



State of Wisconsin
Jim Doyle, Governor

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Rod Nilsestuen, Secretary

NOTE: We will hold informational meetings March 26 and 27 to answer your questions about the new import requirements. See the second sheet enclosed here.

March 20, 2008

To licensed Wisconsin animal truckers, dealers and market managers:

As you're probably aware, Minnesota has a problem with bovine tuberculosis. Animal health authorities have found 11 TB-infected cattle herds in the northwestern part of the state since mid-2005, and wildlife officials have found 17 infected white-tailed deer in the same region.

Minnesota's tuberculosis status was first reduced from TB-free to modified accredited advanced in 2006. At that time we imposed testing requirements for animals entering Wisconsin from Minnesota. Since last October, four new infected herds have been discovered. As a result, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected in the next three weeks to drop Minnesota's TB status again, to "modified accredited." This is the same as Michigan's status.

When this occurs, we will impose the same restrictions on Minnesota cattle, bison and goat imports as those imposed on Michigan animals. As animal truckers, dealers and market managers, you need to be ready for these changes. ***If you are planning to import cattle, bison or goats from Minnesota to Wisconsin in the next few weeks, I strongly recommend that you check whether the status has changed and we've added new requirements.*** Call the Division of Animal Health at 608-224-4872 or go to our website at http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/ah/agriculture/animals/movement/cattle_bison.jsp and http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/ah/agriculture/animals/movement/sheep_goats.jsp.

In addition to a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) and official individual identification, we will add these new requirements:

1. Import permit ***before animals enter Wisconsin*** – call 608-224-4872 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays to request a permit.
2. Animals must come from herds that have negative TB test results from a whole-herd test in the past 12 months. The date of the test needs to be on the CVI.
3. If the whole-herd test was longer than 60 days before the animals enter Wisconsin, the individual animals must be retested, with the date of the test included on the CVI.
4. If the individual animals were not part of the herd at the time of the whole-herd test, they need to be tested and the date of the test included on the CVI.
5. The veterinarian signing the CVI must ***fax a copy immediately*** to the Division of Animal Health at 608-224-4871.
6. Animals will be quarantined to the premises where they are first received after import, and retested 60-90 days after import.
7. Young animals ***are not exempt*** from the requirements.
8. Animals coming to Wisconsin from Minnesota for shows will not be quarantined. However, they are not eligible for sale, they must return to their farm of origin, and the CVI must state this.

(over)

Agriculture generates \$51.5 billion for Wisconsin

9. Animals going *directly* to slaughter (not through a market) are exempt.
10. Cattle going to an *approved* import feedlot under ATCP 10.22(9) are exempt from the quarantine-and-retest requirement; however, they do need individual TB tests within 60 days before import.
11. Breed sales in Minnesota – If all Minnesota cattle at these sales comes from whole-herd test herds, and individual animals have been retested when appropriate (see #3 and #4 above), cattle originating in Wisconsin can be brought back to Wisconsin; they will need to meet the quarantine-retest requirement (see #6 above). If the Minnesota cattle do not meet this standard, no cattle from the sale will be allowed into Wisconsin.

I understand that these requirements will cause you some inconvenience, but most are required under federal rules. We appreciate your help in protecting our industry.

Give us a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Ehlenfeldt, DVM". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Robert Ehlenfeldt, DVM
Wisconsin State Veterinarian

Informational meetings
New import regulations for cattle, bison and goats
entering Wisconsin from Minnesota

River Falls Public Library
140 Union St., River Falls

Wednesday, March 26
1-3 p.m.

Parking behind library



Stoney Creek Inn, Onalaska
3060 S. Kinney Coulee Road

Thursday, March 27
1-3 p.m.

Parking in hotel lot – enter
through main lobby

