



# 2026 FAIR AND SHOW ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND FORMS

## Contents

Chapter A: General information section .....	2
Chapter B: Emerging diseases and pests information .....	9
Chapter C: Species-Specific Health Regulations and Recommendations .....	15
New Jersey Cattle .....	15
Imported Cattle .....	15
New Jersey Goats .....	16
Imported Goats .....	17
New Jersey Horses .....	18
Imported Horses .....	18
New Jersey Camelids (Llama/Alpaca) .....	19
Imported Camelids (Llama/Alpaca) .....	19
New Jersey Poultry and Hatching Eggs .....	19
Imported Poultry and Hatching Eggs .....	21
New Jersey Sheep .....	22
Imported Sheep .....	22
New Jersey Swine .....	23
Imported Swine .....	23

## Chapter A: General information section

1. **Background:** This document provides the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's (NJDA's) animal health requirements and recommendations for all animal exhibitions (shows) in the state, including county and community fairs. This document is divided into Requirements and Recommendations for both New Jersey animals and animals arriving from out of state for each livestock species ([Chapter C](#)). The Requirements listed in this document are mandated by law. While not legally mandated, these Recommendations represent best practices and the scientific expertise of the state animal health officials. Fairs and shows are strongly encouraged to adopt these Recommendations. Individual fair/show management may impose additional or more stringent health requirements at their own discretion. All exhibitors are encouraged to check with the management of each fair/show in advance to ensure compliance with all their requirements. It is recommended that fair/show organizers include statements on registration and promotional materials that clearly indicate that participating in the event is at one's own risk and that of their animals' health. These requirements and recommendations are a shared responsibility of show management and exhibitors to protect human and animal health in the state.
  
2. **Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI): Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI):** This is an official document issued by an accredited veterinarian certifying that the animals identified on the document have been inspected and were found to satisfy the regulations pertaining to their intended movement.
  - a. CVIs are required for all out-of-state camelids (alpaca/llama), cattle, equine, goats, sheep, and swine being imported into New Jersey for a fair or show. They may also be used for the exhibition of imported poultry. A CVI serves as verification of animal identification, an attestation of health, an attestation of a Veterinary-client-patient-relationship (VCPR), and documentation of all applicable vaccination and testing.
  - b. The requirements for a CVI are set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and are in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), which can be referenced at the following link: [www.ecfr.gov/current/title-9/chapter-I/subchapter-J/part-161/section-161.4](http://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-9/chapter-I/subchapter-J/part-161/section-161.4)
    - i. Per the CFR, the CVI must be serialized and include the following:
      1. Complete name and address of the exhibitor,
      2. Complete address of the origin premises,
      3. **Complete name and complete address of the fair/show to be attended (a separate CVI needs to be completed for each individual fair/show to be attended).**

4. Species, breed, sex, age of animals, and official identification. See [Chapter C: Official Identification](#) section examples of appropriate official identification based on species.
  5. A statement by the examining veterinarian that they personally inspected the animals described on the CVI and found them free from visible clinical signs of infectious, contagious, and/or communicable disease or known exposure thereto within 30 days of shipment.
  6. A copy of the CVI is provided to the owner, and the appropriate remaining CVI copies, regardless of whether they are completed for interstate (across state lines) or intrastate (within New Jersey) movement, must be submitted to the NJDA Division of Animal Health at P.O. Box 400, Trenton, NJ 08625.
- ii. CVIs are valid for 30 days from the date of examination.
- 3. VS (Veterinary Services) Form 9-3 or VS Form 9-2:** May be used for exhibition of poultry in place of a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for both New Jersey and out-of-state poultry entering New Jersey. Please note that VS Form 9-2 and 9-3 are completed by an authorized individual.
- a. [VS Form 9-3](#) – Report of Sales of Hatching Eggs, Chicks, and Poultry.
  - b. [VS Form 9-2](#) – Flock Selecting and Testing Report.
- 4. Animal Health Certificate (AHC):** This document may only be used for animals native to New Jersey attending a New Jersey fair/show in place of a CVI.
- a. An AHC is not valid for interstate shipment of animals.
  - b. An AHC can be issued by an accredited veterinarian prior to or at the fair/show. Issuance of an AHC at the fair/show is at the organizers' discretion as it requires the presence of a veterinarian on the premises. It should be signed by both the veterinarian and the animal owner. Based on their knowledge and judgement, the examining veterinarian must indicate on the form whether the AHC is valid for 30, 60, or 90 days from the examination date.
  - c. Animals listed on an AHC must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc.)
  - d. The AHC can be found on the NJDA website at: [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/HealthCertificate.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/HealthCertificate.pdf)
- 5. 4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form:** This document can be used for the species indicated in place of a CVI.
- a. Can be completed by the 4-H leader or another qualified adult within 30 days before the exhibition at a 4-H sponsored show or demonstration.

