

NILE Health, Brand & Import Regulations

The NILE is committed to protecting the health of your livestock. Although we cannot guarantee the health of any animals participating in NILE, we have taken steps to minimize the threat of exposure to contagious diseases. The Certificate of Veterinary Inspection issued by your local accredited veterinarian is an important part of our animal health monitoring system at the NILE. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is needed even if you live within Montana.

Veterinary services will monitor the health of the animals on the grounds, be available (on private fee basis) should you need assistance with an animal's health or injury problem, and to write outgoing inspection certificates for sale animals. Common items which sometimes get overlooked:

- Failure to get an incoming veterinary inspection.
- Lack of brucellosis vaccination for female cattle.
- Incomplete documentation by the veterinarian on the inspection certificate.
- Lack of EIA - (Coggins) test on sale horses.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions regarding regulations, please contact:

Montana Department of Livestock
Animal Health Division: (406) 444-2976
Brand Enforcement: (406) 444-2045

NILE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. **All animals presented for exhibition or sale from out-of-state shall be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection and brand inspection.** Animals originating from a state that does not have official brand inspections may obtain one upon arrival in Montana. Import permits should be obtained by the accredited veterinarian issuing the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection within 10 days prior to arrival into Montana.
2. Animals presented for exhibition or sale on NILE grounds shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.
3. All arriving animals are subject to a clinical inspection. Any animals showing clinical evidence of disease will be refused entry or required to be handled in accordance with directives of the veterinarian in charge. Animals affected with warts, ringworm, pink eye, other skin conditions, unsightly blemishes or any communicable disease will be refused entry into the NILE or removed from the grounds at the discretion of the official show veterinarian and superintendent.
 - a. Federal Order by the USDA on April 24th, 2024, limits the movement of lactating dairy cows due to avian influenza. **PLEASE help us reduce the possibility of transmission of disease BY QUARANTINING your show cattle** from all dairy cattle for a minimum of a month (30 days) prior to the show cattle coming to NILE.
4. Animals, which develop a disease condition during the course of the show, are to be handled in accordance with the directive of attending veterinarian.
5. Exhibitors arriving with sale & show animals should have two health certificates & two brand inspections - sale animals and show animals.

STATE OF MONTANA IMPORT REQUIREMENTS:

BEEF CATTLE:

1. Health Certificate issued within 30 days prior to entry into Montana.
2. Permit Number (for hand-written paper health certificates ONLY -electronic health certificates do not require a permit number).
 - a. Veterinarians should call 406-444-2976 (24/7 line) to obtain a permit number.
3. Official Identification
 - a. USDA Silver Metal Clip, Bangs Tag, or 840-RFID tags are accepted as official ID (900 series tags are NOT official ID).
 - b. Official ID must be listed on health certificate.
4. Trichomoniasis Testing for Bulls
 - a. Virgin bulls age 6-23 months (no testing required - statement on health certificate: "Virgin Bulls").
 - b. Non-Virgin Bulls (Trich test required within 60-days prior to entry)
 - c. All Bulls 24 months of age and older (regardless of virgin status) (Trich test required within 60-days prior to entry)
5. M-Statement on Health Certificate
 - a. Required Statement: "These animals are not M-Branded, or exposed to M-Branded Cattle".
 - b. If Cattle ARE M-Branded, or co-mingled with M-Branded cattle, please call our office for additional requirements or find them here on our website: <https://liv.mt.gov/Animal-Health/Import-Requirements/index>.

CANADIAN ORIGIN CATTLE:

1. International Health Certificate
2. Permit number. Canadian cattle import permits cannot be issued over the phone. Please send health certificate and testing documents email or fax, to obtain an import permit. Email: livpermits@mt.gov (Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm) Fax: 406-444-1929 (Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm)

3. Official ID
 - a. All Canadian origin cattle require a 124-RFID tag.
4. CAN Hot Iron Brand
 - a. All Canadian origin cattle require a CAN hot iron brand that is 2-3 inches tall, high on the right hip.
 - b. Required statement: "The animals in this shipment have the required CAN hot iron brand" with the health paperwork.
5. Brucellosis
 - a. One negative brucellosis test on animals 12 months of age and older, within 30 days of movement.
6. Tuberculosis
 - a. One negative TB test on animals two months of age and older, within 60 days of movement.
7. Trichomoniasis Testing for Bulls
 - a. Virgin bulls age 6-23 months (no testing required - statement on health certificate: "Virgin Bulls").
 - b. Non-Virgin Bulls (Trich test required within 60-days prior to entry)
 - c. All Bulls 24 months of age and older (regardless of virgin status) (Trich test required within 60-days prior to entry)

SHEEP:

1. Health Certificate issued within 10 days prior to entry into Montana.
 2. Permit Number (for hand-written paper health certificates ONLY -electronic health certificates do not require a permit number).
 - a. Veterinarians should call 406-444-2976 (24/7 line) to obtain a permit number.
 3. Official Identification
 - a. ID Options: Official USDA ear tag, tattoo, breed registration tattoo, scrapie premises ID tag, or premises tattoo.
 - b. All sexually in-tact sheep of any age require official ID.
 4. Brucellosis Testing
 - a. Originate directly from an official state recognized Brucella ovis free flock (flock ID number and most recent negative test date must be listed on the health certificate).
 5. Required Statements on Health Certificate
 - a. Scrapie statement: "The animals in this shipment were not exhibiting clinical signs associated with scrapie at the time of the examination."
- *** Prohibited Species of Sheep in Montana: (Including but not limited to) Mouflon, Mouflon cross, Barbary, Tahr, Chamois, Aoudad, Barbados, Hawaiian, and Black Hawaiian. ***

MEAT GOATS:

1. Health Certificate issued within 10 days prior to entry into Montana.
2. Permit Number (for hand-written paper health certificates ONLY -electronic health certificates do not require a permit number).
 - a. Veterinarians should call 406-444-2976 (24/7 line) to obtain a permit number.
3. Official Identification
 - a. ID Options: Official USDA ear tag, tattoo, breed registration tattoo, scrapie premises ID tag, premises tattoo, or microchip.
 - b. All sexually in-tact goats of any age require official ID.
4. Required Statements on Health Certificate
 - a. Scrapie statement: "The animals in this shipment were not exhibiting clinical signs associated with scrapie at the time of the examination."

