

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES
ANIMAL INDUSTRY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 80-3-1
CONTROL OF BRUCELLOSIS IN CATTLE AND SWINE

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80-3-1-.01 Purpose.

The purpose of this regulation is to provide procedures and rules that are to be followed to control, identify and eradicate brucellosis in cattle and swine, including testing, handling and various responsibilities of markets, testers and individuals.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§2-15-170, 2-2-16.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.02 Previous Regulations Withdrawn And Amended.

Animal Industry Regulation No. 1, dated November 10, 1981, which was amended on February 12, 1982, is amended by this regulation. That regulation entitled Rules and Regulations for the Eradication Of Brucellosis and Bangs Disease in Cattle as amended, dated January 4, 1980, is specifically repealed and all other regulations, or any part thereof, in conflict with these rules shall be deemed to have been repealed by the following rules.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§2-2-16, 2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.03 Establishment Of Brucellosis Eradication Program.

The State Board of Agriculture and Industries, under the provisions of Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-192, hereby authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries and the State Veterinarian to conduct a brucellosis eradication program in all counties or areas in the state. They are also authorized and empowered to quarantine the movement of cattle and swine into and within any designated county or area in the State of Alabama in order to establish such a brucellosis eradication program, and to do any and all other acts, or take any and all other steps necessary to accomplish these ends.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§2-15-170, 2-15-192.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.04 Obligations Of Owners Of Cattle In Testing Program.

When it is determined by the State Veterinarian that it is necessary to test a herd of cattle to determine whether or not brucellosis is present, the owners of cattle therein shall be responsible for the following:

(a) Submit all cattle over six months of age, except steers, for a blood test or vaccination for brucellosis as may be required and as often as deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian and the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection;

(b) Be responsible for the penning and restraining of all cattle for blood samples to be drawn or vaccinations to be administered;

(c) Submit all cattle which react to the agglutination test for brucellosis for branding with the letter B not less than two inches high on the left jaw and remove all such reactors from the herd within 15 days after having been classified as reactors;

(d) Isolate and hold in strict quarantine, unless retested and passed, all cattle classed as suspects;

(e) Sell all brucellosis reactors for immediate slaughter;

(f) Clean and disinfect, under supervision of the State Veterinarian or his authorized representative, the premises on which reactors were kept immediately following the removal of such reactors.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §§2-15-170, 2-15-192.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed December 10, 1984.

80-3-1-.05 Requirements After Cattle Are Found To Be Infected.

(1) All cattle which react to the brucellosis test shall be branded with heat, the letter B not less than two inches high on the left jaw, and identified by a reactor tag placed in the left ear, and sold for slaughter after tagging and branding.

(2) Herds known to be infected with brucellosis shall be quarantined and no animal shall be moved from such herds, except on permit from the State Veterinarian or his authorized agent. The quarantine shall remain in effect until three consecutive negative herd tests are obtained, with the last testing being not less than six months after removal of the last reactor.

(3) Reactor animals shall be sold for immediate slaughter only to approved slaughtering establishments approved to receive reactor animals, except, however, reactor animals may be moved enroute to slaughter through livestock markets approved to handle such animals.

(4) Cattle which react to the brucellosis test must be held in strict quarantine in livestock markets or elsewhere, separate and apart from animals not known to be infected with brucellosis.

(5) All premises where cattle are found to react to the brucellosis test shall be cleaned and disinfected where practicable to do so under the supervision of a representative of the State Veterinarian at the expense of the owner.

(6) All brucellosis testing shall be done by the state-federal brucellosis laboratories, except, however, qualified veterinarians, and regular paid state or federal employees may be

authorized by the State Veterinarian to conduct brucellosis tests for certain purposes when samples and test results are forwarded to the state-federal laboratory for confirmation.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-192.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.06 Indemnification (Cattle).

Indemnity may be paid to owners of cattle that have been condemned and slaughtered because of tuberculosis, paratuberculosis, or brucellosis when the entire herd of such owners has been placed under an eradication program, or when the herd is tested under an area eradication program, and the requirements of Rule 80-3-1-.07 have been met.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.07 Additional Requirements For Indemnification.

