

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
Division of Animal Industry
10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235
518-457-3502

Animal Health Requirements For Admission to New York State and County Fairs (Part 351 of NYS Agriculture and Markets Regulations)

General Prohibitions and Requirements

- No person shall bring or have present an animal on the fairgrounds during a fair which is not qualified under NYS regulations.
- No person shall present an interstate or intrastate certificate of veterinary inspection that has been altered by anyone other than the issuing veterinarian or an authorized agent.
- Animals demonstrating clinical signs or other evidence of infectious, contagious or communicable diseases shall not be allowed on the fairgrounds during a fair.
- Representatives of the Commissioner may deny admission to or require removal from the fair premises, or require the segregation of any animal showing signs of or exposed to any infectious, contagious or communicable disease.

Note: The fair board of directors has the authority to reject unworthy or unsightly exhibits for reasons other than infectious, contagious or communicable disease (Part 350.10). The state veterinarian or animal health inspector will bring questionable exhibits to the attention of the fair board.

- All animals presented that originate from a location other than New York shall meet all New York State importation regulations appropriate to the species in addition to the fair animal health requirements.
- Animals that qualify for admission at one NYS sanctioned county fair shall be considered approved for admission at all other New York State fairs conducted during the same calendar year, subject to State importation requirements appropriate to the species and compliance with the rabies vaccination requirements of individual fairs, provided that the health status of the individual animal or the herd of origin does not change in the interim period. For example, if an animal reaches the minimum age for rabies vaccination during the fair season, the vaccination requirement must be met even if the animal was previously admitted to a fair when too young to vaccinate.

Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)

- Cattle, sheep, goats, swine, llamas, deer, monkeys, misc. ruminants, camels and elephants require a valid CVI to enter the fairgrounds.
- The CVI must be issued by an accredited veterinarian.
- All animals must be uniquely identified. All manmade ID must be recorded. Refer to Animal Identification section below for more information.
- The type and duration of certificate required depends on the origin of the livestock.

New York Origin Livestock:

- A valid intrastate CVI (AI 61) is required.
- Each animal must be individually identified on the CVI.
- The CVI must be issued on or after May 1 of the current year.

Out of State Origin Livestock:

- All animals entering New York State must satisfy import health and test requirements for that species and be accompanied by a valid interstate CVI.
- The interstate CVI is valid for 30 days from the date of issuance. During the fair season (July 1 through Labor Day) valid CVI's can be used multiple times for entrance into fairs. The initial entrance into a fair must be within 30 days of issuance. In order for the CVI to be used for a later fair, it must be dated and initialed by a state official noting the location of the initial fair. A change in health status or eligibility of an animal necessitates the generation of a new CVI.
- Questions regarding import requirements should be directed to the Division of Animal Industry at 518-457-3971.

Animal Identification

- Animals requiring a CVI must be uniquely identified. Acceptable forms of unique identification include official eartag, registration tattoo, electronic identification or a sketch or photograph signed by an accredited veterinarian who has inspected the individual animal.
- An eartag with a handwritten or printed number that is not unique is not acceptable.
- If electronic ID is utilized as the sole form of identification, the exhibitor is responsible for supplying a working electronic reader. If electronic ID cannot be read entry will be denied.
- Acceptable identification allows positive matching of the animal to all accompanying documents including papers with laboratory test results and vaccination statements.
- Horse sketches and descriptions should reference color pattern, hair whorls, chestnuts, scars and other markers.
- Llama and alpaca drawings must positively identify the individual animal.
- A name or a statement of color without additional distinguishing features or man made identification is not acceptable identification.
- USDA approved scrapie identification is required for all sheep and goats. See the sheep and goat sections below for more specific information.

Rabies Vaccination

- Current rabies vaccination is required for all species for which there is a USDA licensed vaccine available (cattle, horses, sheep, dog, cat, ferret) and that are 105 days or older on the date of admission to the fair.
- An animal is currently vaccinated beginning 14 days following primary (initial) vaccination continuing for the period stated in the manufacturer's instructions.

- Rabies vaccine label instructions allow vaccination as early as 84 days of age. This allows a one week window between 84 and 91 days of age (105 minus 14 days) where vaccine can be administered to meet the 105 day requirement.
- Animals previously vaccinated for rabies but whose vaccination status has expired, are eligible for exhibition immediately upon receiving a booster vaccination. Proof of previous vaccination is required.
- Note: Individual fairs can require animals for which there is no approved rabies vaccine to be currently vaccinated for rabies. The requirements outlined above would apply. The fair is responsible for notifying exhibitors.

Acceptable Proof of Rabies Vaccination

- Acceptable proof of rabies vaccination must include a signed written statement from the attending veterinarian or a valid certificate of veterinary inspection that has the vaccination listed and is signed by the attending veterinarian.
- Acceptable proof of vaccination must include the name of the product used, the date of administration and the duration of immunity if longer than one year.
- If the statement of rabies vaccination is included on an EIA test record, it must be signed separately in addition to the required EIA test record signature.
- NOTE: Rabies titers are not acceptable proof of rabies protection and cannot be used to meet entry requirements.
- Acceptable proof of vaccination for dogs is a valid vaccination certificate or a copy of the dog license that contains the rabies vaccination information.