- b. Animals listed on the Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form must be identified by an ear tag, tattoo, or other permanent identification or description (coat color, markings, age, etc.)
- c. If using this form for poultry, a [VS Form 9-2](#) is also needed for poultry to attend a fair/show.
- d. The Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form can be found on the NJDA website at: [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/4-Hpoultryrabbitcavyform.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/4-Hpoultryrabbitcavyform.pdf)
- e. If the event is not sponsored by 4-H, the Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form cannot be utilized. A CVI, AHC, or VS Form 9-2 must be used, depending on species.
  - i. See [Sections 2 through 4](#) above in this chapter for information on these documents.

**6. Rabies vaccination:** All animals eligible for an approved USDA rabies vaccination are strongly recommended to be current on rabies vaccination. Individual fairs/shows may require rabies vaccination for mammalian species for which there is a licensed and approved vaccine.

- a. Proof of vaccination by a veterinarian should be provided upon entry to the fair/show.
- b. Domestic mammalian species susceptible to the disease, for which there is no USDA-approved vaccine, are *recommended* to be vaccinated against rabies. However, rabies vaccination may not be necessary for low-risk, small, caged animal species such as rabbits, cavies, chinchillas, and hamsters. Individual fairs/shows may require rabies vaccination for mammalian species for which there is no USDA-approved vaccine.
- c. If vaccination is waived, the exhibitor and show should ensure these animals are separated from the public by sufficient means to not allow direct animal/public contact.

**7. Animal health issue during a fair/show:** The NJDA recommends that fair/show management arrange for veterinary medical assistance to be on call for the exhibition's duration.

- a. All animal exhibitors should be aware of the local livestock accredited veterinarian(s) willing to provide medical attention for the animals being exhibited.
- b. Any animal showing clinical signs, including, but not limited to, warts, ringworm, footrot, parasites, pink eye, enlarged and inflamed lymph nodes, draining abscesses, or open wounds, must not be exhibited or allowed to remain on the fair or showgrounds.
- c. Fair/show management is responsible for ensuring that animals to be exhibited enter the grounds in good health and with proper documentation.
- d. Everyone associated with the 2026 fairs/shows is encouraged to remain vigilant for potential cases of unusual diseases or any suspicious or abnormal conditions in an animal, herd, or flock. In the event of such observations, contact a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health (DAH) at 609-671- 6400 or the USDA Veterinary Services office at 609-259-5260 **immediately**.

- e. Animal death at a fair/show: Fair/show organizers should work with their fair/show veterinarian to create a site-specific plan to keep any deceased animal carcasses away from live animals. Carcasses should be promptly removed from contact with live animals and disposed of in a bio-secure manner, as determined by the fair/show veterinarian. Any livestock or poultry deaths that are unexplained or of a suspicious nature should be reported to NJDA Division of Animal Health (DAH) at 609-671-6400 or the USDA Veterinary Services office at 609-259-5260 **immediately**.
- f. See [Chapter B](#) for emerging diseases and pest information.

**8. Commingling different species:** Housing different animal species together during a fair/show is not recommended. Close contact between species increases the risk of disease transmission. Some animals may appear healthy but can carry pathogens that do not cause illness in their own species while still posing a risk to other species. It is recommended to keep animals housed separately by species and ideally kept away from other animals outside their own herd or flock.

