



Dairy Cattle Import Alert

Until Further Notice:

The importation of lactating dairy cattle into Montana must meet the testing and movement requirements of the [USDA APHIS Federal Order](#), effective April 29, 2024, including:

- A negative test for Influenza A virus at an approved National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) laboratory within 7 days prior to movement.
- A certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) per 9 CFR Part 86, Animal Disease Traceability, including:
 - The lactation status of the cow (lactating or non-lactating)
 - Negative test results including laboratory name, accession number, and test date
 - Individual official identification

Clinical dairy cattle or cattle from herds with a positive test or compatible clinical signs are not eligible for importation into Montana.

Lactating dairy cattle moving direct to slaughter are not required to have a premovement test and may travel on a CVI or other documentation approved by the State Veterinarian.

For further information on testing guidelines and requirements, please see the USDA APHIS Federal Notice at the following link: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/aphis-requirements-recommendations-hpai-livestock.pdf>



Montana Department of Livestock Import Regulations

Dairy Cattle



Health Certificate - issued within 30 days of entry

Official identification, testing and statements listed on health certificate



Import Permit Numbers are Required for Hand-Written Paper Health Certificates ONLY

Import Permit - To obtain a permit number:

Permit Line: 406-444-2976

(24/7 via Phone)

Email: livpermits@mt.gov (Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm via email)



Official Identification

USDA Silver Clip, Bangs Tag, or 840 RFID Tag

All animals require official ID

Identification must be listed on health certificate



Dairy Cattle Import Testing Requirements

Tuberculosis (TB)

All sexually intact animals over 2 months of age require one negative TB test within 60 days prior to entry **OR**

- Animals that originate from a USDA-APHIS Accredited TB-Free Herd
 - Herd accreditation number and date of entire herd test must be included

Trichomoniasis

Bulls for exhibition or competition:

- No testing required

Bulls for sale purposes:

- Virgin bulls less than 12 months of age
 - No testing required
- Virgin bulls 12-24 months of age
 - No testing required

Non-virgin bulls and bulls greater than 24 months of age

- One single negative PCR within 60 days
- Void upon commingling with female cattle

*Pooled PCRs are acceptable



Dairy Cattle Import Documentation Requirements

M-Statement

Required Statement: *“The animals in this shipment are NOT ‘M-Branded’ (Mexico origin) nor have they been in contact with or exposed to any ‘M-Branded’ cattle.”*

OR

Required Statement: *“The animals in this shipment ARE ‘M-Branded’ (Mexico origin) or they have been in contact with or exposed to ‘M-Branded’ cattle.”*

Additional Statements

Bulls for exhibition or competition:

- Required statement: *“While in Montana, this (these) bull(s) cannot be sold, loaned, or leased, and cannot be used for breeding or semen collection, and must be kept segregated from all sexually-intact female cattle.”*

Bulls for sale purposes:

- Virgin bulls less than 12 months of age
- Required Statement: *“The bull(s) identified on this certificate are virgin bulls”*

Virgin bulls 12-24 months of age

- Required Statement: *“The bull(s) identified on this certificate are virgin bulls,” signed by owner.*

Calves without dams, 1 month of age or less, require a 30-day quarantine with the following statement on the CVI: *“Calf (calves) must be held on premises of destination and may not be resold for 30 days.”*