

STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

California Entry Requirements for Livestock¹

A. An **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** is required for the following classes of cattle:

- Intact breeding female cattle
- Beef bulls over 18 months of age
- Dairy bulls over 6 months of age
- Breeding cattle from states that are not tuberculosis or brucellosis “Free”

Requests for permits must be made before movement and are valid for 15 days. A veterinarian from the state of origin may request the permit. Please call the Permit Line at (916) 651-6278 to request an entry permit.

B. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is required for:

- Female cattle over 4 months of age
- Dairy bulls over 6 months of age
- Beef bulls over 18 months of age
- Breeding cattle from states that are not tuberculosis or brucellosis “Free”
- Any cattle requiring an official test

C. All cattle moving with a CVI require **Official Identification** on the certificate. Below are acceptable methods of ID:

- Official brucellosis calf-hood vaccination tags
- State or federal approved tags
- “Premises Identification Number” tattoos
- Registration tattoos
- Any other device approved for use by CDFA or USDA
- Registered brands may be substituted for official identification under certain circumstances.

D. **Official Brucellosis Calf-hood Vaccination** is required for all female cattle over 4 months. Proof of the Brucellosis vaccination, must be indicated by a legible tattoo.

E. All sexually intact cattle over 18 months of age (or that have calved) from states that are not “Free” require a negative **Brucellosis Blood Test** within 30 days of entry and individual identification on official forms.

Exception:

Cattle originating in Certified Free Herds when the herd number and date of last negative whole herd test are recorded on CVI.

F. Bulls over 18 months of age require a negative Trichomonosis Test. The sample must be collected 10 days after last contact with sexually mature cows and within 60 days prior to entry into California.

Exceptions:

- Bulls for exhibition, confined to location that will return to the state of origin.

¹ http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/Cattle_livestock%20movement_jan2010.pdf

- *Bulls for artificial insemination at a certified collection facility.*

G. A **Tuberculosis Test** is required for the following classes of cattle:

- Dairy breeding cattle over 6 months of age from any state require a negative TB test within 60 days prior to entry
- Beef breeding cattle over 6 months of age originating from states that are not “Free” require a negative TB test within 60 days prior to entry
- Contact Animal Health Branch for cattle coming from **Michigan** and **Minnesota**.

Exception:

- *Cattle from Accredited Free Herds when the herd number and date of last negative whole herd test are recorded on CVI.*

Identification and Record Requirements for Moving Cattle²

Information for Dealers, Saleyards and Owners

Cattle moving within California may be inspected en route or after arrival, and must meet brand inspection requirements. Documents must be presented for inspection upon request of a government official. Female dairy cattle and female beef cattle sold for breeding must be vaccinated for **brucellosis** and be tattooed in the right ear with the official brucellosis tattoo.

California cattle dealers must:

- Be licensed with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Market Enforcement.
- Maintain records of each animal sufficient to identify the animal, the seller, and the buyer for two (2) years, and be available for examination and copying upon request by the Department.

Cattle moving into California require:

- ***Entry permits***—for all female cattle, dairy bulls more than 6 months and beef bulls more than 18 months of age. No diversion is allowed from the permitted destination. Each load must have a copy of the documents required for entry to present for inspection upon request.
- ***Certificate of Veterinary Inspection***—for dairy females more than 4 months of age, beef females and dairy bulls more than 6 months of age, and beef bulls more than 18 months of age.
- ***Approved identification***—for all cattle tested and all cattle two (2) years of age or over, except steers, spayed heifers, and cattle moved during normal ranching operations without change of ownership.
- ***Brucellosis vaccination***—for female cattle, unless entering for immediate slaughter or feeding in a registered feedlot before slaughter.
- ***Brucellosis test***—for cattle from states that are not brucellosis “Class Free”.
- ***Trichomonosis test***—for bulls 18 months of age and over.
- ***Tuberculosis test***—for all dairy breeding cattle more than 6 months of age, and beef breeding cattle more than 6 months of age from states not “Class Free”.

Federal interstate requirements for cattle:

- Have approved identification:

² http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/Final_Identification_record_keeping_requirements.pdf

- An approved eartag or backtag
- A brand registered with an official brand agency and accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate
- Registered purebred animals not moving to slaughter may be identified in a manner acceptable to the breed association.
- Documents, signed by the owner/shipper, stating:
 - a. Origin
 - b. Destination
 - c. Number of animals
 - d. Name and address of owner
 - e. Name and address of previous owner*
 - f. Name and address of the shipper
 - g. Identifying numbers. The numbers may be maintained by the approved stockyard if cattle move directly from the yard to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
- Documents shall be delivered with the cattle to the management of the stockyard, slaughtering establishment or consignee, and shall be available for inspection upon request by a government representative at any time within the year from the date of their delivery.