**9. Humane issues:** All animals present at the fair/show must be handled and cared for in full compliance with the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C.) 2:8 “Humane Treatment of Domestic Livestock.” These rules establish minimum humane standards for the raising, keeping, care, treatment, marketing, and sale of domestic livestock and procedures for enforcing those standards. These standards can be found on the NJDA website at: [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/N.J.A.C.%202-8%20Humane%20Standards%2005-2024.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/N.J.A.C.%202-8%20Humane%20Standards%2005-2024.pdf)

- a. It is recommended that the fair/show identify and contact both their county and local Humane Law Enforcement Officers (HLEO) before the fair/show.
- b. The NJDA should be contacted if the fair/show is visited by anyone inspecting livestock for any stated reason. All inspectors should be accompanied by a fair/show manager at all times while on the fair/show premises.
- c. Should an animal control officer, HLEO, or any other person(s) investigate animal cruelty at the fair, they must abide by the rules in [N.J.A.C. 2:8](#). NJDA suggests that any investigators be provided with a copy of [N.J.A.C. 2:8](#) and be reminded they may not handle animals, touch feed or water or enter livestock areas without complying with biosecurity protocols under 2:8-8.1 (c), which requires them to wear clean clothing and shoe protection to prevent the spread of infectious or contagious agents on or from the premises.
- d. Questions and concerns regarding [N.J.A.C. 2:8](#), including the failure of inspectors to adhere to biosecurity protocols, must be reported to the State Veterinarian at 609-671-6400.

**10. Sale of rabbits, turtles, baby chicks, ducklings:**

- a. Rabbits, turtles, baby chicks, ducklings, or other fowl under two months of age may not be sold, offered for sale, bartered, or given away for use as household or domestic pets ([N.J.S.A. 4:22-26q](#));
- b. Baby chicks, ducklings, other fowl, rabbits, turtles, or chameleons that have been dyed or artificially colored or otherwise treated so as to impart to them an artificial color may not be sold, offered for sale, bartered, given away, or displayed ([N.J.S.A. 4:22-26r](#)).

**11. Incubators:** The NJDA does not oppose the use of incubators at fairs/shows, but proper incubator care is essential. Any fair/show considering an incubator display should be prepared to maintain optimal conditions for the length of the fair/show. Incubators must be closely monitored for temperature and humidity to ensure the welfare of eggs and chicks. Extreme heat or poor conditions may result in harm or mortality. Fairs/shows are encouraged to consult with their fair veterinarian for incubator and chick welfare information.

**12. Sale of poultry:**

- a. Any person selling poultry (including baby chicks) at a fair/show shall provide to the buyer a copy of the [VS Form 9-2 or VS Form 9-3](#), which certifies the poultry originated from a pullorum-typhoid clean/NPIP approved hatchery or flock.
- b. All poultry too young to qualify for testing at the time of movement to a fair/show must meet movement requirements based on negative pullorum-typhoid testing of the parent flock. This can be achieved through testing at the hatchery, documented with a VS Form 9-3, or through on-farm testing of the parent flock, documented with a VS Form 9-2.

**13. Permit requirement to sell baby chicks:**

- a. Before offering baby chicks for sale at any fair/show (unless it is a public sale by farmers selling chicks raised on their own NJ premises) a permit must be obtained from the NJDA-DAH no later than one month in advance of the event ([N.J.S.A. 4:3- 12-19](#)). This includes chicks directly shipped from a hatchery to be sold at the fair/show.
  - i. Permit applications are available by calling (609) 671-6400.
  - ii. There will be a \$5.00 per day fee charged for each day chicks will be offered for sale.
  - iii. The seller will need to specify the number and breed of chicks to be offered for sale and provide documentation (either a VS 9-3 from the hatchery or a VS 9-2 of the parent stock) verifying that the chicks offered for sale are from a pullorum-

typhoid clean/NPIP-approved hatchery/flock or the parent flock was tested for pullorum-typhoid. This documentation is required before a permit is issued.

iv. A spreadsheet must be completed and returned to NJDA-DAH within three days following the end of the fair/show. The following information must be recorded on the spreadsheet:

1. The number and breed of chicks sold
2. The date they were hatched
3. By whom they were hatched
4. The name and complete address of each buyer.

