



**Animal Health Requirements For  
Admission to New York State and County Fairs**

(Part 351 of NYS Agriculture and Markets Regulations)

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets/Division of Animal Industry

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**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.
- 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.

### **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)**

- Cattle, sheep, goats, swine, llamas, alpacas, deer, and misc. ruminants require a valid CVI to enter the fairgrounds.
- The CVI must be issued by a Category 2 accredited veterinarian.
- All animals must be officially identified. **ALL MANMADE ID MUST BE RECORDED.** Refer to Animal Identification section below for more information.
- Only one species is allowed per certificate.
- 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 (see below).
- 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 CVI inspection. 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 NY fair must be within 30 days of the date of CVI inspection. In order for the CVI to be used for a later fair, it must be dated and initialed by a NY 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, or at the division's import/export homepage:

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/animals/animal-import-export>.

### **Animal Identification**

- **ALL MANMADE ID MUST BE RECORDED**
- Cattle must be identified by an official USDA approved eartag. Radio frequency identification (RFID) eartags, commonly referred to as "840 RFID tags," are strongly recommended.
- Sheep and goats must be identified by official scrapie identification (see sheep and goat sections below).
- Swine must be identified by an official USDA approved eartag. Radio frequency identification (RFID) eartags, commonly referred to as "840 RFID tags," are strongly recommended. Nursing piglets do not have to be individually identified if the sow is correctly identified on the CVI and the number of piglets in the litter is noted on the CVI.
- Deer/elk must be identified with an official eartag.
- Llamas and alpacas must be identified by official eartag or microchip.
- Misc. ruminants must be identified by unique eartag or microchip.
- A complete written description is sufficient identification for horses entering New York accompanied by a CVI. The description must match the EIA test record. Horse sketches and descriptions should reference color pattern, hair whorls, chestnuts, scars and other markings as necessary to uniquely identify the horse. Tattoos and microchips if any should be included. "Bay, no markings" is not an acceptable description for a CVI or EIA test record.
- **NOTE:** If you are exhibiting animals identified by microchip, a working reader must be supplied by the exhibitor.

- For questions on animal identification please contact your veterinarian or our office at 518-457-3502.

### **Rabies Vaccination**

- 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 4 months of age or older on the date of admission to the fair.
  - For most rabies vaccines, the earliest age allowable for primary vaccination is 3 months. Animals that are vaccinated prior to 3 months of age will need to be re-vaccinated according to label before entering the fairgrounds.
- Vaccine must have been administered within the past 12 months. The exception is Imrab LA vaccine used in sheep which protects for 3 years after the second annual vaccination (consult your veterinarian).
- The rabies vaccination requirement must be met on the day of admission even if the animal was previously admitted to a fair when too young to vaccinate.
- **NOTE:** Individual fairs can require animals for which there is no approved rabies vaccine to be vaccinated for rabies. The requirements outlined above would apply. The fair is responsible for notifying exhibitors. The New York State Fair requires rabies vaccination for all livestock species entering the grounds.

### **Acceptable Proof of Rabies Vaccination**

- Acceptable proof of rabies vaccination must include a signed written statement from the veterinarian administering the vaccine or a valid certificate of veterinary inspection that has the vaccination listed and is signed by the Category 2 accredited veterinarian.
- Acceptable proof of rabies 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.

### **BVD-PI Testing**

- All cattle, llamas and alpacas 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). The testing veterinarian is responsible to make sure the proper test is conducted. 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.

### **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).

### **Animal Deaths**

- Occasionally animal deaths occur at a fair. If a death occurs it must be reported to the state veterinarian in charge as soon as possible for review. The animal must be promptly removed from the public exhibit area to a secure location and held for the veterinarian prior to disposal.

### **Calving, Kidding, and Lambing**

- Any cattle, goats, or sheep that calve, kid, or lamb while at a county fair or the State Fair will be ordered removed from the fairgrounds along with their offspring, unless the animals are part of a birthing demonstration.

### **Commingling of Sheep and Cattle**

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

### **Commingling of Swine and Poultry**

- Due to the potential spread of influenza viruses it is recommended that swine and poultry be housed in separate locations.

### **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. If any illness is noted in the exhibition animals, the owner should contact their veterinarian immediately.