SWINE:

1. Health Certificate issued within **10 days** prior to entry into Montana.
 - a. **Due to the report of SVV (Seneca Virus A), ALL hogs will be checked for leisons by a veterinarian prior to being unloaded.**
2. Permit Number (for hand-written paper health certificates ONLY -electronic health certificates do not require a permit number).
 - a. Veterinarians should call 406-444-2976 (24/7 line) to obtain a permit number.
3. Official Identification
 - a. All swine require official identification.
 - i. Ear tag, tattoo, ear notch, or most other permanent identification
 - b. Per USDA-APHIS regulations microchips are NOT accepted for swine.
4. Required Statements on Health Certificate
 - a. "These swine are not PRV vaccinated and have not been fed raw garbage."
 - b. "There has been no evidence of PRV in the herd of origin in the last 12 months."

*** Prohibited Species of Swine in Montana: All wild species including European boar, Russian boar, and all hybrids thereof either species are prohibited.***

EQUINE:

1. Health Certificate issued within 30 days prior to entry into Montana.
2. Permit Number (for hand-written paper health certificates ONLY -electronic health certificates do not require a permit number).
 - a. Veterinarians should call 406-444-2976 (24/7 line) to obtain a permit number.
3. Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) (Coggins)
 - a. One negative EIA test on all classes of equine within a 12 months prior to entry.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: How long are import permits good for on a hand-written paper health certificate?

A: The life of the health certificate, 30 days from the date of inspection of the animals.

Q: If my Veterinarian issues my health certificate electronically, but prints out a copy for me, does that mean I need a permit number?

A: NO. The health certificate was still issued electronically, therefore, no permit number is required.

All Montana State import requirement questions can be answered by calling 406-444-2976 or by visiting our website at <https://liv.mt.gov/Animal-Health/Import-Requirements/index>.



**Official Show Veterinarian
Montana Mobile Vet Service**

Dr. Stacey Wetherelt
(406) 876-4282

montanamobilevet@hotmail.com

MONTANA BRAND REQUIREMENTS:

The Guiding Principle of the Brands Enforcement Division is to protect the livestock industry from theft and predatory animals. The Brands Enforcement Division Goal is to provide the livestock industry with professional law enforcement and investigative work in the tracking of livestock ownership and in the deterrence and/or resolution of related criminal activities.

BRAND INSPECTIONS FOR CATTLE AND EQUINES

A Montana Livestock Brand Inspection for cattle and horses is required before:

- a. Crossing a county line or before leaving the state.
- b. Change of ownership.
 - The seller is responsible for the inspection.
- c. Sale at a licensed livestock auction.
- d. Slaughter at a licensed facility.

Inspections must be done in daylight.

Inspections are only issued when ownership can be proven:

- a. A bill of sale signed by the seller and adequately describing the livestock
- OR
- b. An inspection in the current owner's name.

BRAND INSPECTION FEES:

Cattle Inspections \$1.00
 Annual Equine Inspections \$10.00
 Allows movement within the state of Montana for 12 months

Lifetime Equine Inspections \$30.00
 Allows travel anywhere in the U.S. or Canada.
 Must also meet DOL Animal Health and other import requirements.

For additional information and a complete list of DOL Local Inspectors, visit our website:

- liv.mt.gov/Brands-Enforcement
- liv.mt.gov/Brands-Enforcement/Find-A-Brand_Inspector

**We are happy to answer any of your questions.
Contact us directly at (406) 444-2045.**

DRUG USE (as adapted from the National Code of Show Ring Ethics)

Legal or illegal substances used to physically alter the appearance, behavior, and/or performance of an animal entered in livestock events are prohibited. Performance enhancing drugs (including, but not limited to; steroids, diuretics, anti-inflammatories, tranquilizers and pain killers) may not be administered 5 days prior to showing the animal.

VIOLATION OF DRUG USE & WITHDRAWAL TIMES:

Use of illegal drugs is considered a pre-meditated act! Any information obtained on the practice of illegal alteration of an animal will be turned over to the proper authorities for criminal prosecution.

The use of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accordance with the labeling approved by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and/or the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a violation of federal law. Any animal that exceeds acceptable levels established by the appropriate regulatory agencies, such as the USDA, FDA, and EPA, will be in violation of these rules and appropriate action will be taken. **For all drugs or medications given to market animals, the recommended and/or established withdrawal times for that drug must be strictly followed.**

Violation of the Drug Use Rule will result in the disqualification of the animal being shown and may result in disqualification of the exhibitor. Disqualification of an exhibitor is a "ONE STRIKE AND YOU ARE OUT POLICY!" Violations of the Drug Use Rule may also result in an exhibitor forfeiting any premium, awards, or auction proceeds and being prohibited from further competition at the NILE Stock Show, as well as being subject to criminal prosecution if proven guilty. A second offense in the same immediate family may result in the barring of the entire family of the exhibitor from further participation in any state supported livestock show.