



LIS INFO BULLETIN

Shipping cattle and horses out of Alberta and applying brands

The purpose of this Bulletin is to ask for your assistance in educating cattle and horse owners with respect to two requirements of the *Livestock Identification and Commerce Act* (LICA).

Livestock inspections and Permits

All cattle and horses being transported out of Alberta must be inspected and accompanied with either a livestock permit or a special permit issued by a Livestock Inspector. Two business days' notice is to be given to LIS to schedule a livestock inspection for the purpose of issuing a permit to transport livestock out of Alberta, however, the livestock inspectors can generally arrange for an inspection and the issuance of the permit in less than two business days.

Failure to comply with the inspection and permit requirements under LICA results in cattle and horses, or the proceeds from the sale of these animals, being held up in various states or provinces due to the producer not having the required permit from LIS. When LIS is notified by a state or provincial inspection authority that animals were not accompanied by the required permit, we typically follow up with a warning letter for non-compliance, which may lead to charges being laid if non-compliance continues. Rather than issue warning letters, we would like to intervene at an earlier stage and educate producers as to their obligations under LICA.

It is an offence to transport livestock out of Alberta without the livestock being inspected by LIS and without a livestock permit or special permit. If found guilty of these offences a person may be fined up to \$5,000 for the first offence and up to \$10,000 for a second or subsequent offence. LICA also allows the court to impose the fine on a per-head and per occurrence basis.

Application of Brands

When producers ask veterinarians to apply brands on cattle or horses, it is important that prior to doing so, you have your client verify that the brand you are asked to apply is registered in Alberta, is owned by your client and is being applied on the correct location on the animal. This is best done by searching the brand (by owner or brand description) on the LIS website - <http://lis-alberta.com/Stats/brandsearch.aspx>.

It is an offence under section 11 of LICA for a person to apply, permit the application of or direct, aid or assist in applying a brand on livestock when the brand is not registered to that person in Alberta. A person guilty of an offence under section 11 is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 for the first offence and not more than \$10,000.00 for the second or subsequent offence. Section 83 of the Act also allows for the imposition of a per-head fine as well.

Further Information

Further information on the requirements of LICA can be obtained from www.lis-alberta.com or from any livestock inspector. A list of livestock inspectors and the field offices can be found on the website.