

July 2005

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF CANADA FOR FEEDER CATTLE EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

By definition, restricted feeder cattle are cattle that are exported to Canada for the purpose of feeding and subsequent slaughter. This includes steers, bulls, cows, heifers or weaned calves, exported for the purpose of fattening and slaughter. Feeder cattle must be less than 30 months of age at the time of exportation.

The animals must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate must include the following: a) the name and address of the importer, b) the location of the importing feedlot if other than that of the importer, c) the name and address of the exporter, d) the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) import permit number, e) individual animal identification which must include the USDA eartag number, age in months, breed, color and markings if any, and sex, and f) any other identification present on the animal including brands and registration number (if any). The model health certificate provided must be used.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The cattle were born in Canada or the United States and have been continuously resident since birth in the U.S. or Canada and the U.S.
2. For at least 60 days immediately prior to export, the cattle were continually resident in an exporting state that:
 - a) Has been designated by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a brucellosis class-free State, and
 - b) Has been recognized by USDA as a tuberculosis accredited-free State.
3. The animals must be inspected by a veterinarian within 30 days preceding the date of exportation. The veterinarian must determine that:
 - a) The animals are free from any communicable disease,
 - b) To the best of the knowledge and belief of the veterinarian the animals have not been exposed to any communicable disease within 60 days preceding the date of the inspection,

- c) The animals are fit to travel and can be transported to Canada without undue suffering by reason of infirmity, illness, injury, fatigue, or any other cause,
- d) The heifers/cows in the shipment were not pregnant at the time of inspection, and,
- e) The animals meet the conditions shown on the certificate.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The following animals do not meet the feeder cattle definition: cows with calves at foot, cows or heifers heavy in calf, or unweaned calves (including calves on milk replacer).
2. Feeder cattle are eligible from all States without any test requirement for anaplasmosis. Feeder cattle must also come from brucellosis-free and tuberculosis accredited-free States
3. Official USDA or State seals shall be applied to all animal exits of the truck(s) or trailer(s) containing the shipment by the accredited veterinarian or a designated employee following loading. The seal numbers and the number of animals in the shipment must be recorded on the certificate, and the certificate signed by the individual who applied the seals to verify their application.
4. All cattle exported to Canada as restricted feeders must be accompanied by an original certificate and one copy of that certificate. If the shipment is contained in several vehicles, the original plus one copy of the certificate shall accompany the initial vehicle of the shipment to the Canadian port of entry. Subsequent vehicles shall be accompanied by two copies of the export certificate, upon one of which are recorded the numbers of the seals applied to the vehicle and the number of animals being exported in the vehicle.
5. A copy of the permit to import restricted feeder cattle into Canada must accompany every shipment.
6. The endorsing VS veterinarian shall send a copy of the completed export certificate by facsimile to the CFIA District Office whose staff oversees the importing feedlot. The facsimile number of the District Office is listed on the CFIA import permit.