



Changes to California's Trichomonosis Program Effective April 1, 2017

The CDFA Animal Health Branch proposed changes to regulations related to animal disease traceability, including the trichomonosis program. The regulations were approved and are effective as of April 1, 2017. Full regulation text can be found in Title 3 of the [California Code of Regulations](#) (3 CCR § 820-820.8).

MAIN CHANGES TO THE TRICHOMONOSIS PROGRAM

1. Requires a negative trichomonosis test on **ALL** bulls ≥ 18 months of age AND all non-virgin bulls < 18 months of age within 60 days prior to:
 - **Entering** California.
 - **Changing ownership** in California.

Bulls are *exempt* from this test when they are:

 - i. Moving directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
 - ii. Moving to a feedlot for feeding (with no grazing or exposure to female cattle) and subsequent movement to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
 - iii. Moving for exhibition only (with no exposure to female cattle).
 - iv. Moving to a certified semen collection facility.
 - v. Moving with a signed bull slaughter agreement.
 - vi. Returning to California without changing ownership, having been confined in pens (no contact with female cattle) and within 12 months of a negative test to leave the state.
 - vii. Moving through no more than one Approved Livestock Marketing Facility then directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.

NOTE: Bulls may move interstate on a pasture-to-pasture permit with a negative trichomonosis test within the previous 12 months.
2. Adds a written "**Bull Slaughter Agreement**" exempting bulls from a negative trichomonosis test at change of ownership with the following requirements:
 - Bulls must move directly to the buyer's facility and cannot be resold.
 - Bulls must be slaughtered within seven days after purchase.
 - Bulls must not be in contact with cattle not moving to slaughter.

- Bulls can move with a backtag as identification.
- Records must be kept by seller, buyer, and agent for five years.

The agreement is good for 12 months from the date of signature for the owner/premises.

3. Requires **official individual identification (ID)** on all bulls ≥ 18 months of age **changing ownership in California** except those moving:
 - i. To a recognized slaughtering facility.
 - ii. On a Bull Slaughter Agreement.
 - iii. Moving through no more than one Approved Livestock Marketing Facility then directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.



4. Adds a requirement for bulls to be identified with a "**Trichomonosis approved eartag**" when they are trichomonosis tested:
 - Trichomonosis tested bulls will require both official individual ID **AND** a trichomonosis tag.
 - The trichomonosis tag will be color coded and on the same yearly schedule as used in neighboring states (Sept. 1 to Aug. 31).
5. Requires a "**DNA detection or amplification-based trichomonosis test**" (e.g. PCR) for bulls:
 - i. Entering California.
 - ii. Sold in California (all sales, both public and private)
 - iii. In pasture-to-pasture herds.
 - iv. In affected herds.
 - v. In exposed herds.
6. Allows the **culture test to screen bulls** for trichomonosis:
 - i. In herds screening for infection.
 - ii. In Certified Semen Services facilities.

7. Requires completion of **two DNA-based tests** for:
 - i. All herdmate bulls in herds that have been affected twice within 24 months.
 - ii. Bulls entering California from a herd diagnosed with trichomonosis in last 24 months.
8. Requires trichomonosis approved veterinarians to renew their training every two years.
9. Requires signage at saleyards: *“Non-virgin bulls less than 18 months of age and all bulls 18 months of age and over sold for breeding must have a negative trichomonosis test or be consigned as slaughter only.”*
10. Adds an option to trichomonosis test bulls at the point of sale when the seller, buyer and saleyard agree.
11. Simplifies the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection statement for imported bulls to: *“Trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months.”*



TRICHOMONOSIS TAGS

As of April 1, 2017, bulls, when trichomonosis tested, will require both official individual ID AND a trichomonosis approved color-coded eartag. This tamper evident California trichomonosis tag is available to California trichomonosis approved veterinarians from the MWI Veterinary Supply Company (1-800-824-3703). The California trichomonosis tag program will follow the same year (**September 1 to August 31**) and color schedule (white for 2016–17, then cycling through orange, blue, yellow, green) as used by neighboring states. The tags are required to be removed and replaced with current year tags during the trichomonosis testing process.



The individual official ID of each bull tested for trichomonosis must be recorded and accompany the trichomonosis sample to the laboratory.

Trich approved tags are NOT official ID.

Additional information on use:

- The trichomonosis approved tag can be put in either ear.
- If a bull tests positive, the trichomonosis tag should be removed.
- If a bull is tested more than once during a given Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 tag year, a new tag may be used to replace the existing, or the existing tag may be used with the number recorded on the test report form.

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For more information, please visit our webpage: www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah

