

IDAPA 02 – IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animals Division

02.04.29 – Rules Governing Trichomoniasis

Who does this rule apply to?

All cattle producers, importers of cattle, veterinarians, livestock markets and trader lots.

What is the purpose of this rule?

*In order to protect the health and economic viability of Idaho's cattle herds, this rule governs procedures for the prevention, control and eradication of Trichomoniasis, a venereal disease of cattle caused by the organism *Tritrichomonas foetus*.*

What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?

This rule implements the following statute passed by the Idaho Legislature:

- [25-203, Idaho Code](#) – Division of Animal Industries – Rules and Regulations

Who do I contact for more information on this rule?

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02.04.29 – RULES GOVERNING TRICHOMONIASIS

000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

This chapter is adopted under the legal authority of Section 25-203, Idaho Code. (3-31-22)

001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. **Title.** The title of this chapter is “Rules Governing Trichomoniasis.” (3-31-22)

02. **Scope.** These rules govern procedures for the prevention, control and eradication of Trichomoniasis, a venereal disease of cattle caused by the organism *Tritrichomonas foetus*. (3-31-22)

002. -- 003. (RESERVED)

004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

IDAPA 02.04.29 incorporates by reference the official 2018 Edition of Idaho “Protocol for *Trichomonas foetus* Diagnosis in Cattle” which can be viewed online at <https://agri.idaho.gov/main/laboratories/animal-health-laboratories/protocol-for-trichomonas-diagnosis-in-cattle/>. (3-31-22)

005. -- 009. (RESERVED)

010. DEFINITIONS.

The following definitions apply to the interpretations and enforcement of this chapter: (3-31-22)

01. **Cattle.** All bovidae. (3-31-22)

02. **Exposed Cattle.** Any cattle that have been in contact with cattle infected with or affected by Trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

03. **Federal Animal Health Official.** An employee of the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services who is authorized to perform animal health activities. (3-31-22)

04. **Herd.** A herd is any group of cattle maintained on common ground for any purpose, or two (2) or more groups of cattle under common ownership or supervision, geographically separated, but which have an interchange or movement of cattle without regard to whether they are infected with or exposed to Trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

05. **Hold Order.** A hold order is a form of quarantine that may be used to restrict the movement of cattle while the Trichomoniasis status is being investigated. (3-31-22)

06. **Infected Cattle.** Any cattle determined by an official test or diagnostic procedure to be infected with Trichomoniasis or diagnosed by a veterinarian as infected. (3-31-22)

07. **Infected Herd.** Any herd in which any cattle have been determined by an official test or diagnostic procedure to be infected with Trichomoniasis or diagnosed by a veterinarian as being infected. (3-31-22)

08. **Negative.** Cattle that have been tested with official test procedures and found to be free from infection with Trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

09. **PCR.** Polymerase Chain Reaction. (3-31-22)

10. **Positive.** Cattle that have been tested with official test procedures and found to be infected with Trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

11. **Quarantine.** A written order, or a verbal order followed by a written order, executed by the Administrator, to confine or hold cattle on a premises or any other location, and to prevent movement of cattle from a premises or any other location when the Administrator has determined that the cattle have been found or are suspected to be exposed to or infected with Trichomoniasis or the owner is not in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. (3-31-22)

12. **Quarantined.** Isolation of all cattle diseased or exposed thereto, from contact with healthy cattle and exclusion of such healthy cattle from enclosures or grounds where said diseased or exposed cattle are, or have

been kept. (3-31-22)

13. Registered Veterinarians. Veterinarians registered with, and approved by the Division of Animal Industries to collect Trichomoniasis samples for official Trichomoniasis culture testing. (3-31-22)

14. Restrain. The confinement of cattle in a chute, or other device, for the purpose of efficient, effective, and safe testing approved by the Administrator. (3-31-22)

15. State Animal Health Official. The Administrator, or Administrator's designee, responsible for disease control and eradication activities. (3-31-22)

16. T Brand. A two inch by three inch (2" x 3") single-character hot iron T brand, applied to the left of the tail-head of a bull, signifying that the bull is infected with trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

17. Trichomoniasis. A venereal disease caused by the organism *Tritrichomonas foetus*. (3-31-22)

011. – 099. (RESERVED)

