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Wisconsin. Live Stock Sanitary Board
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Wisconsin Live Stock Sanitary Board.

Circular No. 3.

GLANDERS IN WISCONSIN, AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE TRANSPORTATION
OF WESTERN HORSES.

State Historical Society
OF WISCONSIN
MADISON - WIS.

Wisconsin Live Stock Sanitary Board

GEORGE MCKERROW, *President.*

JOHN M. TRUE, *Secretary.*

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

E. D. ROBERTS, *State Veterinarian, Janesville.*

H. L. RUSSELL, *Madison.*

GEO. WYLIE, *Leeds.*

S. D. HUBBARD, *Mondovi.*

GEO. MCKERROW, *Sussex.*

The Live Stock Sanitary Board was organized July 1st, 1901, in pursuance with an act of the Legislature, published May 22d, 1901, and incorporated in the Laws of Wisconsin of 1901 as Chapter 440. This board is charged with the protection of the health of the stock interests of the state, with the investigation of contagious diseases of animals and all other matters relating to animal sanitation.

GLANDERS IN WISCONSIN, AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION OF WESTERN HORSES.

INTRODUCTION.

The disease of glanders is one which is known to be very contagious and practically incurable. Hence, its distribution in the state is a matter of much importance to our stock interests. In the latter phases of the acute type of the disease, the malady can be quite easily recognized by the nasal discharges, but in the earlier stages, and more particularly where the disease is present in the chronic form, positive diagnosis is by no means so easy.

The disease is one which has been recognized in recent years throughout the state in many portions, but the course which has been followed has held it fairly well in check. For a number of years it has been the practice of the State Veterinarian to kill all animals that showed any evident symptoms of glanders, the State granting a partial compensation for such animals in order to assist in its eradication.

With the reorganization of the veterinary service of the State under the new law establishing a Live Stock Sanitary Board, this Board has taken up the subject of glanders with the view of determining, if possible, the origin of the various cases that come under its observation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISEASE DUE TO WESTERN HORSES.

The highly contagious nature of the malady usually renders it possible to trace infection from one animal to another and so establish its source. During the past year E. D. Roberts,

the State Veterinarian, has secured considerable data with reference to this question and the conclusion is very evident that by far the larger proportion of cases of glanders found in the state during the past year have been traced directly or indirectly to infection from western branded horses (bronchos) that have been imported from the ranges. A considerable number of the glandered cases were found in horses of this character, and in a large number of other instances the original source of infection has been traced directly to such stock.

Thus it has been shown in many instances that not only are such horses themselves diseased, and therefore worthless, but what is even more serious, that they are the means of spreading this violently contagious disease to other stock. The conclusion which has been reached by this Board is that it is necessary to protect our stock by taking greater care in regard to the condition of such horses that are brought into our state. These animals are generally imported in car lots and it often happens that many of them may be exposed to glanders from a single case or so during transportation. These are distributed from town to town, often over a wide range of country, and frequently may show at the time no symptoms of infection. The disease, however, may break out later, and so numerous points of infection may thus arise.

EXAMINATION OF IMPORTED HORSES.

The disease of glanders is one which can be readily diagnosed by the application of what is known as the mallein test, which is to glanders what the tuberculin test is to tuberculosis in cattle. But it is manifestly impossible to apply such a test to these relatively wild horses and it is therefore necessary to rely on the ordinary methods of physical examination.

The Live Stock Sanitary Board, in accordance with law, and by and with the consent and approval of the Governor, has therefore decided that from the date of publication of these regula-

tions it will require certificates of inspection to be presented with all western branded horses that are brought into the state. This certificate must show that all such animals have been carefully examined by some reputable qualified veterinary surgeon at the last loading place before coming into the state and that the same are free from all evidence of contagious disease, such as glanders or farcy, infectious mange, or other maladies of a malignant contagious nature.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE IMPORTATION
INTO WISCONSIN OF BRANDED WESTERN
HORSES.

First. No person or persons shall ship or bring into the state of Wisconsin branded western horses unless the same are accompanied by a certificate of inspection made by a duly qualified veterinary surgeon who is a graduate of a veterinary college. This inspection must be done at the last loading place before entering the state, except in the case where animals are driven into the state, when an examination must be made at the first stopping place within the state.

Second. The inspector shall fill out a certificate in duplicate, one to be given to the shipper and the other to be forwarded immediately to the Secretary of this Board, Madison, Wis. Said certificate shall state that said inspector has carefully examined all animals for glanders or farcy, infectious mange, or any other disease of a contagious malignant character, and has found the same to be entirely free from any or all such diseases. The certificate shall further state the number of car or cars, initial letters of the railroad company owning the car, number of horses in each car, the name of the shipper and the destination of the car or cars, and shall be duly signed by such inspector and certified to before a notary or a justice of the peace by the person making such inspection.

The compensation for such services shall be paid by the owner.

Third. In case any contagious disease is found among any horses thus examined at point of destination within the state, it shall be the duty of the inspector to notify the local health officer, and also the local veterinarian as to the extent of such disease. The local health officer shall immediately quarantine all yards containing such affected or exposed animals, holding them subject to the usual method of disposal followed by this Board,

The expense of the veterinarian's examination, and in case of quarantine of stock and disinfection of infected yards is necessary, all such expense must be borne by the owner of such stock. According to section 5, chapter 440 of the Wisconsin statutes, no compensation is given for any such imported animals that are killed under the direction of this Board.

Fifth. In case horses are shipped through the state to points beyond and are not unloaded in this state, it shall not be necessary to make such examination as above stated; but transportation companies are hereby notified that such stock should not be accepted for shipment unless the bill of lading for such stock is made out for some point beyond the limits and jurisdiction of the state.

Sixth. These regulations shall be in force after publication.

Adopted by the State Live Stock Sanitary Board May 23, 1902.

Approved.

ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE,
Governor.