

BRAND INSPECTION PROGRAM



UTAH DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

MAY 2021

BRAND INSPECTION PROGRAM

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Brand Inspection Program is a critical asset to Utah's livestock industry, the state's largest agricultural sector. The mission of this program is to provide cost-efficient, timely, and courteous service to the members of the state's livestock industry.

Brand inspections are required any time livestock change ownership, go to harvest, or leave the state. Additionally, livestock that forage on open range must be branded with a recorded brand.

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

Protect Animal Health – brand inspectors are the eyes of the Animal Health program. They ensure compliance with animal health laws, including importation requirements and trichomoniasis testing, and protect producers from losses due to disease. They also inspect and provide inventories of all domestic elk and their movement onto, off of, and between farms and parks.

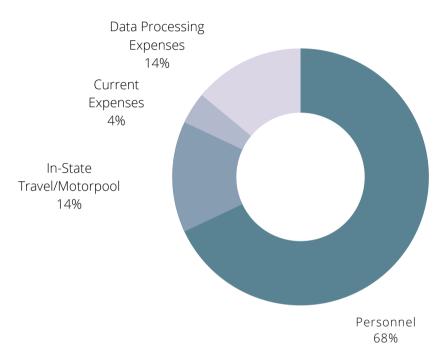
Track Livestock Movement and Ensure Disease Traceability - brand inspectors record movements inside and outside the state and are relied upon during disease outbreaks to trace infected animals and identify potentially exposed herds.

Facilitate Commerce - brand inspections protect buyers, sellers, and lenders by verifying ownership of livestock before they are sold, shipped out of state, or sent to slaughter.

Deter Theft and Facilitate the Return of Lost or Stolen Livestock - by verifying proof of ownership, brand inspectors are able to deter and prevent cattle theft. In 2020 alone, UDAF brand inspectors facilitated the return of over \$1,000,000 in stray and stolen livestock to their rightful owners.

Brand Inspection Program

General Fund Expenses (\$800,000)

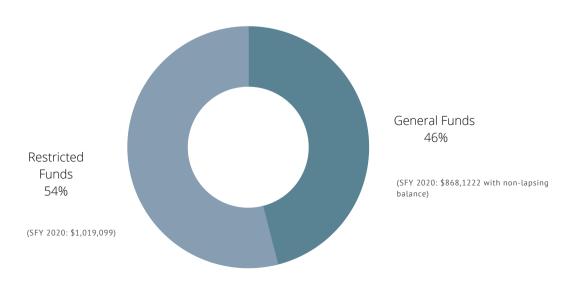


Justification for General Fund:

Brand inspectors perform essential public services beyond brand inspections.

- Protect Animal Health
- Track Livestock Movement
- Ensure Disease Tracing
- Facilitate Commerce
- Deter Theft
- Return Lost/Stolen Livestock

Expenses Breakdown





Brand Inspection Program

The Need for POST-certified Brand Inspectors

POST certification gives brand inspectors the authority to enforce Utah's livestock laws. The ability to conduct road stops on vehicles hauling livestock, checking for ownership, and health certification allows POST-certified brand inspectors to protect Utah's livestock industry from theft and disease.

POST training gives brand inspectors tools necessary for performing their duties such as:

- investigative techniques
- o communication skills
- note-taking
- report writing

POST certification also allows for better relationships between local law enforcement and district attorney offices.

Tier 1 (6 Week) POST Certification: \$0 Cost to UDAF

POST receives funding as an SFO block (special functions) to cover the entire cost of a 6-week training course for full-time brand inspectors referred by UDAF. POST is appropriated funds to cover their costs for training, estimated at \$7,000 per trainee.

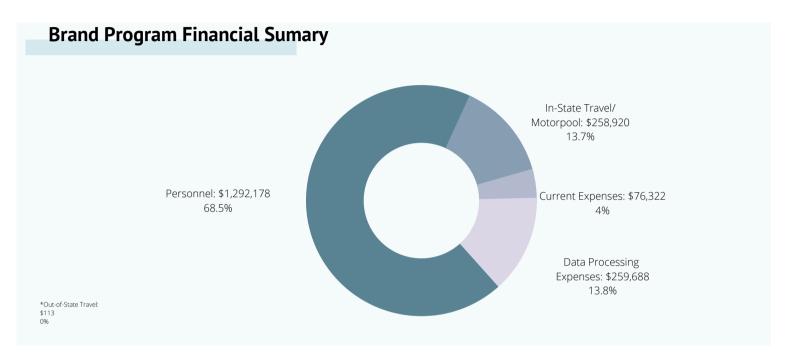
UDAF Brand Inspectors

UDAF employs 47 brand inspectors - 10 full-time and 37 part-time. Of the 10 full-time brand inspectors, 8 are POST-certified.





Brand Inspection Program



Renewal Fees as of 5/13/21

Between SFY 2020 and SFY 2021 \$2,036,908 was collected for brand renewals. Renewals are required every 5 years; funding is split between the following 5 years (SFY 2020-SFY 2024) to cover brand inspection expenses.

