

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(NEW TITLE)
NEW DRAFT OF S. P. 618—L. D. 1335

N I N E T Y - F O U R T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 1605

S. P. 693

In Senate, May 3, 1949

Reported by Senator Denny of Lincoln from Committee on Agriculture
and printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

AN ACT to Control and Eradicate Bang's Disease.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 27, § 73-A, additional. Chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 73-A, to read as follows:

‘Sec. 73-A. Procedure for control and eradication. The commissioner of agriculture shall formulate the following methods of procedure for controlling and eradicating Bang's disease:

Plan A—TEST AND ERADICATION (A Brucellosis-free herd without calfhood vaccination).

This plan aims to establish a herd in which all animals over 6 months of age are negative to the official blood test and in which calfhood vaccination is not being used.

A certificate of accreditation indicating freedom from Bang's disease, valid until the owner or the herd fails to comply with the requirements of accreditation, will be issued semiannually by the commissioner when all eligible animals in the herd have passed 3 or more consecutive official

blood tests extended over a period of 12 months, and when other necessary provisions of the plan as herein stated have been complied with.

Accredited herds shall be tested semiannually. The blood samples must be taken by officially approved veterinarians or technicians and tested by the state laboratory. No Bang's vaccine shall be used in this herd.

Plan B—CERTIFIED VACCINATED HERDS (Brucellosis-free herd using calfhood vaccination).

This plan aims at increasing the resistance of calves so that they will be better protected against Bang's disease as adult animals. It combines the advantages of calfhood vaccination with eradication.

A certificate of certification indicating freedom from Bang's disease, valid until the owner or the herd fails to comply with the requirements of certification, will be issued semiannually by the commissioner when all animals in the herd over 30 months of age have satisfactorily passed 3 or more consecutive official blood tests extended over a period of 12 months, when all calves between the ages of 4 and 8 months shall have been officially vaccinated by an approved veterinarian or technician and reported to the department of agriculture, and when other necessary provisions of the plan shall have been complied with.

Certified herds shall be tested semiannually. The blood samples must be taken by officially approved veterinarians or technicians and tested by the state laboratory.

Plan C — CALFHOOD VACCINATION IN REACTOR HERDS UNDER OFFICIAL SUPERVISION AND QUARANTINE.

This plan is intended only for heavily infected herds wherein it is practical and desirable to hold reactors under quarantine restrictions until vaccinated calves can be raised for replacements. This is a plan of control by quarantine and calfhood vaccination for herds not yet in a position to meet the requirements of Plan B. Such herds can use calfhood vaccination as a progressive step toward enabling the development of resistant young stock which can eventually replace the reactor cows in the adult herd.

The owner's herd shall be tested at least 2 times a year or as often as the state and federal officials deem necessary by an approved veterinarian or technician without expense to the owner, and reported to the department of agriculture.

All calves shall be vaccinated between the ages of 4 to 8 months. Such vaccinations may be taken care of at the owner's discretion when a state or federal veterinarian is on the premises in connection with this program. Calves not so vaccinated should be vaccinated at the proper age at the expense of the owner. All replacements shall be properly vaccinated and under 6 years of age.

All reactors in this herd must be tagged and branded. If the reactor tag is lost, the division of animal industry must be notified so that the tag can be replaced.

This reactor herd is under official quarantine and must be satisfactorily and carefully managed so that it will in no way menace human health or the health of other herds and must be conspicuously posted on the outside of the barn and milk room with at least 2 signs supplied by the department.

No milk or milk products shall be distributed from this herd unless it is properly pasteurized at the farm or at the milk plant where it is sold.

The owner is personally responsible for keeping the cattle in this "C" Plan herd away from all physical contact with the other cattle and is required to construct a double fence 6 feet apart where the pasture of this reactor herd is adjacent to a pasture harboring cattle of another herd.

The owner is held accountable for all animals in this herd. The chief of the division of animal industry must be notified of the owner's intention to sell or remove any animals from the herd except veal calves for immediate slaughter. No reactor animals can be removed from the herd except for immediate slaughter and their slaughter must be witnessed and reported by a state or federal official or other authorized agent.

No other cattle shall be removed from the premises without special written permission from the chief of the division of animal industry.

No indemnity shall be paid for reactors in this herd until all reactors have been properly removed at the owner's expense, and the herd has received a clean test 60 days after their removal. The owner can then apply for a new agreement under Plan B.

The owner shall continue with this plan or one of the other official plans as is satisfactory to the department of agriculture and the United States bureau of animal industry until Bang's disease has been controlled in his herd. If the owner does not so continue, the department of agriculture or its duly authorized agent is authorized to remove and cause to be slaughtered the reactor animals without payment of the indemnity.

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 27, § 74, amended. Section 74 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:

'The indemnities provided by this section shall be paid only until June 30, 1950, after which time they shall be paid only for officially vaccinated reactor animals over 3 years of age.'