100. TRICHOMONIASIS CONTROL AND ERADICATION PROGRAM.

The Trichomoniasis testing season begins on September 1 of each year and continues until August 31 of the succeeding year. All bulls within the state of Idaho shall be tested negative for Trichomoniasis before being allowed to come into contact with female cattle or by April 15 of each Trichomoniasis testing season, whichever occurs first, except: (3-31-22)

01. Bulls in Public Grazing Allotments. Bulls that are to be turned out on public grazing allotments shall be tested for Trichomoniasis by April 15 of each Trichomoniasis testing season or forty-five (45) days prior to turnout on a public grazing allotment, which ever occurs first. (3-31-22)

02. Virgin Bulls. All bulls native to Idaho that are less than twenty-four (24) months of age and have never serviced a cow are exempt from the Trichomoniasis testing requirements. (3-31-22)

a. Such bulls shall be identified by a registered veterinarian with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season and the identification recorded on a Trichomoniasis Test and Report Form. (3-31-22)

b. If sold, such bulls shall accompanied by a certificate signed by the owner or his representative attesting that they are virgin bulls. (3-31-22)

03. Dairy Bulls. All dairy bulls in dry lot operations are exempt from the Trichomoniasis testing requirements. Dairy bulls that are pastured or grazed must meet the Trichomoniasis testing requirements. (3-31-22)

04. Bulls Consigned to Slaughter or to an Approved Feedlot. Bulls consigned directly to slaughter at an approved slaughter establishment or to an approved feedlot for finish feeding for slaughter are exempt from testing requirements. (3-31-22)

05. Extension of Testing Deadline. The Administrator may grant an extension of time beyond April 15 to accomplish Trichomoniasis testing after the owner submits a written request for extension of time to the Division of Animal Industries. (3-31-22)

a. The written request shall outline the reasons for the extension request and the length of extended time being requested. (3-31-22)

b. The herd of bulls shall be put under Hold Order until the owner furnishes documentation that the bulls have been tested. (3-31-22)

101. – 109. (RESERVED)

110. TRICHOMONIASIS TESTING IDENTIFICATION.

The Division of Animal Industries will determine the color of the official Trichomoniasis bangle tags to be used for each Trichomoniasis testing season. All bulls tested for Trichomoniasis shall be identified by an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season and the identification recorded on a Trichomoniasis Test and Report Form. (3-31-22)

111. -- 199. (RESERVED)

200. BULLS FOR SALE.

Bulls presented for sale at specifically approved livestock markets, shows, special sales, or by private contract in Idaho shall be accompanied by a certificate of negative test and a statement signed by the owner certifying "Trichomoniasis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin;" or (3-31-22)

01. Returned to Home Premises. Such bulls shall be returned to home premises for official testing; or (3-31-22)

02. Sold Directly to Slaughter. Such bulls shall be sold directly to slaughter at an approved slaughter establishment, an Idaho approved feedlot, as defined in IDAPA 02.04.20, "Rules Governing Brucellosis"; or (3-31-22)

03. Placed Under a Hold Order. Such bulls will be placed under Hold Order by the livestock market veterinarian or a private veterinarian and have three (3) consecutive negative Trichomoniasis or PCR culture tests. The samples for each test shall be collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis to be eligible to receive a certificate of negative test; or (3-31-22)

04. Virgin Bulls. Virgin bulls native to Idaho that are less than twenty-four (24) months of age and have never serviced a cow shall be identified with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season. (3-31-22)

05. Period of Validity. For resident breeding bulls sold in Idaho, the negative test is valid for up to ninety (90) days provided the bull(s) has had no contact with female cattle from the time of test to the time of sale. (3-31-22)

06. Contact with Female Cattle. Bulls that have had contact with female cattle subsequent to testing must be retested prior to sale. (3-31-22)

201. -- 209. (RESERVED)

