

## **IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR BREEDING CATTLE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

“Breeding cattle” refers to members of the Family: Bovidae; Subfamily: bovinæ; Genus: Bos, Species: Bos taurus and Bos indicus and also the Genus: Bison.

The definition of “breeding cattle” includes animals imported for breeding purposes as well as for show or exhibition but does not include animals imported for immediate slaughter, feeder cattle consigned to an approved feedlot under the Restricted Feeder Program or calves 8-14 days of age imported under the Feeder Bob Calf Program. All breeding cattle require an Import Permit issued by a CFIA office prior to the arrival of the animal at a port of entry.

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and endorsed by a Veterinary Services veterinarian. The certificate shall contain the name and address of the consignor and the consignee and complete identification of the animal(s) to be exported. Additional information shall include:

### **1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 All breeding cattle require an Import Permit issued by a CFIA office prior to the arrival of the animal at a port of entry.
- 2 Breeding cattle imported into Canada must be born after January 1, 1999 and the animals must be identified with a permanent identification recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and are not under restriction for movement, slaughter or destruction control.
- 3 Breeding cattle are required to be identified with an official USDA metal ear tag or a National Animal Identification System (NAIS) compliant “840” radio frequency “RF” ear tag and a tattoo. The tattoo must be in the right ear and show the letters “USA” at a minimum of 1 cm in height, or the case of a female animal, it may be the official United States calfhood vaccination tattoo that includes the US registered shield and “V”. Animals for temporary entry of a period of ninety (90) days or less bearing an NAIS compliant “840” RF ear tag are not required to have a tattoo.
- 4 Breeding cattle imported into Canada must have a tag applied before import or as soon as they arrive at initial destination under the national livestock identification program as per section 189 of the *Health of Animals Regulations* unless they have been identified with a NAIS compliant “840” radio frequency “RF” ear tag. The importer

must report the tag information to the administrator of the program as required and within the time period specified, and as well, to the CFIA location where the importation of the animal occurred if the tag is not already present in the animal at the time of import.

5. Breeding cattle may only be imported into Canada from the United States if the animal is transported directly to the Canada-United States border from the place of origin in the United States where it was tested in accordance with the Import Permit conditions. Breeding cattle may be transported directly to the Canada-United States border from a consignment sale or a show in the United States if the animal was tested in accordance with the Import Permit conditions on the farm of origin and the animal was transported directly to the consignment sale or show from the place at which it was tested. All breeding cattle and other ruminants at the consignment sale or show must have the equivalent herd status as the animals to be imported into Canada.

6 An animal that was born after its mother was tested is not required to meet the test requirements of this document if the animal is imported into Canada at the same time as its mother. An animal that was born after its mother was tested, unless it was born en route to Canada, must be identified with permanent identification and recorded on the health certificate of its mother.

7 A certification that the animal was inspected by a veterinarian within 30 days preceding the date of importation, and the animal was found to be free from any communicable disease and that the animal was to the best of the knowledge and belief of the veterinarian, not exposed to any communicable disease within 60 days preceding the date of the inspection.

## **2. TEST REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. Brucellosis Requirements**

1. The brucellosis test for the import of breeding cattle to Canada is the standard tube test (STT), or standard plate test (SPT) with negative reading at a 1:50 dilution. The results of the brucellosis test must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

Breeding cattle for import to Canada must not have been vaccinated for brucellosis under the Whole Herd Vaccination Program of the USDA, nor in the case of a bull, vaccinated for brucellosis.

RB51 vaccine has been used exclusively for more than 24 months in the United States

for brucellosis control. The vaccine is not recognized in Canada and all animals require test for brucellosis where indicated except for steers and spayed heifers.

## 2. Herd of Origin Certification

In this section the following definitions apply:

- "assembled herd" means a herd that has been maintained as a herd for less than two years
  
- "established herd" means a herd that has been maintained as a herd for at least two years.

Breeding cattle may only be imported into Canada from the United States if the certificate presented at the time of import identifies one of the following conditions has been met for brucellosis:

1. The animal originates from a brucellosis-free herd, certified as such by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) irrespective of the Brucellosis status assigned to the state by the USDA and that the animal proved negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis performed within 30 days preceding the date of importation.

**-OR**

2. The animal originates in a state designated by the USDA as a Free State and the herd of origin is an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months preceding the date of importation, and that the animal proved negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis performed within 30 days preceding the date of import. Or, the herd of origin is an assembled herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically since the herd was assembled, and the animal for import proved negative to two serum agglutination tests for brucellosis performed at least 30 days apart with the second test occurring within 30 days of import to Canada.

