

# Houston Livestock Show <sup>TM</sup>

## Animal Health Regulations

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo officials are allowed to impose animal health regulations that are more restrictive than those imposed by the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC). Specific TAHC regulations will supersede the Show requirements if there is a dispute between the two in which the Show rules are less restrictive than TAHC regulations.

The Show considers itself an interstate (accepting entries of livestock and poultry from within Texas and from other states) show for livestock entries. Exhibitors with livestock originating outside the state of Texas are encouraged to contact their state Animal Health officials to confirm specific requirements, if any, their state may impose on animals returning from a Texas show.

### Routine Inspection Procedures (What the Exhibitor Should Expect)

1. Representatives of the Show should meet the incoming livestock vehicle at the entry gate to the livestock staging area.
2. All documents are to be examined and a visual inspection of the shipment is to be made. Be certain that certificates of veterinary inspection, EIA test information, permits, etc. are still valid. A visual exam of the animals is to be made to ensure that the animals described on the documents are the same as those in the shipment.
3. If shipments meet all entry requirements, allow the driver to proceed without delay. Return the certificates and other documents to the owner or driver.
4. If a shipment does not meet the requirements, the driver should pull the truck or trailer out of traffic's way. Contact Show security if problems occur. If animals must be unloaded, they must remain in a separate pen (holding area) away from other livestock. Individuals should be allowed to contact the Show Veterinarian or their own veterinarian to obtain the proper documents and/or tests. Documentation must be in writing – no corrections will be allowed by phone. Fax documents are permissible.
5. Consult the Show veterinarian if animals do not appear to be in good health when inspections are made.

### Definitions

**Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:** In the past, these were usually called “health certificates.” This document indicates that an accredited veterinarian inspected, tested, or immunized the animals in question as required by the TAHC. Cattle, sheep, goats, equine, swine, poultry, exotic livestock and ratites coming into the state for an interstate show must be accompanied by a certificate.

**Entry Permit:** This permit is issued by the TAHC and is needed for certain classes of livestock, poultry, exotic livestock and ratites to enter Texas. The permit is valid for 15 days. The Entry permit number must be recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection!

**Interstate Show:** The TAHC considers shows, fairs or exhibitions to be interstate if they allow livestock and poultry from other states to enter for exhibition and be held or exhibited in common facilities with Texas-origin livestock and poultry of the same species.

**Intrastate Show:** The TAHC considers show, fairs or exhibitions to be intrastate if they allow ONLY Texas animals, or if they require Texas livestock and poultry of the same species to be housed and exhibited apart from livestock and poultry from out of state.


## Permits and General Requirements

### Cattle

#### **Texas Origin Breeding Cattle**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. All dairy breed cattle, including steers and spayed heifers, shall be officially identified.

#### **Out-of-State Origin Cattle**

- 
1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
  2. Negative tuberculosis (TB) test within the past 60 (sixty) days with results noted on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.  
Exemptions:
    - A. Beef cattle from tuberculosis "Free" states.
    - B. Cattle from a tuberculosis free herd with a certificate of veterinary inspection stating the accreditation number and the herd anniversary test date.
    - C. Suckling calves from a negative dam.
  3. All dairy breed cattle, including steers and spayed heifers, shall be officially identified.
  4. All bulls entering for show and sale purposes, which are more than (12) twelve months of age and capable of breeding must have a negative Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Trich test within 30 days.
  5. All bulls entering for show purposes, only, which are more than (12) months of age may enter with an entry permit in lieu of the Trich test.
  6. Bulls permitted for entry into the State of Texas under the provisions of this subsection shall not be commingled with female cattle or used for breeding. Bulls that stay in the state more than sixty (60) days must be tested negative for trichomoniasis with an official Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test.

#### **Junior Market Steers**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is not required.

#### **Junior Commercial Steers**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is not required.

#### **Junior Breeding Beef/Scramble Heifers**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is required.

### Goats

#### **Texas Origin Goats & Out-of-State Origin Goats**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current within 30 (thirty) days (excluding Youth Market Goats).
2. Sexually intact animals must have official USDA Scrapie Eradication Program Identification.
3. Registered animals may use a registration tattoo or electronic identification (accompanied by reader) "as official identification," as long as registration papers accompany the animal with the Scrapie Premise ID number.

#### **Youth Market Goats**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection not required.
- 

### **DOGS**

**DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SHOW GROUNDS** because of safety and public health regulations. This rule will be strictly enforced and applies to exhibitors and their employees, as well as Show visitors. This rule does not apply to official dog entries in a sanctioned Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo competitive or entertainment event or to guide dogs for those with sight impairment. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current within 30 days is required to accompany all dogs eligible to enter Reliant Park. Certificate must state that the dog has had a rabies vaccination within one year.

---

### POULTRY

#### **Texas Origin Poultry (Does not include Youth Market Poultry)**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. Negative pullorum-typhoid test within 30 (thirty) days or from flocks that meet either the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program or the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).
3. **Domestic poultry must originate from a flock that is certified as Avian Influenza clean or from an Avian Influenza negative flock or tested according to TAHC requirements within 30 days of entry.**

4. Certification on Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that Laryngotracheitis has not been active in the area of origin in the past 30 days.
5. Vaccination must be with vaccines approved by USDA and TAHC. (Contact TAHC for a list of approved vaccines.) NOTE: No modified live virus chick embryo origin Laryngotracheitis (LT) vaccine and no modified live virus mycoplasma gallisepticum (MG) attenuated vaccine may be used on poultry entering the state.

