

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 108

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE ANIMALS (DISEASES AND IMPORTATION) ACT, CHAP. 67:02

REGULATIONS

MADE BY THE MINISTER UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE ANIMALS
(DISEASES AND IMPORTATION) ACT

THE BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS OR CONTAGIOUS ABORTION
(ERADICATION) REGULATIONS, 2003

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Bovine Brucellosis or Contagious Abortion (Eradication) Regulations, 2003. Citation
2. (1) These Regulations shall apply to cattle, pigs, sheep and goats. Application and interpretation
 - (2) In these Regulations—
 - “Act” means the Animals (Diseases and Importation) Act; Chap. 67:02
 - “Brucellosis” means a contagious disease primarily affecting cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and dogs, caused by bacteria of the genus *Brucella* and characterized by abortion and to a lesser extent, orchitis and infection of the accessory sex glands in males;
 - “Brucellosis—Free Listed Herd” means a herd that is certified by the Chief Veterinary Officer under Regulation 11 to be free from Brucellosis;
 - “eradication area” means an area declared by the Minister under Regulation 10, as an eradication area;
 - “herd” for the purpose of these Regulations, includes one animal;
 - “reactor” means the animal reacting positively to the approved test referred to in Regulation 4.
3. A person who has in his possession or under his charge, an animal affected or suspected of being affected with Brucellosis shall, within seven days of becoming aware or suspecting that the animal is affected, inform the nearest Government Veterinary Officer of that fact. Duty to inform
4. (1) A person who has in his possession or under his charge an animal, shall have that animal tested for Brucellosis, within six months from the date of the commencement of these Regulations and thereafter at the request of the Inspector. Testing of animals for Brucellosis

(2) The test shall be approved by the Chief Veterinary Officer and shall be carried out at the Government Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory or a laboratory approved by the Minister.

(3) A blood sample taken for the test shall be collected by a veterinary surgeon or any person designated by the Chief Veterinary Officer for that purpose, under the supervision of the Inspector.

(4) Where the owner of a herd of cattle has not had his cattle tested for Brucellosis under subregulation (1), he may be required by the Inspector, within three months from the date of service of a Notice set out on Form A of the Schedule, to have the herd tested.

Schedule
Form A

(5) Every animal, from the date of the coming into operation of these Regulations, except a reactor from a previous test, shall be tested periodically, and the owner of an animal may be required by the Inspector within three months from the date of service of a Notice to have the herd tested for Brucellosis.

Submission
of reports

5. (1) Where the test is carried out by—

(a) the Government Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, the results of the test shall be sent to the submitting veterinary surgeon who shall report the test results to the owner of the animal; and

(b) a laboratory approved by the Minister, the results of the test shall be sent to the Government Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, which shall inform the submitting veterinary surgeon, who shall then report the test results to the owner of the animal.

(2) Where a reactor is discovered on testing, the laboratory shall submit a report to the Senior Veterinary Officer and the Chief Veterinary Officer.

(3) The Chief Veterinary Officer shall, after receiving the report submitted to him in accordance with subregulation (2), submit a report to the Director, Veterinary Public Health.

Disposition
of reactors

6. (1) Where a reactor is discovered, the owner or person in charge of the reactor shall immediately take all practicable steps to ensure the effective isolation of the reactor and its maintenance, until it is slaughtered.

(2) The Veterinary Officer shall cause the reactor to be branded on the left rump with the letter "B", which shall be three inches high and two and one-quarter inches wide.

(3) Where a reactor is discovered, the owner shall cause the reactor to be slaughtered at an abattoir approved by the Minister, within ten days from the date of receiving the results of the test, and the owner shall be entitled to compensation determined by the Minister, in respect of the animal slaughtered.

(4) Where the owner of a reactor fails to have that reactor immediately removed to a place of isolation or to an approved place for slaughter, the Inspector may by Notice, set out on Form B of the Schedule, served on the owner, require the slaughter and disposal of the reactor within the period set out in the Notice and in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

(5) Where there is failure to comply with the requirements of the Notice specified in subregulation (4), the Inspector may take possession of the reactor, and such reactor shall be slaughtered at an approved abattoir.

(6) The cost of taking possession of a reactor and moving it to the approved abattoir and thereafter of maintaining and disposing the reactor, may be recovered on behalf of the State as a debt owed by the owner of the reactor to the State or from any funds generated by the sale of the carcass.

7. (1) Where a reactor has been discovered, the Inspector may by Notice, set out on Form C of the Schedule, served on the occupier of premises, require the occupier to cleanse and disinfect specified parts of the premises in accordance with the Notice.

(2) Where there is failure to comply with the requirements of a Notice under subregulation (1), the Minister may cause the cleansing and disinfecting of the specified parts of the premises to be carried out by persons authorised by him for such purpose.

(3) The cost of cleansing and disinfecting under subregulation (2), may be recovered on behalf of the State as a debt owed by the occupier of the premises to the State.

Owner to keep
records

8. (1) The owner of a herd of animals shall keep records of the following information:

- (a) the number of animals in the herd and their identification marks and types;
- (b) the birth and death of every animal in the herd; and
- (c) any movement of animals into or out of the herd, and with respect to any such movement—
 - (i) the date;
 - (ii) the address of premises from and to which the movement took place;
 - (iii) the name of the vendor or purchaser; and
 - (iv) in relation to each animal moved out of the herd, whether or not it was for slaughter.

(2) The owner shall produce the records for inspection by an Inspector, on demand.

Offence

9. A person who fails to comply with these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand dollars.

Eradication

10. (1) The Minister may, for the purposes of preventing the spread of and eradicating Brucellosis, declare an area in which Brucellosis is found, to be an eradication area.

(2) Eradication of Brucellosis shall be done on an area by area basis as prescribed by the Minister, and no animal shall be moved into or out of an eradication area except with the permission of the Inspector and only for slaughter.

Certification

11. (1) On completion of an eradication of Brucellosis in an eradication area, the owner of a herd of animals in that area, may apply to the Chief Veterinary Officer to have his herd certified as a Brucellosis—Free Listed Herd.

(2) The Chief Veterinary Officer shall follow a prescribed procedure in accordance with accepted international standards, in determining whether the herd of animals is free from Brucellosis.

(3) The Chief Veterinary Officer on being satisfied that the herd of animals is free from Brucellosis shall issue a certificate to that effect.