### **Individual Species Requirements**

#### **Horses**

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is not required for New York origin horses. CVI is required for imported horses. Extended Equine CVIs (EECVIs) are acceptable. For more information on EECVIs, visit <http://www.globalvetlink.com>.
- 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, signed by a Category 2 accredited veterinarian. The sample collection date for the qualifying EIA test must have been on or after January 1, 2020 for New York origin horses. For imported horses, the EIA test must have been conducted within 12 months prior to entry. The EIA test certificate must include a complete description of the horse.
- Rabies vaccination is required for all horses 4 months of age or older (see above).

#### **Cattle**

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.
- Rabies vaccination is required for all cattle 4 months of age or older (see above).
- All cattle must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). The date and results of the testing must be noted on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- All cattle must be 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 scrapie identification. Identification must be one of the following: 1) USDA approved tags or 2) a legible USDA approved flock tattoo and individual animal ID number or 3) electronic implant device (microchip) if the sheep is enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program. For information on scrapie ID, contact USDA at 1-866-USDA-TAG (1-866-873-2824).
- Rabies vaccination is required for all sheep 4 months of age or older (see above).

- The CVI must contain a written statement from the issuing Category 2 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 scrapie identification. Identification must be one of the following: 1) USDA approved tags or 2) a legible registration tattoo or 3) a legible USDA approved herd tattoo and individual animal ID number or 4) electronic implant device (microchip) if the goat is enrolled in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program and/or the electronic implant ID is recorded on the goat's registration paper. For information on scrapie ID, contact USDA at 1-866-USDA-TAG (1-866-873-2824).
- The CVI must contain a written statement from the issuing Category 2 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 properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.

#### Llamas and Alpacas

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.
- All llamas and alpacas must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). The date and results of the testing must be noted on the certificate of veterinary inspection.

#### 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.
- Poultry qualified by 90 day test must be identified by official leg band.
- Proof of NPIP status must be in the form of an NPIP certificate or purchase receipt containing NPIP certification information. If utilizing a receipt it must be dated within 1 year of the date of admission to the fair.

#### Deer/Elk (Cervidae)

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.
- 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 and TB program requirements must be met before a permit will be issued. Questions regarding movement permits should be directed to the Division of Animal Industry at 518-457-3502.

### Miscellaneous Ruminants

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.

## **Exhibitor Prefair Guidelines**

### **Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Swine, Llamas and Alpacas, Cervids, Misc. Ruminants**

- Review the animal health requirements booklet including information for your species **before** your veterinarian arrives to inspect your animals. If you have any questions, **ask**.
- Your veterinarian is responsible for inspecting your animals and completing the certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI). Call **early** to avoid the last-minute rush when mistakes are made and there is no time to correct.
- Make sure **USDA approved official eartags** are present on cattle and swine and USDA approved scrapie ID is in place on sheep and goats.
- Llamas and alpacas require a microchip or eartag. If a microchip is utilized make sure the veterinarian confirms the microchip ID or places one. If your animal is identified by a microchip, make sure you bring a working reader with you to the fair.
- **ALL IDENTIFICATION MUST BE RECORDED. Make sure it is.**
- Review the CVI carefully upon receipt to make sure all the information is correct including any required test or vaccination information.
- **DO NOT** stuff it in an envelope and assume all is well. The time to correct is before pulling them out at the fair. The CVI is your document and you share responsibility if it is incorrect.
- If you are **importing** livestock from out of state, make sure the interstate requirements are met and you have a valid **interstate certificate of veterinary inspection**.

### **Poultry**

- Schedule pullorum flock inspection and testing well ahead of the fair if your flock is participating in the NPIP program.
- If you're having your birds tested within 90 days of the fair you must go to a pullorum clinic. Available clinics are listed on the Dept. website. No individual testing is available if you miss a clinic.
- Birds qualified by 90-day test must be identified by official leg band.
- **Bring documentation** with you to the fair in the form of a 1) current NPIP certificate, 2) 90-day test chart or 3) purchase receipt with NPIP certification within 1 year of the date of admission to the fair.

### **Horses**

- NY origin horses must be accompanied by a negative EIA test report. The date of sample collection for the qualifying EIA test must have been on or after January 1, 2020.

- **Imported** horses must be accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection with a **negative EIA test within 12 months prior to entry**. Rabies vaccination information can be incorporated into the CVI.
- Drawing or photograph **must** match the horse.
- Rabies vaccination must be within 1 year of arrival at the fair and be documented by a **signed** rabies certificate or a signed statement on the EIA test chart with the required information (see requirements).

**MOST IMPORTANT**

When you are loading your livestock for the trip to the fair, take the time to examine them. Make sure they are the same animals that are on the paperwork and, if they are showing any signs of illness, **LEAVE THEM HOME.**