



# The National Agricultural Law Center

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States' Animal Identification Statutes:

*Montana*



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# A National Agricultural Law Center Research Publication

## States' Animal Identification Statutes: Montana

### Mont. Code Tit. 81, Ch. 3

*Current through the end of the 2023 Session of the Montana Legislature.*

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-101. Recorder of marks and brands.**

The department of livestock is the general recorder of marks and brands.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-102. Recording of brands required – alternative livestock to be marked – limit.**

- (1) It is unlawful for a person to artificially brand, mark, or cause to be artificially branded or marked any domestic animal or livestock running at large on the public domain or open range or that may run or stray at large on the public domain or open range, unless the artificial brand or mark has been recorded or rerecorded with the department in the name of the person within the period of 10 years immediately preceding the branding or marking.
- (2) Alternative livestock, as defined in 87-4-406, must be identified by use of a recorded whole herd mark or brand in compliance with the requirements of Title 87, chapter 4, and this chapter.
- (3) No more than five brands may be recorded or rerecorded by one person.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-103. Application for recording – record of brands.**

- (1) A person desiring to have recorded an artificial mark or brand for use in distinguishing or identifying the ownership of any domestic animal or livestock shall make application for the mark or brand to the department. The application must be in writing and must contain the name, residence, and post-office address of the applicant and the species of the animals on which the mark or brand is to be used. An applicant may apply for a seasonal mark or brand that is designated for use only for a specific period of time and that is subject to renewal upon termination of that period.
- (2) The department shall designate for the applicant's use some practical form of mark or brand distinguishable with reasonable certainty from all other marks and brands recorded or rerecorded, within the period of 10 years immediately preceding the time of filing the application, in the name of



some person other than the applicant. The department shall designate the position on the animals where the mark or brand must be placed and the species of animals on which the mark or brand may be used.

(3) The board may review applications that contain characters or images within a proposed mark or brand that is not currently recorded with the department.

(4) The department shall record each particular mark or brand, the position on the animals where the mark or brand is to be used, the species of animals on which the mark or brand is to be used, and the date of recording. The record is a public record and is prima facie evidence of the facts recorded in it.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-104. Designation of years for rerecording brands.**

Each 10th year after 1921 is the year for rerecording artificial marks and brands used to distinguish and identify the ownership of domestic animals and livestock. Subject to the provisions of 81-3-102(3), the department shall, on the application of a person or the transferee of the person made in a year that is a year for rerecording marks and brands, rerecord a mark or brand that at the time of the application is recorded with the department in the name of the person. A mark or brand that was not originally recorded or rerecorded in the name of the person during the rerecording year last preceding the date when the application is filed or that was not originally recorded in the name of the person or the person's predecessor or predecessors in interest between the time of the application and the rerecording year last preceding the application is not of record in the department.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-105. Right of owner of recorded brand.**

A person in whose name a mark or brand is recorded is entitled to the exclusive use of the mark or brand on the species of animal and in the position designated in the record. A copy of the record certified by the department is prima facie evidence of this right, and the certificate is also prima facie evidence that the person entitled to use the mark or brand is the owner of all animals on which it appears in the position and on the species of animal stated in the certificate.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-106. Publication of notice of rerecording brands.**

Between January 1 and June 30 in each rerecording year, the department shall publish, in at least one issue of at least one newspaper of general circulation in each county of this state in which a newspaper is published, a notice to the effect that the year is a year for rerecording marks and brands and that no mark or brand continues of record unless rerecorded. The department shall also mail to each person in whose name a mark or brand stands of record a similar notice addressed to the person at the person's post-office address as shown by the records in the department.



### **Mont. Code § 81-3-107. Fees for department – deposit requirements.**

(1) The department shall establish, charge, and collect a fee for recording a new mark or brand, for recording a mark or brand transfer, or for rerecording a mark or brand. The department shall establish and charge a fee for providing a certified copy of a record and a duplicate certificate. The department may upon request research mark or brand histories and may charge a fee of up to \$50 for each mark or brand, based on time involved in research. All fees collected must be paid into the state special revenue fund for the use of the department. However, not more than 10% of the net rerecording fees after all expenses of rerecording are paid may be expended in any 1 year except in case of an emergency declared by the governor or the board.

(2) Money collected as fees under subsection (1) is subject to the deposit requirements of 17-6-105(6) unless the department has submitted and received approval for a modified deposit schedule pursuant to 17-6-105(8).

