

The Running Iron

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LIVESTOCK HAULER WRECKS

Recently we have been called to assist on several commercial livestock truck wrecks. If you are called by the Highway Patrol or your local Sheriff's Department regarding an accident involving someone hauling livestock please either give the Elko office a call or if it is either after hours or on a week-end call one of the enforcement officers. (Blaine- 775-777-5750, Sterling 775-530-3678, or Chris 775-385-1986) depending where the accident is located. We need to confirm numbers of livestock involved; inspection certificate information and verify that they had a health certificate. A new brand inspection needs to be written documenting how many cattle were reloaded and how many were lost due to injuries, for insurance purposes. If there wasn't a health certificate issued the receiving state needs to be notified! We are in the process of obtaining panels to put on the stock trailers assigned to each enforcement officer which will be used for emergency responses, this will enable us to contain the cattle at the accident site. We have had steers get hit by other vehicles and even the train because we lacked the ability to keep them in one area.

SUPPLEMENT

Enclosed is the 1st supplement to the 2012 brand book. The supplement contains brands not renewed before the 2012 book was printed, as well as transfers and new brands recorded in the last year. Also included are all the temporary brands renewed annually for out of state pasture cattle. When doing an inspection please check both your brand book and supplement to ensure that the livestock owner's brand has been renewed. If it does not appear in either the book or supplement there is a chance that the brand was not renewed and is considered "Lost to Record", and can no longer be legally used. Because of the grace period brand owners had until December 31, 2012 to renew their brands, if the brand has not been renewed it can now legally be recorded to someone else. Some brands lost to record have already been recorded to other individuals. This becomes a legal nightmare when the previous owner still has animals branded with the brand in question.

HOLIDAYS

Our next two holidays are Memorial Day which is May 27, and July 4th. Please double check the pay period schedule enclosed so you know what days are state holidays. It is very important that you charge the livestock owner time (\$16.00) and mileage (56.5 cents per mile) if they won't or can't change the inspection to another day. This is in statute and the procedure needs to be followed.

TRACEABILITY

There have been changes in traceability rules nation wide; at the present time it would be a good idea for any producer shipping cattle to contact the receiving state. This morning one of our inspectors went to inspect 1 load of steers and 3 loads of heifers, these were approximately 8 month old animals. Information given to the shipper indicated that all they needed was a health certificate and entry health permit number. When the shipper contacted Nebraska he was told that the heifers had to be bled within the last 60 days and each bangs tag had to be noted on the health. They ended up shipping 4 loads of steers because of the new requirements.

MISCELLANEOUS

Head Tax notices will be sent some time in May. A request to increase assessment fees charged for some categories of animals has been submitted to the legislature. We are hoping that it will pass; the price of doing business has been cutting into our revenue reserve.

Once again we will be trying to cut down on time and mileage charges by sending the closest inspector whenever possible.

Please collect beef council on all changes of ownership including animals consigned to a sale yard. I know that there are still producers who refuse to pay the beef council at the time of inspection. This information is forwarded to the Beef Council office in California and they then start collection proceedings. This is a federal law.

Thank you as always for your hard work and support of the livestock identification program.