Cattle which react to the test for brucellosis in order to be eligible for indemnity shall be reported in accordance with Title 9, Subchapter B, Part 51, of the **Code of Federal Regulations** as now written or as may hereafter be revised or amended; except, however, §§51.5(a) and 51.6(c) of said Part 51 shall be discretionary with the State Veterinarian with respect to time limitations for identification and destruction of such cattle so long as it does not adversely affect the brucellosis eradication program. Cattle which react to the test for tuberculosis or paratuberculosis in order to be eligible for indemnity shall be reported in accordance with Title 9, Subchapter B, Part 50, of the **Code of Federal Regulations** as now written or as may hereafter be revised or amended.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.08 Conditions Requiring Testing Of Herds.

(1) All dairy herds that react suspiciously to the brucellosis milk ring test shall be subjected to a blood test of the entire herd within 30 days of the test.

(2) All herds in which the State Veterinarian has reason to believe that brucellosis exists or that have been exposed to brucellosis shall be subjected to a blood test of the entire herd.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-192.

History: Filed April 19, 1982.

80-3-1-.09 Calfhood Vaccination.

(1) To be official and accepted, female calves kept for breeding purposes must be vaccinated against brucellosis when said calves are between the ages of four and ten months, using a U.S.D.A. Veterinary Biologics licensed Brucella abortus vaccine approved by the State Veterinarian.

(2) Only brucella abortus vaccine approved by the State Veterinarian shall be used and no brucella abortus vaccine shall be sold or used in the State of Alabama unless the sale or use of such vaccine is authorized by the State Veterinarian. No brucella abortus vaccine shall be imported or caused to be imported into Alabama unless such importation shall be authorized by the State Veterinarian.

(3) All calves which are officially vaccinated shall be identified by tattooing in the right ear the letter V (which shall be a shielded V furnished by the State of Alabama or the federal government), preceded by the number representing the quarter of the year, and followed by the last figure of the year. For example, 4V8 would mean that the calf was officially vaccinated in the last quarter of 1978.

Author: Robert J. Russell

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-191.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed May 14, 1996; effective June 18, 1996.

80-3-1-.10 Testing Of Cattle That Change Ownership.

(1) All bulls and female cattle 18 months of age or older, and female cattle that are springers that arrive at livestock markets in Alabama from farms shall be identified by official backtag as required in Title 9, **Code of Federal Regulations**, Part 71.18. All bulls and female cattle 18 months of age or older that arrive at slaughtering plants in Alabama from farms shall be identified to the farm of origin and handled according to Title 9 **Code of Federal Regulations**, 310.2 (9 CFR 310.2).

(2) No person or persons, except those authorized by the State Veterinarian or Federal Veterinarian in charge, shall remove an official backtag from any animal. All blood samples taken shall be forwarded by the veterinarian or person doing the bleeding to the approved laboratory, whether or not previously tested, for brucellosis testing as deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian.

Cattle may also be identified by any other method as may be prescribed by the State Veterinarian.

(3) All cattle 18 months of age or older except steers and spayed heifers returning to farms from a livestock market, shall originate from a Certified Free State or Certified Free Herd or to be tested negative to an official brucellosis test.

(4) Brucellosis reactor cattle revealed on tests at livestock markets shall be handled as provided under Rule No. 80-3-1-.05.

(5) Exposed cattle are bulls and females over six months of age that are part of an infected group or consignment of cattle or that have been in contact with a brucellosis animal in marketing channels for more than 24 hours. They shall be handled as set out below. Exposed cattle revealed in marketing channels may be returned to the farm of origin under quarantine for further testing. All exposed cattle not returning to herd of origin shall be identified by branding with heat, the letter "S" on the left jaw. Cattle branded "S" shall only move under permit to slaughter or to a quarantine feedlot meeting the requirements of the **Code of Federal Regulations**, Title 9, Part 78 (9 CFR 78).

