



STATE OF IDAHO

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Press release
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TWO MONTANA CATTLE HERDS TEST POSITIVE FOR BRUCELLOSIS

Idaho State Department of Agriculture releases new importation requirements for animals from the state of Montana

Boise – According to a press release issued from the Montana Department of Livestock on June 9, 2008, tests have confirmed the second case of brucellosis in a Montana cattle herd which will result in the eventual loss of Montana's brucellosis class free status. This prompted the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) to issue an Administrative Order today outlining additional importation requirements for animals from the state of Montana.

"The immediate issuance of the Administrative Order is necessary to protect Idaho cattle and bison from contracting the disease," said Dr. Bill Barton, administrator and state veterinarian for the ISDA. Dr. Barton is authorized by Idaho law to prohibit or restrict entry of animals into the state if they have been exposed or are infected with a communicable disease.

Brucellosis is a disease of cattle, elk and bison that can cause females to abort their calves.

Idaho lost its “Brucellosis class free” status in 2006 after a small beef herd in eastern Idaho was found to be infected with Brucellosis. Idaho regained its “Brucellosis Class Free” status in July 2007.

For further information about the additional importation requirements for cattle or bison originating in Montana, or to inquire about certain import exceptions, please contact Dr. Bill Barton at bbarton@agri.idaho.gov or 208-332-8540. The Administrative Order can be found at www.agri@idaho.gov homepage under Quick References.

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