### **Out-of-State Origin Poultry**

1. Must meet the same requirements as Texas Origin Poultry.
2. **Prior entry permit issued by TAHC within 15 (fifteen) days.**

### **Youth Market Poultry**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection not required.
2. Must originate from a Texas NPIP Hatchery.
3. Broilers must originate from: Tyson Hatchery, 4186 FM 794, Gonzales, Texas 78269.
4. Turkeys must originate from: Gentry Hatchery, 750 West Third, Springdale, Arizona 72765.

## **SHEEP**

### **Texas Origin Sheep**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection issued within 30 (thirty) days (excluding Youth Market Lambs).
2. Sexually intact animals must have official USDA Scrapie Eradication Program Identification.

### **Out-of-State Origin Sheep**

1. Must meet the same requirements as for Texas Origin Sheep.
2. Negative ELISA brucella ovis test within 30 (thirty) days for all breeding rams 6 months of age or older. Each ram shall be individually identified with an individual ear tag or registration tattoo. This number, along with the test results and name of the approved laboratory and date of test, shall be entered on the certificate of veterinary inspection. Exemption for rams from a certified brucella ovis-free flock and Texas origin rams; certified flock number must be recorded on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

### **Youth Market Lambs**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection not required.

## **SWINE**

### **Texas Origin Swine**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days listing identification and including a statement that they have not been fed garbage, have not been exposed to hog cholera or pseudorabies, and have not been vaccinated for pseudorabies.
2. ~~Negative pseudorabies test within 30 (thirty) days. Exemption for:~~
  - ~~A. Swine from a qualified pseudorabies-negative herd; qualified herd number must be recorded on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.~~
  - ~~B. Swine direct from a farm of origin in a Stage IV or Free State. (All states are currently Free.)~~
3. Leptospirosis vaccination is required on breeding swine, 6 months of age and older, within 30 (thirty) days with Leptospirosis vaccine containing the following strains: Canicola, Hardjo, Icterohaemorrhagiae, Grippotyphosa, and Pomona.



### **Out-of-State Origin Swine**

1. Must meet the same requirements as Texas Origin Swine.

### **Youth Market Barrows**

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is not required.

## **EXOTIC LIVESTOCK AND RATITES**

Exotic livestock are defined as grass-eating or plant-eating, single-hooved or cloven-hooved mammals that are not indigenous to this state and are known as ungulates, including animals from the swine, horse, tapir, camel, llama, rhinoceros, elephant, deer and antelope families.

Camelidae are defined as members of the family of animals which include camel, llamas and vicunas. The domestic members of the genus lama include the llama, alpaca and guanaco.

Ratites are defined as exotic fowl with a flat breastbone and small or nonexistent wings, such as ostriches, emu, rheas and kiwi.

Exotic bovidae are defined as non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes water buffalo, gnu (wildebeest) addax, antelope and nilgai (among others).

Exotic cervidae are defined as non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the subfamily musk deer.

### ***Texas Origin Camelidae***

1. Health Certificate: See Texas Animal Health Commission Rules.
2. HLSR requires that all alpacas and llamas attending the show must have a Veterinary Health Certificate issued **within 30 days of the last day of the show**.
3. HLSR requires that all alpacas attending the alpaca show must provide evidence of a negative test for BVDV by either a PCR or VI test, this is a once in a lifetime test. The negative test results shall be indicated on the Health Certificate.

### ***Texas Origin Ratites***

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. Individually identified with an implanted electronic device (microchip). The identification will be shown on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection along with the location and name brand of the implanted electronic device. **Owner must supply appropriate reader.** If an animal has more than one implanted microchip, then the location, microchip number and name brand of each will be documented on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.
3. Tested and found to be serologically negative for Avian Influenza and Salmonella pullorum-typhoid from a sample collected within 30 days of entry. Birds or hatching eggs must originate from flocks that show no evidence of infectious disease and have no history of Avian Influenza in the past 6 months.

### ***Texas Origin Exotic Bovidae***

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. Negative brucellosis test within the past 30 (thirty) days.
3. Negative tuberculosis test within the past 60 (sixty) days.

### ***Texas Origin Exotic Cervidae***

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. Negative brucellosis test within the past 30 (thirty) days.
3. Two negative tuberculosis tests conducted no less than 90 days apart; the second test must be conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement; and the animals must be isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period, or;
  - A. Originate from an accredited free herd, or;
  - B. Originate from a qualified herd and have a classified negative 90 day tuberculosis test. If the qualifying herd test was administered within 90 days of movement, the animal(s) do not require an additional test, or;
  - C. Originate from a monitored herd and have a classified negative 90 day tuberculosis test, or;
  - D. Be less than 12 months of age, originate and were born in accredited, qualified or monitored herds and have not been exposed to cervids from a lower status.

### ***Texas Origin Exotic Swine***

1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection current, within 30 (thirty) days.
2. Negative brucellosis test within the past 30 (thirty) days or originate from a validated free herd.
3. Negative pseudorabies test within the past 30 (thirty) days or originate from a qualified free herd.  
Pot bellied pigs are now considered domestic swine.

### ***Out-of-State Origin Exotic Livestock and Ratites***

1. Must meet the same requirements as Texas Origin Exotic Livestock and Ratites.
2. Prior entry permit issued by TAHC within 15 (fifteen) days. The permit for entry is not required when livestock and ratites enter **for exhibition** and return to the state of origin.