Cattle moved interstate from a farm directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment (or approved stockyard for sale to a recognized slaughtering establishment):

- May be individually identified and the numbers recorded on the establishment's receiving document **upon arrival**, if accompanied by documents signed by the owner/shipper, stating:
 - a. Origin
 - b. Destination
 - c. Number of animals
 - d. Name and address of owner
 - e. Name and owner of previous owner*
 - f. Name and address of the shipper.
 - May be identified by a registered brand and accompanied by a brand inspection certificate.
 - Do not require individual identification if the slaughtering establishment maintains records of ownership by lot.
 - Do not require an owner-shipper statement when moved from a farm where they have been for more than four months, and the farm has not had any cattle from any other premises within those four months.
- *If ownership changed in the prior 4 months

Meat and Poultry Inspection³

The Meat and Poultry Inspection Branch (MPI) licenses and inspects the following meat and poultry establishments that are exempt from federal (USDA) inspection:

- Meat Processing Establishments that prepare meat and poultry products by curing, smoking, drying, or rendering or who cook pork products for retail sales only, except products of fallow deer, which can be transported and sold in commerce.
- Custom Livestock Slaughterhouses that slaughter cattle, sheep, swine, goats and fallow deer raised or bought live by owners. The meat from cattle, sheep, swine and goats is used by the animal's owner, members of the owner's household, nonpaying guests and employees. It cannot be sold. Fallow deer meat can be transported and sold in commerce.

³ http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Meat_and_Poultry_Inspection/index.html

- Poultry Plants that slaughter species that don't require (non–amenable) federal inspection: rabbits; small game birds such as quail, pheasant, and partridge, or
 - Retail Poultry Plants that sell live poultry and slaughter them for customers or
 - Non–retail Poultry Plants that slaughter or process fewer than 20,000 poultry of all amenable species (chickens, ducks, geese, guineas, squab and ratites) or fewer than 5,000 turkeys a year.

The Branch trains, licenses, and evaluates Poultry Meat Inspectors (PMIs) who inspect poultry and rabbits in licensed poultry plants, Livestock Meat Inspectors (LMIs) who inspect livestock in licensed custom livestock slaughterhouses and Processing Inspectors (PIs) who inspect meat and poultry products in licensed retail meat processing establishments. PMI's, LMI's and PI's also enforce sanitation standards, pest control, humane handling and slaughter, inedible/condemned material control, marking and labeling and record–keeping requirements in licensed plants.

The Meat and Poultry Inspection Branch also licenses and inspects the following:

- Renderers who recycle animal carcasses, packinghouse waste and inedible kitchen grease into animal feed ingredients and inedible industrial fats, oils, and other products.
- Collection Centers used for temporary storage of animal carcasses, packinghouse waste and inedible kitchen grease before transport to a licensed rendering plant.
- Dead Animal Haulers who transport carcasses of dead livestock and horses.
- Pet Food Slaughterers who slaughter animals for use as pet food.
- Pet Food Processors who prepare fresh or frozen raw meat products for pet food.
- Importers of fresh or frozen raw meat, meat by–products, horsemeat, poultry meat or poultry meat by–products for pet food or horsemeat for human food.

The Branch registers transporters of inedible kitchen grease (IKG).

The Branch provides Import Inspection of slaughtered non–amenable poultry species shipped to California from other countries and reviews for approval or disapproval inspection systems of other states and foreign countries desiring to ship slaughtered non–amenable poultry species to California.

The Branch reviews sanitation and records at Federally Exempt Establishments (locker plants that cut, wrap and process meat from farm killed livestock; custom livestock slaughterhouses; poultry plants).

The Branch conducts Compliance Investigations into alleged violations of sections of the Food and Agricultural Code pertaining to the above activities.

Inspection Requirements⁴

- Whenever cattle are sold or ownership is transferred.
- Prior to transportation out of any designated modified point-of-origin inspection area, for purposes other than sale or slaughter and no change of ownership is involved.
- Prior to transportation out of state.
- Upon entry into a registered feedlot.
- Prior to slaughter.
- Prior to release or sale from a public saleyard or public or private cattle sales market.

⁴ http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Livestock_ID/index.html#Inspection

- Prior to transportation or movement from premises designated as quarantine, restricted, or isolated areas pursuant to Section 9565.

Documents Required When Cattle Are Being Transported Must Be Exhibited To Any Brand Inspector Or Peace Officer Upon Request

- When brand inspection is required, an original or supplemental brand inspection certificate must accompany the cattle.
- A Bill of Sale or Consignment (Yellow Slip) must accompany all cattle transported within the state when no brand inspection or salesyard outbilling is required.