exhibitors provide proof of TB testing for all dairy breeding cattle over six (6) months of age that are to be sold at the fair, with one of the following documents:

1. Signed documentation from a licensed accredited veterinarian of a negative TB test obtained within sixty (60) days prior to the sale, or
2. Signed documentation from a licensed accredited veterinarian of a negative whole herd TB test for the animal's herd of origin (i.e., the herd where the animal has resided for a minimum four (4) month period of time immediately prior to the sale) obtained within the twelve (12) months prior to the sale, or
3. A letter from CDFA verifying the completion date of a negative whole herd TB test within twelve (12) months prior to the sale, and specifying the official identification of the exhibition animal(s).

TB testing should be verified before exhibition animals are unloaded on the fair premises.

Questions regarding this bovine TB test requirement should be directed to the Animal Health Branch at (916) 651-6278.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard E. Breitmeyer
State Veterinarian

cc: Mr. Mike Treacy, Director, Division of Fairs and Expositions

