



# NEWS RELEASE

Texas Animal Health Commission  
"Serving Texas Animal Agriculture Since 1893"  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2014

## TAHC Adopts Cattle Tuberculosis Rules and Proposes Changes to Trichomoniasis Program

AUSTIN – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) recently held a regularly scheduled Commission meeting on May 13, 2014, at its headquarters in Austin, Texas.

The following rules were adopted during the meeting and went into effect on June 3, 2014:

- **Chapter 43, Tuberculosis, Authorized Calf Ranch/Grower Facility:** This rule creates a new section establishing standards, procedures and other requirements for young dairy cattle exposed to tuberculosis which may be fed in drylot facilities approved by TAHC called "authorized calf ranches/grower facilities". The new rule will allow TB affected dairies to maximize the value of replacement heifers who can be raised in a controlled biosecure environment that allows them to meet the requirements for quarantine release by the time they are ready to calve for the first time, and will allow steer calves to be fed to "finish", thus maximizing their value also.
- **Chapter 43, Tuberculosis, Mexican Origin Cattle:** This rule requires Texas veterinarians to include a statement on any official document issued by the veterinarian for cattle that originated from Mexico ("M" branded) which states that "the cattle represented on this document are of Mexican origin".
- **Chapter 49, Equine, Microchip Piroplasmis Reactors:** This rule requires Equine Piroplasmis (Piro) reactors to be implanted, by an authorized veterinarian or TAHC representative, with an ISO 11784/11785 compatible RFID microchip within 10 days of final classification.
- **Chapter 51, Entry Requirements, Mexican Origin Cattle, and Definition Change:** This rule requires veterinarians in other states creating official documents on cattle which originated in Mexico (M branded) and are intended for entry into Texas to include a statement that "the cattle represented on this document are of Mexican origin".
- **Chapter 54, Domestic and Exotic Fowl Registration:** This rule requires fowl in a live bird marketing system to be confined at all times and to be kept separate and apart from wild bird populations or other unconfined domestic fowl. The rule is intended to address concerns regarding potential disease exposure and clarifies existing biosecurity protocols.

To view details of all the rules that were adopted, visit <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/regs/code.html> .

The TAHC will be accepting public comments beginning June 6, 2014, on the following rules proposed at the May 13 Commission meeting. The following proposals have a 30-day comment period and the deadline for comment submissions is Monday, July 7, 2014, at 5 p.m. Detailed explanations of the rule

proposals are available on the TAHC website at <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/regs/proposals.html>.

- **Chapter 38, Trichomoniasis, Testing/Herd Certification:** The purpose of these amendments are to change the Trichomoniasis (Trich) testing and herd certification requirements. The proposed amendments would:
  1. Add testing requirements for a herd of origin when a bull from the herd is sold and subsequently found to be infected with Trich.
  2. Require testing when a bull is separated from its unit of origin, such as when a bull is found on property not owned by the owner/caretaker of the bull (stray), and that bull is found to be infected with Trich. Under the proposal, the pasture (unit) of origin, and pasture where the stray Trich bull was located will both be placed under hold order, and any additional bulls located there must be tested for Trich.
  3. Allow TAHC to evaluate the effectiveness of a herd control plan for an infected herd leading to the possible continuation or disapproval of the herd plan based on the progress or lack of progress made in controlling the disease within the herd.
  4. Finally, the proposal would require herds enrolled in the Trich Herd Certification Program to have perimeter fences that are adequate to prevent the ingress or egress of cattle.
- **Chapter 39, Scabies and Mange Mites, New Chapter/Repeal:** The purpose of the proposed new chapter is to replace the existing chapter and make substantial changes regarding the requirements and treatment standards for livestock infested with or exposed to scabies or mange mites
- **Chapter 45, Reportable Diseases, Novel Swine Enteric Coronavirus:** The purpose of the proposed amendment is to add Novel Swine Enteric Coronavirus Disease (SECD) to the list of reportable diseases. SECD is a disease in swine caused by emerging porcine coronaviruses which include but are not limited to porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) and porcine delta coronavirus (PDCoV).

The TAHC will be accepting public comments beginning Friday, June 20, 2014, on the following rule proposed at the May 13 Commission meeting. The following proposal has a 30-day comment period and the deadline for comment submissions is Monday, July 21, 2014, at 5 p.m. A detailed explanation of the rule proposal will be available on Friday, June 20, 2014, on the TAHC website at <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/regs/proposals.html>.

- **Chapter 51, Entry Requirements, Cattle:** The proposed amendment will clarify the Bovine Trich entry requirements and testing exemptions. The proposal adds new testing exemptions for out of state bulls enrolled in a Texas bull test station trial and for out of state bulls originating from approved Certified Trich Free Herd programs.
- **Chapter 51, Entry Requirements, Swine:** The proposed amendments will require accredited veterinarians to include a statement on health certificates issued on non-commercial swine entering Texas for purposes other than immediate slaughter, which should state that, “The swine on this certificate have not originated from a premises known to be affected by SECD and have not been exposed to SECD within the last 30 days.”

The TAHC encourages and appreciates all comments. Comments on the proposed regulations must be submitted in writing to Carol Pivonka, Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, by fax at (512) 719-0719, or by email to [comments@tahc.texas.gov](mailto:comments@tahc.texas.gov).

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