### **Mont. Code § 81-3-108. Penalty.**

A person violating any provision of this part is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or be imprisoned in the county jail for a term not to exceed 1 year, or both.

### **Mont. Code § 81-3-201. Definitions.**

Unless the context requires otherwise, in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Deputy state stock inspector" means a person designated by the department as a deputy state stock inspector who does not receive a salary or compensation from the department.
- (2) "Feedlot" means a confined livestock feeding operation where the owner or operator of the feedlot feeds livestock belonging to others for a fee.
- (3) "Livestock" means a bovine animal, domestic bison, horse, mule, or ass, regardless of its age or sex.
- (4) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, firm, or entity not enumerated that is capable of owning or controlling livestock.
- (5) "Specially qualified deputy stock inspector" means a deputy state stock inspector who has been certified by the department, under rules adopted pursuant to 81-3-202, as qualified to conduct an inspection for a permanent transportation permit for a saddle, work, or show horse.
- (6) "State stock inspector" means an employee of the department of livestock designated by the department as a state stock inspector.



## **Mont. Code § 81-3-202. Rules.**

The department may adopt rules necessary to carry out this part.

## **Mont. Code § 81-3-203. Duties of state stock inspectors and deputy stock inspectors.**

(1) State stock inspectors and deputy state stock inspectors, upon the application of the owner or the authorized agent of the owner of livestock, shall inspect livestock that are intended for sale, removal, shipment, or slaughter at a licensed slaughter plant and issue a certificate of inspection for the livestock if it appears with reasonable certainty that the applicant is the owner of the livestock or has the lawful right to possess the livestock.

(2) The inspection must include an examination of the livestock and all marks and brands on the livestock to identify ownership of the livestock. The certificate of inspection must specify the date of inspection, the place of origin and place of destination of the shipment, the name and address of the owner of the livestock or of the applicant for inspection and the purchaser or transferee, if applicable, the class of the animal, the marks and brands, if any, on the animal, and any other information on the certificate that the department may require. A copy of the certificate must be retained by the inspector, a copy must be furnished by the inspector to the owner or shipper of the livestock, and a copy must be filed by the inspector with the department within 5 days.

(3) If it appears with reasonable certainty that the applicant is the owner of the livestock or has the lawful right to possess the livestock, the state stock inspectors or deputy state stock inspectors, upon application of an owner or the owner's agent of the livestock to be consigned and delivered directly to a licensed livestock market or licensed livestock slaughterhouse located in another county of the state or delivered directly to a shipping point approved by the department where a livestock inspector is available for inspection in an adjoining county, shall issue to the person a separate market consignment permit or transportation permit for each owner when the owner or owners or their authorized agents sign the permit certifying the brands, description, and destination of the livestock. The market consignment permit or transportation permit must specify the date and time issued, the place of origin and place of destination of the shipment, the name and address of the owner of the livestock and the name and address of the person actually transporting the livestock if different from the owner, the kind of livestock, the marks and brands, if any, on the livestock, a description of the vehicle or vehicles to be used to transport the livestock, including the license number of the vehicles, and any other information on the permit that the department may require. A permit issued is good for shipment within 36 hours from the date and time of



issue. However, permits not used within this time limitation must be returned to the issuing officer to be canceled and to release the permittee from performance. A copy of the permit must be retained by the inspector, a copy must be filed by the inspector with the department within 5 days of the date of issue, and a copy must be furnished by the inspector to the owner or shipper of the livestock. The owner's or shipper's copy of the permit must accompany the shipment and be delivered to the state stock inspector at the livestock market or shipping point where the livestock are delivered.

(4) Upon application of an owner or the owner's agent, when it appears with reasonable certainty that the applicant is the owner of the livestock or has lawful right to possess the livestock, a state stock inspector shall issue a transportation permit that will allow the movement of the livestock for purposes of grazing. The transportation permit must state the breed, description, marks and brands, if any, head count, and description of land to and from which the livestock will be moved. The permit is valid as provided in and subject to 81-3-211(6)(e). A state stock inspector may enter the premises where livestock have been transported and inspect any livestock moved under the transportation permit or any livestock commingled with the transported livestock.

(5) A person transporting strays or livestock not lawfully under that person's control is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable as provided in 81-3-231.

