

TRICHOMONIASIS

SPECIES AFFECTED

Cattle

DESCRIPTION

Trichomoniasis is a venereal disease of cattle, which causes devastating economic losses in infected herds because of reduced calving rates or increased length of calving season. Trichomoniasis has been recognized in all major cattle-producing countries during the past 100 years. Because most infected animals do not show any symptoms, the first sign of trouble may be a lower than normal calving rate in herds using natural breeding. In 1990, a random survey of California beef herds showed that more than 15% of the herds had at least one infected bull. The organism that causes Trichomoniasis in cattle is related to the protozoa *Trichomonas vaginalis* that causes a similar venereal disease in humans. The incidence of Trichomoniasis in humans is quite high with over 7.4 million new cases each year. Another similar organism also causes Trichomoniasis in birds, but this infection is primarily a skin and lung infection.

IDENTIFICATION

The official Oregon Trich Ear Tag must be tamperproof, 3" wide x 2 1/4" tall with a self-piercing male button printed with the current trich year. The female portion of the tag will have OR TRICH printed above a four or five-digit number.

Tags meeting the identification requirement are in stock at MWI Veterinary Supply (1-800-824-3703, specify TRICH TAG OREGON) and available for immediate shipment. The tags come in bags of 25. Due to the very specific nature of these tags, they are non-returnable to the supplier. Any other tag manufacturer's product may be special ordered providing it fits the above specificity with respect to tag size, layout, and color. Special orders will need to specify their four or five-digit number sequence. Please allow approximately two weeks for the special order process.

Tag colors will change on September 1 of each trich year. Previous year trich tags should be removed and replaced with the tag consistent with the current year's test. Continuity of identification of the bull from year to year should be maintained either by a ranch tag, tattoo, EID or a silver alphanumeric USDA tag. The tag color will cycle again every 6 years, so unused tags may be saved for later use with an appropriate button.

The trich year is defined as Sept 1- August 31, so application of the appropriate tag will change each year on September 1.

2012 tags will be white, 2013 tags will be orange and 2014 tags will be blue.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Trichomoniasis is a mandatory reportable disease in Oregon.