Potential Funding Request: Program Improvements

- \$43,000 Ongoing: hosting, maintenance, adding features for livestock brand computer system, etc.
- \$75,000 Ongoing: Consumables: ink, paper

Total Request: \$118,000

State Cell Phones

UDAF's 10 full-time brand inspectors and two part-time employees who may work 40 hours per week are equipped with state-owned cell phones. Part-time employees do not receive state-owned cell phones, nor do they receive reimbursement for personal cell phones.

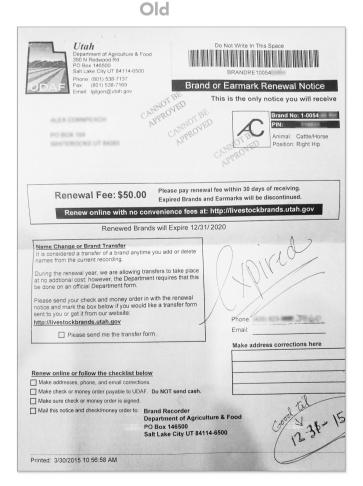


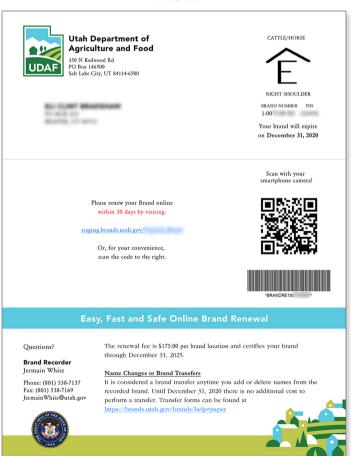
Brand Inspection Program

Program Improvement Examples:

UDAF's Brand Inspection Program has made significant strides towards improving and modernizing brand inspection, registration, and renewal systems.

In 2020, the program was recognized with the Governor's Award of Excellence for Innovation and Efficiency for these upgrades which allow UDAF to more efficiently and effectively serve producers statewide.





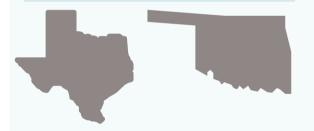
New



Brand Inspection Program

BRAND INSPECTION SYSTEMS IN OTHER STATES

Texas and Oklahoma



The TSCRA inspects approximately 4 -5 million head of livestock annually. Texas has 128 registered auction barns. Oklahoma has 51 registered auction barns and inspects approximately 2. million head of livestock.

Nebraska



Nebraska inspects approximately 3.8 million head of livestock annually and has 23 inspected sale barns..

Brands are recorded with the county clerk with a copy of the brand registration sent to the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) Special Rangers.

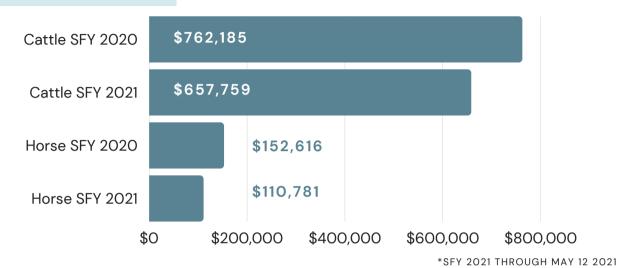
TSCRA special rangers are POST-certified officials commissioned through the Texas Department of Public Safety or the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and function as brand inspectors, law enforcement, and livestock investigators.

Nebraska is a partial brand inspection state. The Livestock Brand Act is administered by the Nebraska Brand Committee serving the role of a brand inspection program.



Brand Inspection Program

Costs to Perform Inspections:



Inspections Per Year by Type:

BEEF CATTLE

FY 2021: 390,188 FY 2020: 437,611 **DAIRY CATTLE**

FY 2021: 55,197 FY 2020: 67,343 HORSES

FY 2021: 8,103 FY 2020: 10,852

*SFY 2021 THROUGH MAY 12 2021

Costs to Producers:

CATTLE (BEEF AND DAIRY)

ALL CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND SLAUGHTER INSPECTIONS:

\$20 MINIMUM FOR 20 HEAD OR LESS \$1 PER HEAD FOR 21 HEAD AND UP

LEAVING THE STATE: GRAZING OR ONE-WAY TRAVEL

\$20 MINIMUM FOR 20 HEAD OR LESS \$1 PER HEAD FOR 21 HEAD AND UP

YEARLY TRAVEL PERMIT:

\$25 PER HEAD

*The Predator Control fee of \$.25 per head may be applied when grazing cattle leave without a commuter permit, when feedlot cattle are not charged upon entry to a feedlot, or when grazing calves are marketed out of state.

HORSES AND OTHER EQUINE

ALL CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP:

\$20 MINIMUM, UP TO 10 HEAD PER STOP \$2 PER HEAD FOR 21 HEAD AND UP

YEARLY TRAVEL PERMIT

\$25 PER HEAD

LIFETIME TRAVEL PERMIT

\$55 PER 1ST HORSE \$35 PER HEAD FOR EACH ADDITIONAL HORSE PER STOP



UDAF BRAND INSPECTION PROGRAM

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's Brand Inspection Program is here to serve you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Animal Industry Division Director Leann Hunting.

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Mobile: (385)977-2158.