#### **Mont. Code § 81-3-204. Seizure of livestock – retention of livestock – sale – disposal of proceeds.**

(1) All state stock inspectors inspecting any livestock before or after shipment or removal from any county in this state, upon a change of ownership, or at the preslaughter inspection at a licensed slaughterhouse may inspect and seize either at the point of sale, shipment, destination, or slaughter or en route any livestock or proceeds from livestock that the inspector believes are stolen or upon which brands have been altered or obliterated or that does not conform to the description contained on the tally sheet furnished by the shipper or to the description contained in any certificate of inspection or release issued before shipment or removal of the livestock.

(2) Upon taking possession of livestock under this section, a state stock inspector may retain the livestock in the inspector's possession for 15 days to make further investigation relative to its ownership. A state stock inspector may either at once or at any time within 15 days sell the livestock at a licensed livestock market or in the open market for the best available price and remit the proceeds, less the cost of keeping and sale, to the department together with a full description of the livestock sold, giving marks and brands, if



any, and a statement of the reason for the seizure and sale. The proceeds must be deposited by the department with the state treasurer and credited to the department fund, where it is subject to claim by the owner of the livestock in the same manner and for the same length of time as is provided by law for the making of claims for moneys arising from the sale of stray stock.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-205. Fees for inspection and livestock transportation permits.**

(1) For the service of inspection of all livestock except horses, mules, or asses before removal from a county or before change of ownership, the inspector making the inspections must receive a fee established by the department for each head inspected. For the issuance of a market consignment permit or transportation permit, other than a permanent permit, before removal from a county for all livestock, the inspector issuing the permits must receive a fee established by the department for each permit issued and must receive in addition the inspector's necessary actual expenses, to be paid by the owner or the person for whom the inspection is made or permit issued. For the issuance of a permanent horse transportation permit, the state stock inspector taking the application for permit shall receive a fee established by the department for each permit issued. All inspection and permit fees and expenses must be collected by the inspector at the time of inspection or issuance of permit, all the fees and expenses collected by a deputy state stock inspector must be retained by the deputy, and all fees and expenses collected by a state stock inspector must be sent by the inspector to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department.

(2) For the service of inspection before any livestock except a horse, mule, or ass is sold or offered for sale at a licensed livestock market or slaughtered at a licensed slaughterhouse, a state stock inspector or deputy state stock inspector making the inspection must receive a fee established by the department for each head inspected. All fees must be paid by the owner or by the person for whom the inspection is made. For releasing an animal so that it may be removed from the premises of a licensed livestock market, the state stock inspector making the release must receive a fee established by the department for each head inspected from the owner or the person for whom the release is made. All fees for inspection and release at the market must be collected at the time the inspection or release is made by the state stock inspector making the inspection or release and must be sent by the inspector to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department. All fees for preslaughter inspection made at a licensed slaughterhouse by the state stock inspector must be paid to the



department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department. Preslaughter inspection fees paid to a deputy state stock inspector must be retained by the deputy.

(3)

(a) For the service of inspection of horses, mules, or asses before removal from a county or before change of ownership, the inspector making the inspection must receive a fee established by the department for each head inspected and must receive in addition the inspector's necessary actual expenses, to be paid by the owner or the person for whom the inspection is made. All fees and expenses collected by a state stock inspector must be sent by the inspector to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department.

(b) For the service of inspection before a horse, mule, or ass is sold or offered for sale at a licensed livestock market, a state stock inspector making the inspection must receive a fee established by the department for each head inspected. All fees must be paid by the owner or the person for whom the inspection is made to the state stock inspector.

(4) All inspection and release fees and expenses must be paid to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department unless paid to a deputy state stock inspector. State stock inspectors must be paid for their services and receive their expenses as fixed by the department.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-206. Commissioners to designate places for loading livestock for inspection.**

The board of county commissioners must, at the request of the department, designate within their respective counties certain convenient places and provide suitable facilities for unloading and loading of livestock for inspection purposes.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-207 through 81-3-209 – Reserved.**

**Mont. Code § 81-3-210. Bill of sale required to prove ownership.**

(1) A bill of sale signed by the seller and adequately describing the livestock sold must be presented to the livestock inspector whenever the change of ownership inspection required by 81-3-211 is made or whenever a buyer of livestock requests a county-line or state-line inspection for livestock. The bill of sale shall be in a form prescribed by the department and shall be taken up by the department with the certificate of inspection acting as a receipt.





