

Cattle Owner's Responsibility

Idaho Code states that cattle owners:

- Vaccinate all intact female cattle used for breeding or grazing for brucellosis between the age of 4 months to 1 year old. (Idaho code: 25-613)
- Test all bulls for Trichomoniasis 45 days prior being turned in with cows or by April 15. (Idaho Code: 02.04.29—100)

To assist with the vaccination of heifers or the testing of bulls, the following cattle producers are willing to allow other cattle producers to utilize their corrals and chutes by appointment.

Name

Address

Phone Number:

Name

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Brucellosis & Trichomoniasis in Beef Cattle

Is Your Herd Safe from these Diseases?

Brucellosis and Trichomoniasis: Your Responsibility as a Cattle Owner

The cattle diseases Brucellosis and Trichomoniasis are both governed under Idaho Code. As a cattle owner, you have a responsibility to follow the guidelines and requirements outlined in the code.

Brucellosis

What is Brucellosis? Brucellosis is an infectious disease of animals caused by a bacteria. Brucellosis can cause abortion, infertility and sterility resulting in an economic loss to you.

What are the signs of infection? Most of the time there are no signs. Cattle may abort late in pregnancy or give birth to weak or sick calves.

How is brucellosis transmitted? The major source of infection are reproductive (mainly fetal and placental) secretions and mammary secretions from infected animals. Brucellosis can be transmitted through ingestion of or contact with aborted fetuses and infected calves.

What are the vaccination requirements? State code says that all intact female cattle whose intended use is breeding, dairying or grazing **MUST** be vaccinated against brucellosis between the ages of 4 and 12 months.

What can I do to prevent brucellosis in my cattle?

The best way to prevent brucellosis from infecting your herd is to ensure that your herd is **100%** vaccinated and minimize contact between wild elk and your cattle during the winter.

Trichomoniasis (Trich)

What is Trichomoniasis? Trichomoniasis is a venereal disease in cattle. Bulls carry the disease and transmit it to cows through breeding. Clean bulls can also become infected by breeding infected cows. This disease causes cows to abort and become temporarily infertile.

How is Trich spread? Trich is transmitted by infect bulls to cows and infected cows to bulls.

How does Trich get into my herd? Trich will most likely get into your herd by bulls exposure from neighboring pastures/herds; Cows commingling with neighboring pastures/herds; The addition of new animals, bulls or cows, that already have the disease;

and/or retaining open cows into the next breeding season.

What are the signs or symptoms? Neither the cow or bull will appear ill at any time. The only sign of trich is when there are reproductive problems in the herd. The first sign is usually an increase in the number of open and late calving cows.

How is Trich diagnosed in my herd? The organism is easier to find in bulls than cows. Bulls become “carriers” while cows eventually become clean of the infection. A vet can take a culture of a bulls preputial fluids and test for the disease. There is no test for live cows.

How do I get rid of Trich if it is found in my herd? It requires routine testing of bulls and culling of bulls testing positive and culling open females.

What can I do to reduce the risk of my herd getting Trich? Beef producers can do a couple of things to reduce the risk. They can purchase only virgin bulls or bulls that have been tested for Trich. They can have their bulls tested on a yearly basis for Trich. They can cull open cows.