

Department to clarify regs

The Kansas Department of Agriculture is re-proposing proposed K.A.R. 9-7-4, related to Trichomoniasis testing requirement for cattle in Kansas, to clarify the types of bulls to which the intrastate testing will apply. The department originally published a notice of hearing on the proposed Trichomoniasis regulation in the Sept. 27 Kansas Register.

Trichomoniasis is a disease that results in infertility in cows and heifers. The disease can be economically devastating to affected herds and is a major concern of the Kansas cattle industry. To address the issue, the department created a working group including cattle farmers and ranchers, industry partners and veterinarians from across the state. The proposed regulation is a result of the working group's recommendations.

The proposed regulation will require any non-virgin bull, bull 10-months of age or older or bull of unknown virginity status that changes ownership in Kansas by private sale, public sale, lease, trade or barter but does not go directly to slaughter, be certified negative for Trichomoniasis. Previously, this certification was only required for bulls being imported into Kansas from other states.

The regulation is being proposed to clarify that the new intrastate testing requirements were intended to apply to bulls 10-months of age or older and bulls of unknown virginity status in addition to non-virgin bulls. The new, re-proposed regulation is available online at Kansas Department of Agriculture's website.

Kansas Department of Agriculture will host a public hearing on the proposed regulation at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 10, in the fourth floor training room of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, 109 S.W. 9th, Topeka. This hearing replaces the originally scheduled hearing that was to be held Tuesday, Nov. 27.

The department is accepting written comments on the proposed regulation until Jan. 10. All interested parties may submit written comments to the Secretary of Agriculture, 109 S.W. 9th, 4th floor, Topeka, Kan. 66612 or by email at leslei.garner@KansasDepartmentofAgriculture.ks.gov. Additionally, interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to present their views orally at the hearing. If you have any question on the Trichomoniasis regulation, please contact Dr. Bill Brown, Kansas animal health commissioner at William.Brown@KansasDepartmentofAgriculture.ks.gov or (785) 296-2326.

Collecting blood



Craig Sloan of Sharon Springs and Michael Solomon, economic development director in Goodland, gave blood at the Battle of the Badges for the Red Cross on Thursday at the Harvest Evangelical Free Church, 521 E. Hwy. 24. The Battle of the Badges is a

competition between the police, fire and ambulance to see who gives the most blood for a traveling trophy.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



Johanna Bennetts and Dr. William Bennetts of Holt, Mich. and their two sons Chase, 1, and Mark, 3.

Business band radio to go to narrow band

Farmers, fleet operators, schools and government agencies operating business band or Private Land Mobile Radio systems are facing a critical Jan. 1 deadline. By that date, the FCC has mandated that all Private Land Mobile Radio licensees operating on frequencies below 512 Mhz move to 12.5 kHz narrowband voice channels.

Nex-Tech Mobile Radio Supervisor Ryan McClung urges Private Land Mobile Radio operators to act soon, as the narrowbanding licensing process can be time consuming. "Since everyone is required to make this change, the FCC's approval process time frame continues to lengthen," he said. "Affected licensees have two choices to remain

in compliance," stated McClung. "Make the transition to narrowband technology or get a waiver from the FCC."

McClung said operators most significantly impacted by the narrowbanding mandate are those who are using older radio equipment. "Most radios purchased within the past five years will be narrowband compliant," stated McClung. "The manufacturers have known since 1997 that his date was coming and that these mandates were going into effect in 2013."

"Licensees should be prepared for enforcement consequences if they do not meet their obligations or secure a waiver," warned McClung.

Nex-Tech Mobile Radio will provide free narrowband walk throughs for all customers, law enforcement agencies and schools, and will provide them with a current list of radios they have, indicate which radios are compliant or non-compliant, and provide them a solution to become narrowband compliant by the 2013 deadline."

With the narrowbanding deadline less than three months away, McClung encourages all Private Land Mobile Radio operators to visit www.nex-tech.com/narrowbanding or to call Nex-Tech Mobile Radio toll free at (800) 542-1315 for more information.

Family heads to Bolivia

Dr. William Bennetts, formerly of Goodland and his wife, Johanna will be spending nine months in Bolivia including Christmas.

He has been working as a chiropractor in Holt, Mich., for the past five years. He saw a plea from a career missionary Dr. Heather Mickelson in the Christin Chiropractic Association. Mickelson had been in Bolivia for 12 years and needed a year of furlough to come back to the U.S. She was concerned for the kids in the orphanages that she worked

with would not receive adequate care while she was gone. Mickelson asked for other chiropractors to take her place for all, or part of the time she was gone.

The plea tugged at the heart of Dr. Bennetts. He had been in Bolivia for a short time while he was in graduate school at Palmer College of Chiropractic and it was a memorable experience.

Johanna was not enthused about going as her husband as they had two small children, Mark, 3, and Chase,

1. A series of events convinced the couple that they should go.

Dr. Bennetts will be providing chiropractic care and spiritual support to the children in many children's homes in Dr. Michelson's absence and will also be providing free clinics in small churches in impoverished areas of Santa Cruz.

For more information about their trip visit www.SouthAmericaMission.org or follow their adventure on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BennettsinBolivia.

corrections

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