(2) The department shall establish, charge, and receive a fee for each copy of a bill of sale requested after the original bill of sale has been taken up. Fees so received shall be paid to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-211. Inspection of livestock before change of ownership or removal from county – transportation permits.**

(1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Family business entity" means:

(i) a corporation whose stock is owned solely by members of the same family;

(ii) a partnership in which the partners are all members of the same family;

(iii) an association whose members are all members of the same family; or

(iv) any other entity owned solely by members of the same family.

(b) "Members of the same family" means a group whose membership is determined by including an individual, the individual's spouse, and the individual's parents, children, and grandchildren, and the spouses of each.

(c) "Rodeo producer" means a person who produces or furnishes livestock that are used for rodeo purposes.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this part, it is unlawful to remove or cause to be removed from a county in this state any livestock or to transfer ownership by sale or otherwise or for an intended purchaser or a purchaser's agent to take possession of any livestock subject to title passing upon meeting or satisfaction of any conditions, unless the livestock have been inspected for brands by a state stock inspector or deputy state stock inspector and a certificate of the inspection has been issued in connection with and for the purpose of the transportation or removal or of the change of ownership as provided in this part. The inspection must be made in daylight. However, the change of ownership inspection requirements of this subsection do not apply when the change of ownership transaction is accomplished without the livestock changing premises, involves part of a herd to which livestock have not been added other than by natural increase or after brand inspection, and is between:

(a) members of the same family;



- (b) a member of one family and the same family's business entity; or
- (c) the same family's business entities.

(3)

(a) It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale at a livestock market any livestock originating within any county in this state in which a livestock market is maintained or transported under a market consignment permit until the livestock have been inspected for marks and brands by a state stock inspector, as provided in this part.

(b) It is unlawful to slaughter livestock at a licensed livestock slaughterhouse unless the livestock have been inspected for marks or brands by a state or deputy state stock inspector.

(4) It is unlawful to remove or cause to be removed any livestock from the premises of a livestock market in this state unless the livestock have been released by a state stock inspector and a certificate of release for the livestock has been issued in connection with and for the purpose of the removal from the premises of the livestock market. The release obtained pursuant to this subsection permits the movement of the released livestock directly to the destination shown on the certificate.

(5) The person in charge of livestock being removed from a county in this state, when inspection is required by this section, when a change of ownership has occurred, or when moved under a market consignment permit or a market release certificate, must have in the person's possession the certificate of inspection, market consignment permit, transportation permit, or market release certificate and shall exhibit the certificate to any sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, highway patrol officer, state stock inspector, or deputy state stock inspector upon request. Section 81-3-204 must be extended to livestock transported or sold under the permits.

(6) The following transportation permits may be issued:

(a) If a saddle, work, or show horse is being transported from county to county in this state by the owner for the owner's personal use or business or if cattle are being transported from county to county in this state by their owner for show purposes and there is no change of ownership, the inspection certificate required by this section may be endorsed, as to the purpose and extent of transportation, by the inspector issuing the certificate in order to serve as a travel permit in this state for a period not to exceed 1 year for the horse or cattle described in the certificate. The permit becomes void upon any



transfer of ownership or if the horse or cattle are to be removed from the state. If the permit is void, an inspection must be secured for removal and the endorsed certificate must be surrendered.

(b) The owner of a saddle, work, or show horse may apply for a permanent transportation permit valid for both interstate and intrastate transportation of the horse until there is a change of ownership. The horse must have either a registered brand that has been legally cleared or a lip tattoo or the owner is required to present proof of ownership to a state stock inspector or a specially qualified deputy stock inspector. A written application, on forms to be provided by the department, must be completed by the owner and presented to a state stock inspector or a specially qualified deputy stock inspector, together with a permit fee established by the department, for each horse. The application must contain a thorough physical description of the horse and list all brands and tattoos carried by the horse. Upon approval of the application by a state stock inspector, a permanent transportation permit must be issued by the department to the owner for each horse, and the permit is valid for the life of the horse. If there is a change in ownership of a horse, the permit automatically is void. The permit must accompany the horse for which it was issued at all times while the horse is in transit. This permit is in lieu of other permits and certificates required under the provisions of this section. The state of Montana shall recognize as valid permanent transportation permits issued in other jurisdictions to the owner of a saddle, work, or show horse subsequently entering the state. A permit is automatically void upon a change of ownership.

