Instructions for Adult Vaccination with Brucella Abortus Vaccine Strain RB-51 for Washington State

NEW REQUIREMENTS – READ CAREFULLY

1. Vaccinate beef and dairy females over 12 months of age that have resided in Washington State for ninety days or more with a dose of 2cc subcutaneously of RB-51. **WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU DO NOT ADULT VACCINATE PREGNANT COWS.** If the owner wants pregnant cows adult vaccinated, make them aware there is a risk of abortion.

2. Permanently identify with official individual vaccination identification in the right ear using an orange ear tag or you can use a Washington Brucellosis RFID tag in the left ear.

3. The adult vaccination tattoo is a tattoo in the right ear with the letters RA, the United States registered V-shield, followed by the last digit of the year in which the vaccination was administered with RB-51 Brucella vaccine. For example, the 2016 tattoo is RAV-shield 6.

4. Record the identification ear tag on the Brucellosis Vaccination Record. Under purpose for the test, list “Adult Vaccinate”. If the cattle are born or bred Washington origin cattle, a statement on the vaccination record is required and signed by the owner certifying the cattle are Washington origin or the owner can supply a brand inspection indicating they were purchased in Washington.

5. Draw blood for a Brucellosis test at the time of vaccination.

6. Submit the Brucellosis Test Record with the Brucellosis Vaccination Record. Be sure and record the identification number on the test record. The animal can be vaccinated before the sample is sent in and before the lab completes the test. Animal Health veterinarians will investigate any subsequent positives.

7. As per RB-51 label use, cattle destined for slaughter cannot be vaccinated as there is a 3-week withdrawal time. There is no milk withdrawal period.

Idaho, Montana and Oregon will accept Washington State’s adult vaccinates. Other states may not. Prior to preparing adult vaccinates for exportation, contact the State Veterinarian of the receiving state to ensure that our adult vaccinates are permitted entry into that state.

For more information, contact the Washington State Veterinarian’s Office, 360-902-1878.

State Veterinarian, February 2016