(6) It shall be the responsibility of livestock markets and slaughtering establishments to carry out subsections (1) and (5) of this Rule. The cost of blood sample collection for brucellosis tests required by subsections (1) and (5), shall be borne by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries or the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to the extent that funds are available. The cost of blood sample collection under subsections (1) and (5) shall be borne by the seller of the cattle tested when federal and/or State funds are not available for this purpose.

Author: Reginald L. Sorrells

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1985.

Amended: Filed November 17, 1995 effective December 22, 1995.

Amended: Filed May 10, 2001; effective June 14, 2001.

80-3-1-.11 Added Requirements For Cattle And Swine Brought Into Alabama.

(1) A permit, to be obtained from the State Veterinarian as described in the Brucellosis Eradication Recommended Uniform Methods and rules of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, must first be obtained for any test-eligibility cattle entering Alabama.

(2) Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-155, states, in substance, that all livestock brought into the state must be accompanied by a certificate of health made by a qualified veterinarian reflecting

that the livestock are free from disease. The above required certificate of health, to be accepted by the State Veterinarian, accompanying bulls and female breeding cattle, over 18 months of age, besides being identified by ear tag, tattoo, brand, or other acceptable permanent means, must also reflect on the health certificate one of the following:

(a) They originated directly from officially certified brucellosis free herds; or

(b) They originated from certified brucellosis-free or modified certified brucellosis areas and are not under quarantine for brucellosis and are negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days of entry; or

(c) They are official vaccinates of the beef breeds under 24 months of age and other breeds under 20 months of age which are not parturient or post-parturient, and originate from herds not under quarantine; or

(d) They originated from a qualified herd in a noncertified area for which the state has records showing that the herd has been tested for brucellosis in accordance with the procedures for herd tests initial modified certified brucellosis status specified in the Uniform Methods and Rules and that the animals being imported have a negative brucellosis test within 30 days of entry; or

(e) They are bulls or females under 18 months of age.

(3) The above required certificate of health, to be accepted by the State Veterinarian, accompanying male and female swine, besides being identified by ear tag, tattoo, brand, ear notch, or other acceptable permanent means, must also reflect on the health certificate one of the following:

(a) They originated directly from officially validated brucellosis-free herds, or

(b) They originated from a herd not under quarantine for brucellosis and are negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days of entry, or

(c) They are swine under six months of age.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1985.

80-3-1-.12 Federal Rules Adopted.

Parts I, II, III, IV, V, and VI of the Brucellosis Eradication Recommended Uniform Methods and Rules of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, as they are now written or as same may hereafter be revised or amended, are hereby expressly adopted by reference thereto as a part of these regulations and said above federal rules shall be complied with and followed to the extent that they do not conflict with the provisions of this regulation. In the case of conflict between this regulation and the above federal rules, this regulation shall prevail.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1985.

80-3-1-.13 Identification Required For Cull Swine Movement.

All movement of cull sows and cull boars in Alabama for slaughter, or for sale for slaughter, shall be identified to the herd of origin, by the State Veterinarian or his authorized representative by approved tattoo or official back tag applied to the back of each swine at the farm or place of origin, the slaughtering establishment, or the livestock market, prior to the time the above swine are mixed with other swine from any other source.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed April 19, 1982. **Amended:** Filed March 26, 1985.

80-3-1-.14 Obligation Of Owners Of Swine In Testing Program.

When it is determined by the State Veterinarian that it is necessary to test a herd of swine to determine whether or not brucellosis is present, the owner of swine shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) Submit all breeding swine (sows and boars) over six months of age for a blood test for brucellosis as may be required and as often as deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian.
- (b) Be responsible for the penning and restraining of all swine for blood testing.
- (c) Remove all reactors from the herd as specified in a written herd plan.

(d) Sell all brucellosis reactors for immediate slaughter.

(e) Clean and disinfect as deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian the premises where reactors were kept prior to removal.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987.

80-3-1-.15 Requirements After Swine Are Found To Be Infected.