(c) When livestock owned by and bearing the registered brand of a bona fide rodeo producer are being transported from county to county in this state by the owner for rodeo purposes and there is no change of ownership, the inspection certificate required by this section may be endorsed, as to the purpose and extent of transportation, by the inspector issuing the certificate in order to serve as a travel permit in this state for the livestock described in the certificate. The certificate is effective for the calendar year for which it is issued. The certificate must be issued by a state stock inspector.

(d) The owner of a bull bearing the registered brand of a bona fide rodeo producer may apply for a permanent transportation permit valid for both interstate and intrastate transportation of the bull until there is a change of ownership. The bull must have a registered brand that has been legally cleared and a legible number brand on the shoulder or hip used for individual identification, or the owner is required to present proof



of ownership to a state stock inspector or a specially qualified deputy stock inspector. A written application, on forms to be provided by the department, must be completed by the owner and presented to a state stock inspector or a specially qualified deputy stock inspector, together with a permit fee established by the department, for each bull. The application must contain a thorough physical description of the bull and list all brands and tattoos carried by the bull. Upon approval of the application by a state stock inspector, a permanent transportation permit must be issued by the department to the owner for each bull, and the permit is valid for the life of the bull. If there is a change in ownership of a bull, the permit automatically is void. The permit must accompany the bull for which it was issued at all times while the bull is in transit. This permit is in lieu of other permits and certificates required under the provisions of this section. The state of Montana shall recognize as valid permanent transportation permits issued in other jurisdictions to the owner of a rodeo bull subsequently entering the state. A permit is automatically void upon a change of ownership.

(e)

(i) An owner of livestock or the owner's agent may be issued one transportation permit in a 12-month period allowing the movement of the livestock and return when the livestock are being moved for grazing purposes and when they are being moved to and from land owned or controlled by the owner of the livestock or the owner's agent:

(A) into an adjoining county; or

(B) across multiple county lines if the entire grazing range is the privately deeded property of the livestock owner.

(ii) The permit is valid for a period of 8 months from the date of issuance and must be issued by a state stock inspector.

(iii) The permit may be issued only if the livestock are branded with the permittee's brand, which must be registered in Montana, unless the animal is classified as a virgin breeding female or a nursing calf.

(iv) The department shall establish a fee for the permit, to be paid to the state stock inspector at the time the permit is issued and remitted by the inspector to the department for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the state special revenue fund for the use of the department. This permit may be used in



lieu of the inspection and certificate required by this section for movement of livestock across a county line.

(7) Before any removal or change of ownership may take place, the seller of livestock shall request all required inspections and shall pay the required fees.

### **Mont. Code § 81-3-212. Exceptions.**

Section 81-3-211 does not apply to livestock:

- (1) being transported through the state in interstate commerce without leaving the custody of the carrier;
- (2) when driven on the hoof and not moved by means of any motor vehicle, trailer, horse-drawn vehicle, or boat by the owner from one county to an adjoining county within the state onto land owned or controlled by the owner of livestock so moved for the purpose of pasturing, feeding, or changing the range thereof;
- (3) when driven on the hoof or moved by means of a motor vehicle, trailer, horse-drawn vehicle, or boat by the owner from one county to an adjoining county within this state onto land owned or controlled by the owner of livestock without leaving land owned or controlled by the owner when moved for the purpose of pasturing, feeding, or changing the range thereof;
- (4) when driven on the hoof from one county to an adjoining county within this state for the purpose of delivery to a licensed public market by a person who has been the owner of that livestock for a period of at least 3 months;
- (5) from one county to be consigned to, and which actually reaches, a licensed livestock market located in another county of the state at which the department regularly maintains a stock inspector and for which a market consignment permit has been obtained in a manner provided by law;
- (6) being transported to a veterinarian for health treatment and returned to their original premises if certification of treatment by the attending veterinarian accompanies the livestock on their return.

### **Mont. Code § 81-3-213. Inspection of livestock removed from state.**

Except as provided for in 81-3-212(1) and 81-3-211(4) and (6)(b), nothing contained in this part authorizes or permits a person to remove or cause to be removed livestock from this state to a location outside of this state unless the livestock has been inspected for brands by a state stock inspector or deputy state stock inspector and a certificate for the inspection has been issued in connection with and for the purpose of the transportation or removal as provided in this part.



