

Brucella ovis Free Flock Certification

Many states, including North Dakota, require rams to test negative to *B. ovis* prior to importation. In lieu of testing, states may recognize *B. ovis* Free Flock Certification. To become a certified flock, all mature rams must test negative twice initially, and then annually thereafter. When submitting samples to the laboratory, veterinarians should indicate "for flock certification" on the submission form. The Animal Health Division will issue a *B. ovis* Free Flock card to the producer within 10 days of receiving the test chart, provided the results indicate it is for Free Flock status. If a producer has not received their card within two weeks of testing, they should contact the office.

NDAC 48.1-11-01-04.2

Flocks may be tested to obtain *Brucella ovis* negative flock status. To qualify a flock as a negative *Brucella ovis* status flock, two negative tests for *Brucella ovis* must have been administered, forty-five to sixty days apart, during the same year, to all rams one year of age or older, and thereafter a yearly negative test must have been administered to all rams in the flock one year of age or older.