

Dairy Cows, Adding Untested to Dairy Herd. State Veterinarian, Power to Test Dairy Cows.

There is no provision in the statutes prohibiting a dairy man from adding cattle to his herd which have not been tested prior to January 1st, 1913, but the state veterinarian has power to test such cows.

August 14, 1911.

Dr. M. E. Knowles,
State Veterinarian,
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 2nd requesting my opinion as to whether it is possible to prevent dairymen in this state from adding untested cows to their dairy herds.

In reply I will say that under the provisions of Sub-division 6, Chapter 130, Session Laws of 1911, all persons, firms, or corporations conducting a dairy in this state, shall file with the secretary of the state board of health, a certificate for each cow hereafter added to his dairy to the effect that such cow has been tuberculin tested and found to be free from tuberculosis. This act does not take effect until the first day of January, 1912.

There is no other provision in the statutes prohibiting a dairyman from adding cattle to his herd which have not been tested, but you are at liberty to test such cows at anytime and it is also the duty of any owner or custodian who has reason to suspect the existence of disease among live stock or the presence of exposed animals, to give you notice of that fact, but there is no statute prohibiting a person from adding additional dairy cattle to his herd without first having them tuberculin tested.

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,

Attorney General.