

TRICHOMONIASIS RULE CHANGE

What is Trichomoniasis?

- Trichomoniasis or "trich" is a venereal disease of cattle.
- Causes significant losses in an infected herd.
- Causes abortion, infertility, and uterine infections in cows.
- Disease in Bulls
 - once infected, infected for life
- Disease in Cows
 - can usually clear the infection but can be susceptible to infection in the next breeding season

How is "Trich" diagnosed?

- Best sample is preputial scraping of bulls by accredited DVM

How can "Trich" be treated?

- At this time, there is no treatment. Infected bulls must be culled.

Alabama Trichomoniasis Rule:

- Bulls 18 months of age and older entering Alabama must test negative by PCR for trich within 60 days prior to entry into the state.
- All bulls tested for trich must be identified with an official USDA approved ear tag.
- Positive Bulls Permitted to Slaughter
 - Any bull in Alabama that tests positive for trich will be isolated and placed under official quarantine.
 - Owner may request (within 5 days) that a confirmatory PCR test be conducted by an accredited veterinarian from the state veterinarian's office.
 - If the confirmatory test is positive, then the bull is considered infected.
 - Three negative, official tests performed at least 14 days apart will be required for a bull to be designated as negative and have quarantine released.
 - All tests will be paid for by the owner.
- Confirmed positive bulls will be consigned to slaughter or permitted directly to slaughter and may only be moved under an official permit issued by state veterinarian's office.
- Positive bulls must be moved directly to slaughter or permitted directly for slaughter through a licensed livestock market within thirty days from receipt of the positive test results of the original test or the results of the confirmatory PCR test, whichever is later.
- Rule will include actions to be taken for bulls that have been commingled with positive bulls.
- Any trichomoniasis positive animal or herd shall be subject to a Trichomoniasis Response Herd Plan developed by the State Veterinarian in consultation with the owner's accredited veterinarian and the state extension veterinarian.

For more information, please contact the State Veterinarian's Office at 334-240-7253.