210. IMPORTED BULLS.

01. Non-Virgin Bulls. Non-virgin breeding bulls may be imported into the state of Idaho provided they meet the following requirements: (3-31-22)

a. If the bull originates from a herd of bulls wherein all bulls have tested negative for Trichomoniasis since being removed from cows, the bull shall have been tested negative to a Trichomoniasis culture test within sixty (60) days prior to import and have had no contact with female cattle from the time of test to the time of import; or (3-31-22)

b. If the bull originates from a herd where one (1) or more bulls or cows have been found infected with Trichomoniasis, the bull shall have three (3) consecutive negative Trichomoniasis culture or PCR tests. The samples for each test shall be collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis, the last test being within sixty (60) days prior to import into Idaho; or (3-31-22)

c. If the bull is a single bull with no prior herd test history or originates from a herd of bulls that is still with cows or that has not been tested for Trichomoniasis since being removed from cows, the bull shall have three (3) consecutive negative Trichomoniasis culture or PCR tests. The samples for each test are to be collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis, the last test being within sixty (60) days prior to import into Idaho.

(3-31-22)

d. Upon arrival at their destination in Idaho, all imported bulls shall be identified with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season, except imported dairy bulls that will be in a dry lot operation are not required to be identified with an official Trichomoniasis tag upon arrival at their destination. (3-31-22)

02. Virgin Bulls. Bulls imported into Idaho that are less than eighteen (18) months of age and have never serviced a cow are not required to be Trichomoniasis tested prior to import into Idaho, provided that: (3-31-22)

a. Such bulls are accompanied by a certificate signed by the owner or the owner's representative attesting that the animals are virgin bulls and have never serviced a cow; and (3-31-22)

b. Upon arrival at their destination in Idaho, such bulls are identified by an Idaho accredited veterinarian with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season. (3-31-22)

03. Bulls for Grazing. Bulls that are entering Idaho for grazing purposes shall meet the Trichomoniasis test requirements of Section 100 of this rule. A copy of the certificate of negative Trichomoniasis test shall accompany the grazing permit application. (3-31-22)

211. - 299. (RESERVED)

300. PUBLIC GRAZING.

All bulls that are turned out on public grazing allotments shall be certified and identified as virgin bulls, or tested negative for Trichomoniasis at least forty-five (45) days prior to the turnout date, or before April 15 of each testing season, which ever occurs first. (3-31-22)

01. Grazing Associations. All bulls that are in a public grazing association or run in common on an allotment will be considered part of one (1) herd. (3-31-22)

02. Positive Tests. If any bull owned by any of the producers in a grazing association or allotment tests positive on a Trichomoniasis test, the rest of the producers in the association or allotment are considered part of an infected bull herd and handled in accordance with Section 310 of this rule. (3-31-22)

301. -- 309. (RESERVED)

310. INFECTED BULLS AND HERDS.

Any bull or cow that is positive to a Trichomoniasis culture or PCR test is considered infected. A herd in which one (1) or more bulls or cows are found infected with Trichomoniasis is considered infected. (3-31-22)

01. Confirmatory Testing of Culture Positive Bulls. Any culture positive bull must be confirmed positive for *Trichomonas foetus* by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test unless the animal is destined directly to slaughter. The positive culture specimen must be submitted to a qualified laboratory, approved by the Administrator, in accordance with the qualified laboratories submission requirements. (3-31-22)

a. If polymerase chain reaction (PCR) determines the bull is positive or inconclusive for *Trichomonas foetus*, the bull will be considered positive for trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

b. If polymerase chain reaction (PCR) determines the bull is negative for *Trichomonas foetus*, the bull will be considered negative for trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

02. Quarantine of Infected Herds. Any veterinarian that discovers an infected herd shall immediately place the herd under a Hold Order, and notify the Division of Animal Industries within forty-eight (48) hours that the test was positive. Upon notification of an infected Trichomoniasis herd, a state or federal animal health official will conduct an epidemiological investigation of the infected herd and issue a quarantine. The quarantine may include a provision requiring all breeding age female cattle in the infected herd to be held in isolation from all bulls for a period of up to one hundred twenty (120) days as determined by the Administrator. (3-31-22)

03. Exposed Herds. Herds identified as exposed through an epidemiological investigation will be placed under a Hold Order. (3-31-22)

a. Bulls in exposed herds will be tested as determined by the Trichomoniasis epidemiologist. (3-31-22)

b. All bulls tested in exposed herds and all purchased and home raised additions to the bull herd, including virgin bulls, shall be individually identified with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season and the tag number and status of the bull recorded on an official Trichomoniasis test and report form. (3-31-22)

