LIVESTOCK EXHIBITION HANDBOOK

Third Edition

MINNESOTA
BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

www.mn.gov/bah
animalhealth@state.mn.us

General Requirements

- Prior to entering a public exhibition, animals must meet the requirements for exhibition, importation, and intrastate movement as defined by the Board. This includes petting zoo animals and exhibitions.
- All animals must be examined by the official veterinarian on the day they are admitted to the exhibition and at least once daily during the exhibition.
- No animal may enter or be at a public exhibition that is showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, including ringworm and warts.
- Individual exhibitors must maintain records for each individual animal exhibited.

Always check with exhibition management for additional requirements.

For information and requirements related to petting zoos, pony rides, races, and other events and/or displays at an exhibition, please contact the Board of Animal Health at 651-296-2942.

Definitions

Baby poultry – newly hatched poultry that have not been fed or watered.

Board – the Board of Animal Health or its authorized agents.

Exhibition – bringing livestock or poultry owned by two or more persons to one location in Minnesota for judging or for display to the public, except when there is only one animal of each species exhibited.

Game birds – any of a diverse group of birds that includes but is not limited to, pheasants, partridge, quail, guinea fowl, and grouse raised in captivity.

Official Veterinarian – a licensed and accredited veterinarian authorized by the Board to act as its representative at a community sale or exhibition.

Poultry – livestock that are turkeys, chickens, waterfowl, and game birds raised in captivity, excluding pigeons and doves.

Slaughter-only classes – livestock or poultry exhibition classes in which all animals from the class will be moved directly to slaughter from the exhibition premises and the entire class is kept isolated in a separate building from other livestock and poultry at the exhibition.

Exhibition Requirements for Other Species

Horses
All horses, except for suckling foals accompanying a negative dam, must be negative to an official EIA test conducted within 12 months prior to the opening date of an exhibition.

Dogs
A dog four months of age or older attending a dog exhibition must be accompanied by a certificate of rabies vaccination issued by a licensed veterinarian.

Deer and Elk
Deer and elk must be officially identified.

Additional exhibition information for all livestock species can be found online at www.mn.gov/bah or by calling the Board of Animal Health at 651-296-2942

The official veterinarian must be present at each public exhibition of livestock for which a permit is required.

Poultry-only exhibitions do not require an official veterinarian when the exhibition manager ensures that entrance requirements for exhibition of poultry are met. See "Poultry Exhibition Requirements" for more information.

The official veterinarian of an exhibition shall:

1. Approve the cleaning and disinfection of the exhibition premises prior to the exhibition and during the exhibition if livestock are released and new livestock are brought to the exhibition premises.

2. Inspect all livestock on the day admitted to the exhibition and at least once daily during the exhibition.

3. Refuse admission of livestock showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, or of livestock not meeting the exhibition entrance requirements.

4. Maintain tagging records including: the characters on or contained within the ear tag; characters on or contained within other official ear tags on the animal; species, sex, age, and type of animal; date of application; and name and address of the premises where the animal was identified.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

The manager of an exhibition shall:

1. Retain the services of an official veterinarian.
2. Comply with all orders of the Board or the official veterinarian pertaining to the sanitation of the premises and the health status of all livestock exhibited.
3. Clean and disinfect all building and exhibit areas for the use of livestock prior to the opening date of the exhibition and during the exhibition if livestock are released and new livestock are brought to the exhibition premises.
4. Maintain the livestock and exhibition areas in a sanitary condition.
5. Ensure that any livestock showing symptoms of infectious, contagious, or communicable disease are removed from the premises or quarantined in a separate facility.
6. Maintain records which include the name and address of each exhibitor along with the species, class, and number of animals the person exhibited.

Poultry-only exhibitions do not require an official veterinarian when the exhibition manager ensures that entrance requirements for exhibition of poultry are met. See "Poultry Exhibition Requirements" for more information.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXHIBITION MANAGER

Cattle must be officially identified prior to exhibition. The following are approved official identification for cattle.

Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.

1. <u>National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)</u>
   - Begins with the official state number; “41” for Minnesota.

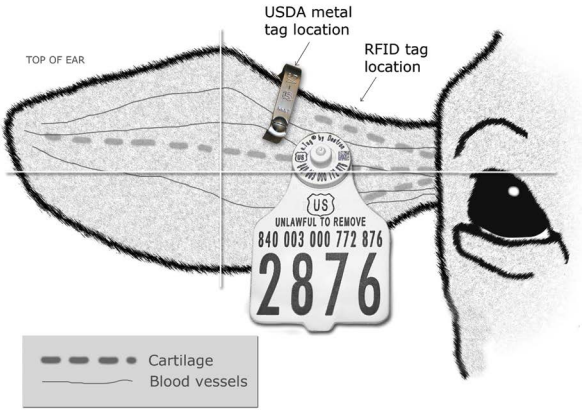
2. <u>Animal Identification Number (AIN) System</u>
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).
   - 15-digit RFID tags beginning with “USA” or “900” to “998” if applied before March 11, 2015.