Cattle BVD-PI Testing

- As of the 2008 fair season, all cattle exhibited at NY county fairs or the State Fair must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). This is a once in a lifetime test that must be reported on the required certificate of veterinary inspection. The issuing veterinarian is responsible for verifying the validity of the test, the identification of the animal and recording the test date on the CVI. If a previous test is not verifiable the test must be repeated.
- Currently acceptable tests for cattle less than 61 days old:
 - skin notch BVD virus Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE)
 - whole blood BVD virus isolation
 - whole blood BVD virus PCR
- Currently acceptable tests for cattle 61 days of age and older:
 - Skin notch BVD virus Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE)
 - Serum or milk BVD virus Antigen Capture ELISA (ACE)
 - Whole blood BVD virus isolation
 - Whole blood BVD virus PCR

Cleaning and Disinfection

- All buildings on the fairgrounds housing animals must be cleaned and disinfected prior to the opening of the fair and between groups of animals when housing is rotated (Section 50.2 of Agriculture and Market regulations).

Kidding and Lambing

- Due to the concern about the spread of scrapie, any sheep or goats that are exhibited at a county fair that have recently given birth or have a vaginal discharge, will be ordered removed along with their offspring.
- The causative agent for scrapie may be present in high concentration in fluids associated with birth and the risk of transmission is considered highest at that time.

Commingling of Sheep/Goats and Cattle

- Due to the potential spread of malignant catarrhal fever from sheep and goats to cattle, it is recommended that cattle be kept separate from sheep and goats.

Isolation on Returning Home

- The owner or custodian shall keep show animals biologically separate from the herd or flock for a period of at least two weeks after returning to the premises of origin.

Individual Species Requirements

Horses

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is not required for New York origin horses. CVI is required for imported horses.
- Negative Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) test is required for all horses 6 months of age or older. The horse must be accompanied by a valid negative EIA test record. Horses less than 6 months of age accompanied by a test negative dam do not have to be tested. Horses less than 6 months of age not accompanied by the dam must be test negative. The test must have been conducted during the current or previous calendar years for New York origin horses. For imported horses, the test must be conducted within 12 months of entry.
- The EIA test certificate must include a complete description of the horse.
- Current rabies vaccination is required for all horses 105 days of age or older (see above).

Cattle

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.
- Current rabies vaccination is required for all cattle 105 days of age or older (see above).
- All cattle must be must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). (See current acceptable tests above.) The date and results of the testing must be noted on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- All cattle must be currently vaccinated against bovine respiratory disease complex including bovine respiratory syncytial virus, bovine virus diarrhea, infectious bovine rhinotracheitis and parainfluenza with a product administered in a manner and time frame adequate to confer protective immunity for these diseases for the duration of the fair.

Sheep

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified with USDA approved individual scrapie program identification. Identification must be one of the following: 1) USDA approved tags or 2) a USDA approved premises tattoo or 3) electronic ID if the sheep is enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program (owner must supply a working electronic reader).
For information on scrapie ID, contact USDA at 518-869-9007.
- Current rabies vaccination is required for all sheep 105 days of age or older (see above).
- The CVI must contain a written statement from the issuing accredited veterinarian that the flock of origin was inspected after May 1 of the current year and no evidence of contagious, infectious or communicable diseases was found.
- If evidence of soremouth (contagious ecthyma) is found on any sheep, the entire exhibit including the affected animals shall immediately be removed from the fair premises with the holding pens cleaned and disinfected immediately after removal.

Goats

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified with USDA approved individual scrapie program identification. Identification must be one of the following: 1) USDA approved tags or 2) a legible registration tattoo with official registration paper accompanying the animal or 3) a USDA approved premises tattoo or 4) electronic ID if the goat is enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program and/or the electronic ID is recorded on the goats registration paper (owner must supply a working electronic reader).
For information on scrapie ID, contact USDA at 518-869-9007.
- The CVI must contain a written statement from the issuing accredited veterinarian that the herd of origin was inspected after May 1 of the current year and no evidence of contagious, infectious or communicable diseases was found.

- If evidence of soremouth (contagious ecthyma) is found on any goat, the entire exhibit including the affected animals shall immediately be removed from the fair premises with the holding pens cleaned and disinfected immediately after removal.

Swine

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.

Llamas and Alpacas

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.
- Test negative for tuberculosis by means of an axillary TB test within 12 months of the fair (12 months of age and older) OR originate from a herd which has had a negative complete herd test of all llamas and alpacas over 12 months of age within the previous 5 years.

Poultry

- Poultry (with the exception of doves, pigeons and waterfowl) must be accompanied by 1) results of a negative pullorum typhoid test conducted within 90 days prior to exhibition OR 2) proof that the birds originated directly from a US pullorum-typhoid clean flock or equivalent flock.

Deer (Cervidae)

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.
- Originate from a herd classified as accredited or qualified under USDA tuberculosis regulations.
- A movement permit obtained from the Division of Animal Industry is required for all deer movements. All CWD requirements must be met before a permit will be issued. Questions regarding movement permits should be directed to the Division of Animal Industry at 518-457-3971.

Miscellaneous Ruminants / Camels

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.

Elephants

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.
- All elephants presented for admission to a fair must be exhibited pursuant to a current USDA license.

Non-human Primates

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals individually identified.
- Proof of a negative intradermal tuberculosis test performed within 12 months of admission.