**14. Food safety:** Any food animal exhibited should be accompanied by a [Drug Use Form](#).

- a. This form certifies that:
  - i. The animal has not been treated with drugs or medications,
  - ii. OR the animal does not contain a drug for which the withdrawal period has not yet lapsed per label directions,
  - iii. OR the animal has received drugs or medication, and the withdrawal period has not yet elapsed as per the label directions.
- b. This form should be made available to in-state and out-of-state exhibitors since it helps protect the consumer and teaches exhibitors responsibility in the management and care of food animals.
- c. This document should follow the food animal to its final slaughter destination.
- d. The animal identification, drug name, date(s) of administration, the route of administration, and the drug withdrawal time prior to slaughter must be documented.
- e. **Animals cannot be turned away from the fair/show because they received medications. The drugs simply need to be documented, and the withdrawal time clearly stated.**
- f. It is the animal producer's responsibility to check with their veterinarian as to what medications can be given. It is recommended that exhibitors read about the proper use of antibiotics and other medications.
  - i. Certain drugs, such as gentamicin, are illegal for use in food animals.
- g. The Drug Use Form can be found at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/DrugUseForm.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/pdf/DrugUseForm.pdf)

**15. Public Health Concerns:** Interaction between people and animals provide valuable and enjoyable experiences that should be encouraged. However, during such contact, there is some risk of disease transmission.

- a. To protect both humans and animals, the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health, encourages all fairs/shows to

implement the following precautionary steps to protect both visitors and animals from disease:

- i. Provide hand-cleaning stations/facilities and post signs reminding visitors to wash their hands before and after contact with animals.
    1. Provide running water, soap, and paper towels to dry hands.
    2. Hand-washing stations should be accessible to all guests, including children and people with disabilities.
    3. Provide alcohol-based hand rubs for use on clean hands.
    4. Post signs indicating the location of hand-cleaning stations or facilities.
    5. Adults should supervise children during hand washing.
    6. Maintain safe and clean stations/facilities to protect visitors and animals.
    7. Trash cans should be available and emptied regularly.
  - ii. Do not allow human food or drink in animal contact areas.
  - iii. Instruct visitors to not eat, drink, smoke, place their hands in their mouth, or use bottles or pacifiers while in animal contact areas.
  - iv. Forbid smoking in animal contact areas and at hand-cleaning stations/facilities.
  - v. Ensure that no feed is fed to the animals unless specifically provided by the fair.
  - vi. Supervise children closely when in animal contact areas to prevent hand-to-mouth activities or contact with soiled bedding.
  - vii. Keep strollers, pacifiers, toys, and baby bottles out of animal contact areas.
  - viii. Post signs that animals can carry germs that can make people sick and that children younger than 5 years, people 65 years and older, people who are pregnant, and people with weakened immune systems are at higher risk from diseases that can spread from animals to people.
- b. A poster series intended for posting at hand-cleaning stations/facilities and animal tents can be found at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/prog/index.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/prog/index.shtml) under the “Fairs and Shows” tab.
  - c. The “[Stay Healthy Around Animals](#)” poster has instructions on proper handwashing technique and can be found at [www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/Stay\\_Healthy\\_Around\\_Animals\\_Graphic.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/health/vph/documents/Stay_Healthy_Around_Animals_Graphic.pdf)

**16. Wild animal management on fair or show grounds:** Fair planners experiencing specific wildlife issues on the site, may contact United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services (USDA WS) at 908-735-5654. For instance, if wild geese are nesting at a pond on the facility or vultures are roosting near the barns, USDA WS can provide specific recommendations.

- a. Below links are related to wild birds and Avian Influenza

- i. