

Cattle Fever Tick Inspection, Treatment, and Movement Requirements

Native and Exotic Wildlife on Quarantined, Infested, Exposed, Adjacent, or Checked Premises

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have confirmed the presence of cattle fever ticks, capable of carrying *Babesia sp.* or cattle fever, on premises located outside of the permanent quarantine zone. In order to protect land, premises, and animals from fever ticks, the TAHC has restricted movement of nilgai antelope, white-tailed deer, and other free-ranging wildlife and exotic animals that are capable of hosting fever ticks in certain areas of Texas.¹

Landowners, lessees, or other individuals who plan to move, harvest or capture animals capable of hosting fever ticks that are located on a quarantine infested, exposed, adjacent, or checked premises outside of the permanent quarantine zone, must meet the following movement requirements:²

- Animals³ must be inspected and treated by a TAHC or USDA Veterinary Services (USDA-VS) representative prior to movement, disposal, or release from a premises as required by the TAHC.
- Animals must be presented by the landowner, lessee, or individual in a timely manner for a thorough inspection.
- Approved treatments include the following:
 - Live animals must be found free of ticks and sprayed with Coumaphos by a TAHC or USDA-VS representative.
 - Hides, capes, heads, and/or any other part of the animal with skin attached must be sprayed with Arkion Fly & Tick Spray or Essentria IC3 by a TAHC or USDA-VS representative, or frozen solid for at least 24 hours prior to the removal from the quarantined premises.
- A person must be issued a movement permit (Form A) by a TAHC or USDA-VS representative prior to moving an animal or animal parts, such as hides, capes, or heads from a premises.
 - The movement permit must accompany the shipment at all times.
 - Vehicles, trailers, and other equipment that have been used to transport animals from a quarantined, infested, exposed, adjacent, or checked premises must be sprayed with a TAHC-approved product by a TAHC representative.

To have live or harvested wildlife inspected, contact the TAHC or USDA. Find your county's inspection request phone number at https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/feverticks-pests/#hunters.

¹ See Texas Agriculture Code Chapters 161 and 167, and Title 4 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 41 for additional information regarding the TAHC fever tick authority and regulations.

² For information regarding the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department proof of sex requirements visit <http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/hunting/general-regulations/proof-of-sex>

³ Animal(s) as used in this document includes the live animal and all parts of the carcass of the animal unless otherwise indicated. This includes but is not limited to hide, cape, and head.