04. Testing of Infected Herds. Bulls in infected herds shall be tested negative for Trichomoniasis three (3) consecutive times before the quarantine can be released. Each of the tests shall be at least seven (7) days apart with samples for each test collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis to be eligible to receive a certificate of negative test. (3-31-22)

a. All bulls tested in the infected herd and all purchased and home raised additions to the bull herd, including virgin bulls, shall be individually identified with an official Trichomoniasis bangle tag of the correct color for the current testing season and the tag number and status of the bull recorded on an official Trichomoniasis test and report form. (3-31-22)

b. Bulls that have three (3) consecutive negative Trichomoniasis culture or PCR tests conducted at least seven (7) days apart shall be considered negative to Trichomoniasis and can be so certified. (3-31-22)

05. Identifying Infected Bulls. All bulls testing positive for trichomoniasis shall, within seven (7) days of diagnosis, be identified with a hot iron T brand applied to the left of the tail-head indicating that the bull is positive for trichomoniasis. (3-31-22)

311. -- 319. (RESERVED)

320. MOVEMENT OF INFECTED CATTLE.

All infected cattle shall be consigned to slaughter at an approved slaughter establishment or consigned to a specifically approved livestock market for sale to an approved slaughter establishment and shall remain under quarantine until moved to slaughter. All infected cattle being moved from the premise of origin to a specifically approved livestock market for sale to slaughter, or directly to an approved slaughter establishment for slaughter, shall move on a VS 1-27 form issued by an accredited veterinarian or a state or federal animal health official. (3-31-22)

01. Slaughter Within Thirty Days. All infected cattle shall be moved to slaughter within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the quarantine. All infected cattle are to be kept separate and apart from cattle or domestic bison of the opposite sex. The infected cattle will remain under quarantine until moved to slaughter. (3-31-22)

02. Exceptions. The Division of Animal Industries may grant an extension of time after the owner submits a written request for extension of time for movement to slaughter to the Division of Animal Industries. (3-31-22)

03. Contents of Request for Extension of Time. The written request shall outline the reasons for the extension request and the length of extended time being requested. The total length of time an individual infected bull may remain under quarantine before being required to move to slaughter, including any and all requested extensions, shall not exceed ninety (90) days. (3-31-22)

321. TREATMENT OF INFECTED BULLS.

There are no treatments for Trichomoniasis approved for use in Idaho. (3-31-22)

322. -- 329. (RESERVED)

330. OFFICIAL LABORATORIES.

Only laboratories approved by the Division of Animal Industries as official laboratories may test official Trichomoniasis samples. (3-31-22)

01. Protocols. Official laboratories will operate in accordance with the official Idaho "Protocol for *Trichomonas foetus* Diagnosis in Cattle." (3-31-22)

02. Check Test. Official laboratories personnel responsible for conducting trichomoniasis testing must be trained and certified by ISDA in the detection of trichomonad organisms and must pass a certifying check test administered by the Division of Animal Industries. (3-31-22)

331. OFFICIAL TRICHOMONIASIS TESTS.

01. Official Culture Tests. An official test is one in which the sample is received in the official laboratory, in good condition, and such sample is tested according to the official Idaho "Protocol for *Trichomonas foetus* Diagnosis in Cattle." Samples which have been frozen or exposed to high temperatures shall be discarded. (3-31-22)

02. Polymerase Chain Reaction. Polymerase Chain Reaction is accepted as an official test when completed by a qualified laboratory, approved by the Administrator. (3-31-22)

03. Other Official Tests. Other tests for Trichomoniasis may be approved by the Division of Animal Industries, as official tests, after the tests have been proven effective by research, have been evaluated sufficiently to determine efficacy, and a protocol for use of the test has been established. (3-31-22)

332. REGISTERED VETERINARIANS.

Only veterinarians registered with the Division of Animal Industries may collect samples for official tests for Trichomoniasis within the state of Idaho. (3-31-22)

01. Use of Official Laboratories. Registered veterinarians are to utilize only official laboratories for testing of Trichomoniasis samples. (3-31-22)