(1) Herds of swine known to be infected with brucellosis shall be quarantined and no animal shall be moved from such herds except on permit from the State Veterinarian or his authorized agent. The above quarantine shall remain in effect until:

(a) The entire herd is sold for slaughter and cleaning and disinfecting of houses and equipment has been accomplished, and 60 days has elapsed since the sale of all swine from premises; or

(b) There are two consecutive negative herd blood tests. The first negative test must be at least 30 days after all reactors have been removed and slaughtered and the second test must be at least 90 days after the first test.

(2) Reactor swine shall be identified with a reactor tag in the left ear.

(3) Reactor swine shall be sold for immediate slaughter only to approved slaughtering establishments or sold through an approved livestock market to be sent directly to slaughter.

(4) Reactor swine must be held separate at livestock markets and shall not contact swine that are allowed to return to a farm.

(5) All premises where swine are found to react to the brucellosis test shall be cleaned and disinfected when practical and shall be done under the supervision of the State Veterinarian.

(6) All brucellosis testing shall be done by the state-federal brucellosis laboratory, except, however, qualified veterinarians and state or federal employees may be authorized by the State Veterinarian to conduct brucellosis tests for certain purposes when samples and test results are forwarded to the state-federal laboratory for confirmation.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987.

80-3-1-.16 Indemnification (Swine).

Indemnity may be paid to owners of swine that have been condemned and slaughtered because of brucellosis. Amounts and requirements for indemnity are those as specified in Rules 80-3-1-.06 and 80-3-1-.07.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987.

80-3-1-.17 Conditions Requiring Testing Of Swine Herds.

Existence of the following conditions shall require brucellosis testing of the entire swine herd:

(a) All herds that are revealed as a result of reactors at livestock markets, and/or

(b) All herds in which the State Veterinarian has reason to believe that brucellosis exists or have been exposed to brucellosis.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987.

80-3-1-.18 Testing Swine That Change Ownership.

(1) All breeding swine (sows and boars) six months of age or older that arrive at livestock markets in Alabama from farms shall be identified by official backtag and bled for brucellosis. All breeding swine six months or older that arrive at slaughtering plants in Alabama from farms shall be identified to the farm of origin and a blood sample shall be collected at time of slaughter. The bleeding for brucellosis test requirement above may be waived if the Commissioner determines that there are insufficient funds available to conduct this test.

(2) All blood samples taken shall be forwarded by the veterinarian or person doing the bleeding to the brucellosis laboratory, whether or not previously tested, for brucellosis testing as deemed necessary by the State Veterinarian.

(3) Reactors revealed at livestock markets shall be tagged in the left ear with an official reactor tag and must be consigned to slaughter.

(4) Exposed swine in marketing channels shall be consigned to slaughter. Exposed swine are defined as follows:

(a) Other swine that are a part of a consignment in which a reactor was detected; and/or

(b) Breeding swine that had direct contact with a reactor while at the livestock market.

(5) Breeding swine (sows and boars) six months of age or older that change ownership shall be required to have passed a brucellosis test within 30 days prior to such change of ownership. Swine from validated free herds are exempt. The seller shall be responsible for having swine tested.

Author: Charles H. Barnes

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987.

80-3-1-.19 Requirements For Swine Brought Into Alabama.

Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-155, states, in substance, that all livestock brought into the state must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection made by a qualified veterinarian reflecting that the livestock are free from disease. The above required certificate of veterinary inspection, to be accepted by the State Veterinarian, accompanying sows and boars, besides being identified by ear tag, tattoo, ear notch or other acceptable permanent means, must also reflect on the certificate of veterinary inspection one of the following:

(a) They originate directly from a Brucellosis Validated Free State, or

(b) The originate directly from officially validated brucellosis herds, or

(c) They originated from a herd not under quarantine for brucellosis and are negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days of entry, or

(d) They are swine under six months of age.

Author: Charles H. Barnes, Reginald L. Sorrells

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §2-15-170.

History: Filed May 28, 1987. **Amended:** Filed May 11, 2000; effective June 15, 2000.