3. American Identification Number System

- Combines “USA” with 8 or 9 digits.
- Must have applied before March 11, 2015
- Includes the National Farm Animal Identification and Records (FAIR).

4. Breed Registry Tattoos and Tags

- Acceptable if accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration number.
- Pending registrations are not acceptable.
- Limited acceptance for interstate movement, see http://mn.gov/bah/official-id for details.



Breeding and feeding swine (except for those in slaughter-only classes) must be officially identified prior to exhibition. The following are approved official identification for swine.

Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.

1. **National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)**
   - Begins with the official state number; “41” or “MN” for Minnesota.

2. **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System**
   - Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
   - Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).
   - 15-digit RFID tags beginning with “900” to “998” if applied before March 11, 2015.

3. **Ear notching with Breed Registration**
   - Must be accompanied by registration paperwork.

4. **Slap or Ear Tattoos** - for feeding swine only.

SWINE EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

All sheep and goats at public exhibitions must be officially identified. Animals originating from out of state must meet import requirements.

No sheep or goat that is within 30 days of giving birth (either before or after) may be exhibited unless the exhibition management has received prior approval from the Board, and then only if certain requirements are met.

Official ID may not be removed from an animal once it is applied. Official ear tags for sheep and goats must display the US shield.

1. **Flock identification (ID) Tags**
   - Includes the flock ID number beginning with the state abbreviation (maximum nine characters, including state abbreviation) along with a unique herd management number (maximum six characters).
   - Available in plastic or metal.

2. **Sheep/Goat Serial Tags**
   - For use at livestock markets or by accredited veterinarians.
   - Begins with state abbreviation; eight characters total, last four or five are numerical.
   - Available in plastic or metal.

3. **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System**

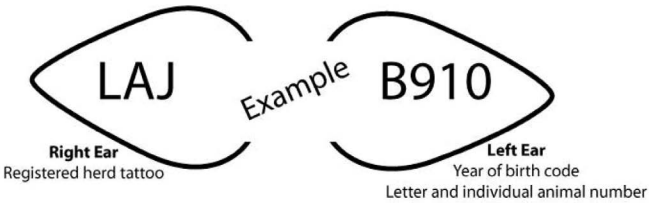
- Consists of 15 digits, beginning with “840” for the U.S.
- Visual or Radio Frequency Identification (RFID).

4. **Tattoos**

For any tattoo to be considered official identification, it must be legible.

Registered sheep/goats

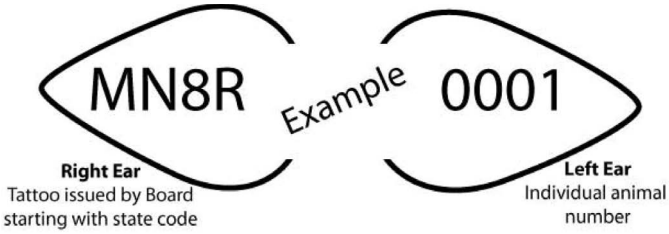
- Breed registry tattoos that are recorded with a sheep or goat registry association.
- Must be accompanied by a copy of the registration certificate or a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) listing tattoo and registration numbers.



Non-registered sheep/goats

- State-approved tattoos that are recorded with a state animal health Board.
- Tattoo must include the state-approved prefix beginning with the state abbreviation and include a unique number.
- The animal must be accompanied by:
  1. A Board-issued document certifying that the tattoo prefix is recorded with the Board or,
  2. For animals originating outside of Minnesota, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection which:
     a. Certifies that the tattoo prefix is assigned in the National Scrapie Database, and
     b. Lists the flock ID number and the complete tattoo number (including the state-assigned prefix and the animal number).

Call the Board at 651-201-6809 to record a tattoo or find out if a tattoo is already recorded.



Chickens, turkeys, and game birds at exhibitions, except baby poultry, must be individually identified with a leg or wing band. Leg bands are available to the fair manager upon request by contacting the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory at 320-231-5170.

Chickens, turkeys, game birds, and hatching eggs from these birds must be accompanied by a certificate or test chart approved by the Board to show compliance with the following requirements:

1. **Pullorum-typhoid** – originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean under the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP); or be negative to a pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to the opening date of exhibition.

2. **Mycoplasma gallisepticum and Mycoplasma synoviae** – all turkeys and turkey hatching eggs must originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified U.S. Mycoplasma Gallisepticum (MG) Clean and U.S. Mycoplasma Synoviae (MS) Clean under the NPIP; or be negative to a Mycoplasma gallisepticum and a Mycoplasma synoviae test within 90 days prior to the opening date of exhibition.

For questions related to poultry exhibition requirements, please contact the Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory at 320-231-5170

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