



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2016 Resolution

120th Annual Meeting

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Resolution number: 31 and 39 Combined **APPROVED**

Source: COMMITTEE ON CAPTIVE WILDLIFE & ALTERNATIVE LIVESTOCK
COMMITTEE ON TUBERCULOSIS

Subject Matter: National Cervid Tuberculosis Herd Accreditation Program

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The primary objective of the cervid bovine tuberculosis (bTB) herd accreditation program is to eliminate *Mycobacterium bovis*, the causative agent of bTB, in farmed/captive cervids as part of a comprehensive approach to eradicate bTB in domestic cattle and bison in the United States. All farmed/captive cervids destined for interstate movement are required to be tested for bTB.

In 2005 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 9 Part 77 was updated to separate cervids from the cattle and bison program, and a new testing criteria for cervids was implemented. Herds that participate in the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Cervid bTB Herd Accreditation Program must test their entire herd of cervids over 12 months of age, negative for bTB two times in 9 to 15 month intervals to establish an Accredited Free herd. The accreditation is valid for 33 to 39 months from the original anniversary date and a negative whole herd retest must be performed in that period of time to maintain the accredited status. Animals from the Accredited Free herds are allowed to be moved interstate at any time without further testing

Details on the bTB testing requirements for interstate movements of cervids from monitored herds, qualified herds, and accredited herds from modified accredited States and zones are provided in the federal regulations (9 CFR Parts 77 and 86) and in the 1999 UM&R on Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication.

Language from USDA Website referencing 1999 UM&R -

Bovine Tuberculosis (bTB) Testing Requirements for Interstate or International Movement

Last Modified: Apr 7, 2015

According to the 1999 TB UM&R:

1. No captive cervid with a response to any tuberculosis test is eligible for international movement.

2. No captive cervid with a response to any tuberculosis test is eligible for interstate movement unless said animal is subsequently classified “negative for tuberculosis” based upon an official tuberculosis test or is consigned directly to slaughter.
3. Captive cervids that originate from accredited herds may be moved interstate without further tuberculosis testing, provided that they are accompanied by a certificate stating that such captive cervids originated from an accredited herd.
4. Captive cervids not known to be affected with or exposed to tuberculosis that originate from qualified herds may be moved interstate if the animals are accompanied by a certificate stating that they originate from a qualified herd and have been classified negative to an official tuberculosis test that was conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement. If the qualifying test was administered within 90 days of movement, the animal(s) to be moved do not require an additional test.
5. Captive cervids not known to be affected with or exposed to tuberculosis that originate from monitored herds may be moved interstate if they are accompanied by a certificate stating that such captive cervids originate from a monitored herd and have been classified negative to an official tuberculosis test that was conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement.
6. Captive cervids not known to be affected with or exposed to tuberculosis that originate from all other herds may be moved interstate, provided that (1) they are accompanied by a certificate stating that such captive cervids have been classified negative in response to two official tuberculosis tests conducted no less than 90 days apart, (2) the second test was conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement, and (3) the animals were isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period.
7. Captive cervids less than 12 months of age that originate from and were born in qualified or monitored herds may be moved without further tuberculosis testing, provided that they are accompanied by a certificate stating that such captive cervids originated from such herds and have not been exposed to captive cervids from a lower status herd.
8. Institutions that have been accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) are exempt from these requirements when movement is between accredited member facilities. Captive cervids in zoological parks that have been accredited by AZA are exempt from the regulations in this subpart when the captive cervids are moved directly interstate between AZA member facilities. Any captive cervids moved interstate that are not moved directly from an AZA member facility to another AZA member facility must be moved in accordance with the regulations in this subpart.
9. Except for captive cervids moving interstate under permit directly to slaughter or necropsy, each captive cervid or shipment of captive cervids to be moved interstate must be accompanied by a certificate issued within 30 days of the movement by a State or Federal animal health official or an accredited veterinarian. The certificate must state the number of the official eartag or other identification approved by the Administrator for each captive cervid to be moved, the number of captive cervids covered by the certificate, the purpose of the

movement, the origin and destination of the captive cervids, the consignor, and the consignee.

Language from 1999 UM&R -

Part VI—Herd Status Plans for Captive Cervids

A. Accredited herd plan for captive cervids

1. Animals to be tested—Testing of herds for accreditation or reaccreditation shall include all captive cervids and all other hoof stock over 12 months of age and animals under 12 months of age that are not natural additions, except that animals under 12 months of age that are not natural additions originating from an accredited herd need not be tested.
2. Qualifying standards—To meet the requirements for accredited herd status, the herd must pass at least three consecutive official tests for tuberculosis conducted at 9- to 15-month intervals with no evidence of bovine tuberculosis.

In herds previously infected, the fourth, fifth, and sixth annual whole-herd negative test will requalify the herd for accreditation.

Herds meeting these standards may be issued a certificate by local State and Federal animal health officials.

3. Additions—Accredited herd additions must originate directly from one of the following and have no exposure to captive cervids from herds of lesser status than the additions' herd of origin:
 - a. An accredited herd.
 - b. A qualified or monitored herd, provided that the individual animals for addition had negative results on an official tuberculosis test conducted within 90 days prior to entry and were isolated from members of the accredited herd until these animals had a negative result on an official tuberculosis test conducted at least 90 days following entry.
 - c. A herd not meeting the requirements of (a) or (b) in this section. Individual animals for addition must be isolated from all other members of the herd of origin and must have negative results on two official tests for tuberculosis conducted at least 90 days apart. The second of these tests must be conducted within 90 days prior to movement to the premises of the accredited herd. The additions must be kept in isolation from members of the accredited herd until the additions have a negative result on an official tuberculosis test conducted at least 90 days following the date of entry.

Animals other than natural additions added to an accredited-free herd shall not receive the accredited herd status for sale or movement purposes until they have a negative result on a retest 90 days after entry and until they have been included in a recertification herd test.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (VS) to issue a VS Guidance Document stating that “Animals other than natural additions added to an accredited-free herd shall not receive the accredited herd status for sale or movement purposes until they have a negative result on a retest 90 days after entry and until they have been included in a recertification herd test” is no longer applicable in the National Cervid Tuberculosis (TB) Herd Accreditation Program and no additional TB test is required for the accredited individual animal addition(s).