**-OR**

3. The animal originated in a state designated by the USDA as a Class A or B State and the herd of origin of the animal is an established herd in which no

evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the previous 24 months and to which no additions were made other than natural increases, or if additions were made to the herd, the animals were subject to a negative serum agglutination test for brucellosis. The animal for import must have proved negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis performed within 30 days preceding the date of importation and the date of test is at least 60 days after the addition of the last animal to the herd which is not a natural increase. Or, the herd of origin of the animal for import to Canada is an assembled herd in which every animal in the herd, other than bovines less than six months of age, spayed heifers and steers proved negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis performed within 12 months preceding the date of importation. At the time of the test the animal for import was present and identified in the herd of origin or was a natural increase born after the test. The animal for import must have proved negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis performed within 30 days preceding the date of importation and the date of test must be at least 60 days after the assembled herd test.

## **B. Tuberculosis Requirements**

The tuberculin test is the standard caudal fold injection with a reading of results at 72 hours as “No Reaction” and conducted within 60 days of import. The results of the tuberculin test must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

Breeding cattle may only be imported into Canada from the United States if the certificate presented at the time of import identifies one of the following conditions has been met for Tuberculosis.

1. The animal for import originates from a herd of negative status in a state that is an accredited free area for tuberculosis or a modified accredited advanced area for tuberculosis in the United States and recognized as such by the USDA.

**Or**

2. The animal for import originates from a herd of negative status in a state that is a modified accredited area for tuberculosis in the United States and recognized as such by the USDA and the herd has been tested with negative results within twelve (12) months preceding the date of importation.

### **C. Anaplasmosis Requirements**

Breeding cattle imported into Canada require a negative test for anaplasmosis performed within 30 days of import. The test for anaplasmosis must be by c-ELISA methodology and conducted in a USDA federal laboratory or a USDA approved laboratory. The result of anaplasmosis testing must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

- 1 Breeding cattle for import to Canada must be free of ticks and have been treated with an appropriate acaricide within 30 days of import.
- 2 No herd certification for anaplasmosis is required for breeding cattle to be imported into Canada.
- 3 Anaplasmosis requirements do not apply to animals imported from the state of Hawaii.

### **D. Bluetongue (State of Florida only)**

1. Breeding cattle imported from the state of Florida require a negative test for bluetongue using the c-ELISA test methodology within thirty (30) days prior to import.

OR

2. In the case of a positive result, a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test must be performed with negative results for virus within 30 days of import.

It is suggested that animals being sampled have both a serum sample and blood sample drawn at the same time and be sent to the lab with the request that, if the c-ELISA test is positive, then a PCR test is to be conducted.

### **3. CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS REQUIRED BY CANADA TO APPEAR ON THE HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT OF BREEDING CATTLE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Currently the health certificate referred to above is:

**VS Form 17-140, United States Origin Health Certificate**

- 1 The animals were born after January 1, 1999.
- 2 The animals are identified by a permanent identification system recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and are not under restriction for movement, slaughter or destruction control. The tag number and tattoo information are included in the description of the animal.
- 3 The animals originated from a certified brucellosis-free herd.

- OR

The animals originated in a brucellosis-free State from an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months prior to export;

- OR

The animals originated in a brucellosis-free State from an assembled herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically since the herd was assembled;

- OR

The animals originated in brucellosis Class A or B State from an established herd in which no evidence of brucellosis has existed either clinically or serologically during the 24 months prior to export. All additions to the herd during the last two years other than natural increases were negative to a serum agglutination test for brucellosis at least 60 days prior to the qualifying test on individual animals for export.

- OR

The animals originated in a Class A or B State from an assembled herd with a complete herd test within 12 months except animals under six months of age, spayed heifers and steers. All the animals were identified in the herd of origin at the time of the herd test or were natural increases born after the complete herd test. The qualifying test for individual animals for export was performed at least 60 days after the complete herd test.

**(Select the applicable option)**

4. The animal for import originates from a herd of negative status in a state that is an accredited free area for tuberculosis or a modified accredited advanced area for tuberculosis.

- Or

The animal for import originates from a herd of negative status in a state that is a modified accredited area for tuberculosis and the herd has been tested with negative results within twelve (12) months preceding the date of importation.

**(Select the applicable option)**

5. a) the animals have not been vaccinated for brucellosis under the whole herd vaccination program (adult vaccination).  
b) In the case of a bull, the animal has not been vaccinated for brucellosis.
6. The animals have been treated with an acaricide and are free of ticks. (The name of product and date of treatment must appear on the health certificate).
- 7 The animals for export have resided in the United States or Canada for at least 60 days.
- 8 To the best of my knowledge and belief, the animals listed on this certificate were not exposed to any communicable disease within 60 days preceding the date of inspection.
- 9 The animals on this certificate are included on CFIA Import #: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Additional Requirements for Bison**

In addition to meeting the other requirements set out in this document, every bison imported into Canada from the United States must be quarantined from the time of its importation into Canada until it proves negative to tests for brucellosis, tuberculosis, and anaplasmosis performed not less than 60 days after it was imported into Canada.