

Federal Quarantines For Hog Cholera Now In Effect In 15 States

Current Federal quarantines for hog cholera are now in effect in part or all of 79 counties in 15 States, plus all of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports.

In late November, USDA's Agricultural Research Service began using Federal quarantines for hog cholera to prevent interstate movement of infected or exposed swine as part of the stepped-up efforts to eradicate hog cholera. Federal quarantines are usually used in conjunction with State quarantine action which regulates swine movement within States. Quarantines are removed as soon as the threat of disease spread has passed based on the recommendations of State and Federal animal health officials in the States involved.

From Nov. 24, 1969, through Jan. 28, 1970, Federal quarantines were placed on areas in 19 States plus Puerto Rico. During this same period, they were lifted or reduced in 12 States.

Notice of the most recent quarantine action, which was effective when signed on Jan. 28, is scheduled for publication in the Federal Register on Jan. 31. Areas quarantined by this action are Middlesex County in Massachusetts, and portions of Lubbock, Limestone, Friesstone and Navarro Counties in Texas.

Other areas now under Federal quarantine for hog cholera are: Arkansas—Clay, Green, Lawrence, and Randolph Counties; Arizona—Municipal County; Georgia—Newton County; Illinois—Christian, Gallatin, Henry, Macoupin, Montgomery, Saline, Shelby and Whiteside Counties; Iowa—Boone, Humboldt, Jackson, Kossuth, Marion, Marshall, Montgomery, Pottawattamie, Taylor, and Wright Counties; Maryland—Wicomico County; Massachusetts—Bristol and Worcester Counties; Mississippi—Calhoun, Grenada, Rankin, Tallahatchie

and Webster Counties; New York—Montgomery County; North Carolina—Cumberland, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Pasquotank, Pitt, Wake, Wayne and Wilson Counties; Ohio—Prieble County; Oklahoma—Comanche County; Puerto Rico—entire commonwealth; Rhode Island—all five counties; Texas—Comanche, Dallas, El Paso, Erath, Falls, Fayette, Hamilton, Harris, Henderson, Houston, Lavaca, Lee, Nueces, Tom Green, Upshur, Waller, and Wilson Counties, and Virginia—James City and Virginia Beach City Counties.

No feeder pigs or breeding swine can be moved interstate from an area under Federal quarantine for hog cholera. Slaughtered hogs can be moved interstate only if they are from healthy herds, are inspected on the farm by a Federal State, or accredited veterinarian, and are shipped directly to slaughter or to a designated market for sale for slaughter. Such slaughter hogs must be accompanied by a

special certificate authorizing swine movements from quarantined area.

Pork products can be moved interstate from a federally quarantined area only if produced at a slaughter plant which operates under standards for Federal meat inspection.

All but three States—Maine, New Hampshire, and New York—are engaged in final "stamping out" activities against hog cholera. These activities involved prompt and complete disposal of all infected and exposed herds. Cooperative State-Federal indemnity payments are made to farmers whose hogs must be destroyed because of hog cholera.

Farmers can aid the eradication effort by promptly reporting any sickness in their pigs to their veterinarian or county agent or to State or Federal animal health officials.

Handshake's Origin

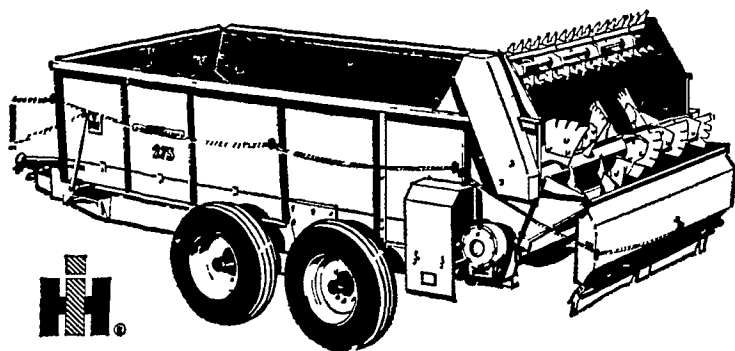
The custom of giving the hand to bind a bargain originated in the Biblical Book of Kings, when Jehonadab gave his hand to Jehu in order to prove to him the justice of his cause.

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Cows Like Resin Mat

Dairy cows preferred a synthetic resin mat when they had a choice of stall floor surfaces, during permanent bedding tests at Purdue University.

The study was an effort to find a substitute for bedding which must be placed and removed periodically and is often expensive.

About eight of ten dairy cows showed a marked preference for the one-half inch synthetic resin mat as compared to a 3/8 inch rubber mat. The cows were allowed a choice of stalls in a 20 stall free stall barn.

Cows were observed at 15-

minute intervals from 6 p.m. until 2.30 a.m., a period of relative inactivity at the dairy center. The observations were made at two-week intervals during the winter months of two consecutive lactation periods.

There were five different foundations under the mats. The cows preferred them in this order: (1) electrically heated concrete, (2) standard concrete with a half-inch plywood cushion between the mat and the base, (3) insulated concrete, (4) one-half inch plywood sheet on a 2x4 inch wooden frame and (5) standard concrete. The electrically heated base was used significantly more than the other four foundations.

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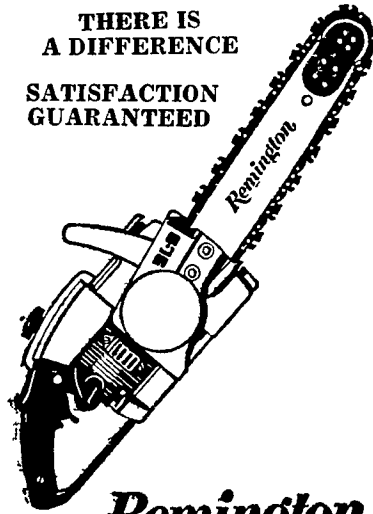
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