States change minimum brucellosis standards

WASHINGTON. D.C. Beginning July 1, certain states will require cattle moving across their borders to be vaccinated for brucellosis, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official said recently.

Bert W. Hawkins, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said the vaccination requirement - which will depend on the state's classification - will affect cows and female calves that were or

- Born after Jan. 1, 1984 and
- At least four months old; and
- Female dairy cattle moving in and out of class B and C states; and - Female beef cattle moving into

and out of class C states. "Certain cattle will be exempt from the new vaccination requirement - such as neutered animals or those moving directly to slaughter or quarantined feedlots," Hawkins said. Cattle

SIDE DRESS "N" YES, WE CAN WHY —

- 1 Corn populations are heavy. Every seed germinated and emerged.
- 2 Some of you may have "Short Changed" the pre-plant nitrogen rates.
- 3 Wet weather can cause de-nitrification losses of "N". Side dressing compensates for this.
- 4 Penn States says, Do It.

HOW -

- 1 Two 3-point mounted liquid nitrogen applicators with drop tubes.
- 2 Trailer type ammonia applicators that pull with your tractor.



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shippers should check with their

Under the cooperative brucellosis program coordinated by USDA, states are classified as free, A, B or C - according to their cattle herd infection rates. "Free" means no infection for a year or longer; Class "A" indicates a low rate; "B" a moderate rate; and

"Under the new provisions, nonvaccinated heifers eligible for vaccination - 4 to 12-months-old will be permitted to move interstate directly to specifically USDA-approved livestock markets and be vaccinated on arrival," Hawkins said.

Other changes include using a "modified card test" for brucellosis, using "brand certificates" to satisfy identification of cattle moving across state lines when no tests are required and releasing adult-vaccinated dairy herds from quarantine when lactating cattle pass a negative "brucellosis ring test."

brucellosis rule changes will be enforced by state animal health agencies. The federal regulations will be changed later, he said.

to put the new brucellosis rules into effect, but most will begin en-forcing them promptly," he said. "Some 22 states already require brucellosis vaccination for entry, although specific requirements vary.

The changes in standards are recommended by the U.S. Animal Health Association, an organization that represents state and federal agencies and major cattle industry groups. The modified rules were circulated to

Brucellosis, sometimes called Bang's disease, causes cows to abort or give birth to weak calves. It can be passed to people exposed to infected animals or those who drink unpasteurized milk from infected animals, causing a chronic or acute debilitating





For Sale Pennlan tobacco plants Lanc Co, Lititz, 717 626 0820

state veterinarian.

"C" a relatively high rate.

Hawkins said these latest

"States have a reasonable time

these groups for comment.

illness.



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