02. Education Requirements. All veterinarians shall attend an educational seminar on Trichomoniasis and proper sample collection techniques, conducted by the Division of animal Industries, prior to being granted registered status. (3-31-22)

333. REPORTING OF TEST RESULTS AND OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION.

Registered veterinarians must submit results of all Trichomoniasis tests and all official identification on official Trichomoniasis test and report forms to the Division of Animal Industries within five (5) business days of: (3-31-22)

01. Receiving Results. Receiving Trichomoniasis results from an official laboratory; or (3-31-22)

02. Identifying Virgin Bulls. Identifying virgin bulls with official Trichomoniasis bangle tags. (3-31-22)

334. -- 399. (RESERVED)

400. RODEO BULLS.

Bulls currently in a rodeo string, bulls purchased under the feedlot exemption at a specifically approved livestock market, bulls purchased by private treaty, and bulls purchased in other states and imported into Idaho for rodeo purposes are exempt from Trichomoniasis testing under the following conditions: (3-31-22)

01. Division Approval. The owner of the rodeo bulls has completed and submitted an application to the Division of Animal Industries, which the Division has approved; and (3-31-22)

02. Not Mixed with Cows. The rodeo bulls are confined to a dry lot and not mixed with cows or used for breeding purposes; and (3-31-22)

03. Permanently Identified. All bulls in the rodeo string are permanently identified with official ear tags or unique numbers hot iron branded on the animal; and (3-31-22)

04. Records Maintained. The identification numbers are maintained in a permanent record file at the owner's premises and a copy of the record will be provided to the Division of Animal Industries upon request; and (3-31-22)

05. Bulls Purchased. Bulls purchased for addition to the rodeo string shall meet all other health requirements. Purchased bulls shall be immediately identified as specified in Subsection 400.03 of this rule. Official back tag and ear tag numbers on the bull at time of purchase shall be correlated to the permanent identification in the permanent record; and (3-31-22)

06. Bulls Removed for Slaughter. Removal of bulls to slaughter is documented in the permanent record file; and (3-31-22)

07. Bulls Removed for Breeding Purposes. Bulls that are removed from the rodeo string for breeding purposes shall undergo three (3) consecutive negative PCR tests or cultures for Trichomoniasis. The samples for each test are to be collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis to be eligible to receive a certificate of negative test. (3-31-22)

401. -- 409. (RESERVED)

410. FEEDING BULLS OF UNKNOWN TRICHOMONIASIS STATUS.

Bulls of unknown Trichomoniasis status may be fed for slaughter in an Idaho approved feedlot where the bulls are isolated from all female cattle. (3-31-22)

01. Removal of Untested Bulls. Untested bulls shall be sold directly to slaughter at an approved slaughter establishment. (3-31-22)

02. Removal of Bulls for Breeding Purposes. Bulls that are removed for breeding purposes shall undergo three (3) consecutive negative PCR tests or cultures for Trichomoniasis. The samples for each test are to be collected at least seven (7) days apart and tested for Trichomoniasis to be eligible to receive a certificate of negative test. (3-31-22)

411. -- 499. (RESERVED)

500. INFECTIONS WITH OTHER TYPES OF TRICHOMONADS.

Bulls that have had a positive culture result for Trichomoniasis testing may be further evaluated to determine if the organism is *Tritrichomonas foetus* or another species of Trichomonad. Bulls having positive Trichomoniasis culture results on the initial test will not be considered positive for Trichomoniasis under the provisions of this rule if they meet the following criteria: (3-31-22)

01. Trichomonad Organisms Identified. The culture media containing the organisms that have been collected from the bull is forwarded to a laboratory, approved by the Administrator, that has the ability to identify Trichomonad organisms through Polymerase Chain Reaction; and (3-31-22)

02. Tritrichomonas foetus Not Present. None of the Trichomonad organisms in the submitted culture are identified as *Tritrichomonas foetus*. (3-31-22)

03. Inconclusive Test Results. The Administrator may approve retesting of bulls with inconclusive Trichomoniasis test results. If the bulls are found to be Trichomoniasis negative on three (3) consecutive tests that are separated by at least seven (7) days, the bulls may be considered Trichomoniasis negative and released from quarantine. (3-31-22)

501. -- 999. (RESERVED)