

Animal Health Requirements and Recommendations

ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANIMALS FOR EXHIBITION, INCLUDING COMMERCIAL EXHIBITION

This page provides the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's animal health requirements and recommendations for the Pennsylvania County and Community Fairs. All exhibitors are encouraged to check with the management of each fair in advance to ensure compliance with all fair requirements.

It remains our goal to resume poultry exhibitions in 2017. Certainly the U.S. Department of Agriculture's recent confirmation of a new highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) strain in Dubois County, Indiana, is a setback, but we remain optimistic. We will continue to monitor reports of avian influenza cases that occur in the United States and put our poultry industry at risk. **Our final decision to lift the current ban will be made by June 1, 2017, in cooperation with Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences and will be based on an assessment of risk to Pennsylvania poultry.** In the interim, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has issued new poultry health requirements for shows, a copy of which is available at www.agriculture.pa.gov. Thank you for your understanding and support.

The following Animal Owner or Caretaker's Verification of Veterinary Consultation Relationship statement for the animals being exhibited must be included with a signature line on the fair registration form: **"I attest and affirm that a "veterinary consultation relationship" – as that phrase is defined in the Animal Exhibition Sanitation Law found at 3 Pa.C.S.A. § 2501 et seq. and any amendments thereto – exists with regard to any animals I will be exhibiting."** A "Certificate of Veterinary Inspection" (CVI) form must be presented upon arrival at all shows and fairs in Pennsylvania, including out of state entries.

Be sure to use only grooming products that are approved for use on meat and dairy animals when fitting your animals for show, unapproved products may contain ingredients that result in unacceptable residues in the meat or milk. If you are not certain that a product is residue safe and approved for use on meat or dairy animals, **do not use it!**

IMPORTANT - If upon slaughter, treatment with drugs, biologics or any chemical from fitting products is the cause of condemnation of a carcass, the loss of the carcass and any other damages will be borne by the exhibitor.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture recommends that animals returning home from fairs and shows be isolated from other members of the herd or flock for a minimum of three weeks to help prevent the spread of disease, and recommends that exhibitors of all animals discuss the health of their animals, including vaccine recommendations, with a veterinarian on a regular basis. The Department also encourages premises owners to register their premises with the Department, so that we can contact you in a disease emergency situation. Call 717-836-3235 to register your premises.