**Mont. Code § 81-3-214. [Repealed].**

**Mont. Code § 81-3-215. Inspection of dead animals in feedlots.**

When a stock animal dies in a feedlot, the feedlot operator shall notify the board of livestock or its representative of the death. The operator may not dispose of the carcass until a livestock inspector has observed it and determined the brand of the owner of the animal. A livestock inspector observing a dead stock animal pursuant to this section shall, within 48 hours, send written notification to the owner of the animal.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-216. [Repealed].**

**Mont. Code § 81-3-217 through 81-3-220 – Reserved.**

**Mont. Code § 81-3-221. Brands fraudulently changed.**

Whenever a mark or brand upon any neat cattle, horse, or other animal has been fraudulently altered, obliterated, or defaced so that the original mark or brand cannot be determined through the external inspection thereof, any stock inspector or sheriff may seize and kill the animal to ascertain the mark or brand so altered or defaced. Payment equal to the fair market value of the live animal shall be made after proper ownership is determined.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-222. Compensation for animals killed.**

The value of the animal taken and killed shall be determined by three disinterested parties living in the vicinity where the animal is seized. The amount of money awarded to the owner is full compensation for the loss of the animal. All money disbursed under this section shall be paid out of the department's funds in the state special revenue fund, and whenever possible the dead bodies of the animals killed shall be disposed of for cash and the proceeds turned into the fund.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-223. Action by dissatisfied owner – costs.**

If the owner of the animal seized and killed under this part is dissatisfied with the valuation made, the owner may maintain an action against the department or, if the animal is seized by a sheriff, against that sheriff's county, and if the owner fails to recover damages in any greater amount than that allowed under 81-3-222, the owner shall bear all costs that may be incurred in the maintenance of the action.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-224 through 81-3-230 – Reserved.**

**Mont. Code § 81-3-231. Penalties.**



(1) A person is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable as provided in subsection (5) if the person removes livestock or causes livestock to be removed from a county in this state:

(a) without having the livestock inspected before removal if an inspection is required by law;

(b) without obtaining a market consignment permit or transportation permit if the permits are required by law;

(c) after obtaining a market consignment permit for livestock but does not deliver the livestock transported under the permit to the livestock market designated in the market consignment permit;

(d) after obtaining a transportation permit for the livestock but does not deliver the livestock transported under the permit to the destination as shown on the transportation permit and fails to have the transported livestock inspected at the point of destination.

(2) A person who sells livestock or offers livestock for sale at a livestock market without having the livestock inspected or who removes livestock or causes livestock to be removed from a livestock market without obtaining a release is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable as provided in subsection (5).

(3) A person who has charge of livestock being removed from a county in the state for which an inspection certificate, a market consignment permit, a transportation permit, or a market release certificate has been issued and who fails to have in the person's possession when accompanying the livestock the inspection certificate, market consignment permit, transportation permit, or market release certificate as issued for the livestock or who, having the certificate of inspection, market consignment permit, transportation permit, or market release certificate, fails to exhibit it to a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, highway patrol officer, state stock inspector, or deputy state stock inspector upon request is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable as provided in subsection (5).

(4) Except as specifically otherwise provided, a person violating any of the provisions of this part is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable as provided in subsection (5).

(5) Upon conviction under this section, a person, firm, association, or corporation shall be fined not less than \$50 or more than \$500 or imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not more than 6 months, or both. Of all fines assessed and collected under this section, except those assessed and collected in a justice's court, 50% must be paid into the state treasury



and credited to the state special revenue fund for the use of the department and 50% must be paid into the general fund of the county in which the conviction occurred.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-232. Penalty for noninspection of dead animal in feedlot.**

A feedlot operator who violates 81-3-215 is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than 6 months or a fine of not more than \$500, or both.

**Mont. Code § 81-3-233. Penalty for removal of livestock from state without inspection – exception.**

A person, other than the owner or the owner's agent or employee, who, without consent of the owner, removes or causes to be removed from this state any cow, ox, bull, stag, calf, steer, heifer, horse, mule, mare, colt, foal, or filly without having the animal inspected when inspection is required by law is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000, by imprisonment in the state prison for a term of not more than 3 years, or by both. The provisions of this section do not apply to a person who removes from this state an animal specified by this section for the purpose of obtaining emergency treatment for the animal by a licensed veterinarian.

