

## Animal Import Rules Amended

Import requirements for animals moving into Florida from other states have recently been amended. While most changes are minor, import changes for cattle and horses are significant.

Dairy cattle over 6 months of age must now be tested for bovine tuberculosis within 30 days of entry or come from Accredited TB Free Herds in Accredited Free States. Rodeo bulls and roping steers over 6 months of age must have a negative test for tuberculosis within 12 months of entering Florida. Initially, animals arriving that do not meet these requirements will be allowed to move to their destination in Florida and quarantined until TB testing requirements have been met.

Post-entry quarantine and Equine Piroplasmiasis testing requirements for horses entering Florida from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been discontinued, although quarantine, inspection, testing and treatment requirements continue prior to entry. Provision has also been made for the designation of Equine Piroplasmiasis endemic areas for which inspection, treatment, and testing is required prior to movement of horses to Florida. Texas is currently the only such designated Equine Piroplasmiasis endemic area in the United States.

These changes have been made to Chapter 5C-3, Rules and Regulations, Importation of Animals. In addition, a new chapter, 5C-30, Enforcement and Penalties, has been added to clarify procedures for inspection of animals imported into or moved within the state and provides for penalties for violations of movement requirements.

Links to these rules may be found on our rules web page at:  
<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/ai/main/rules.shtml>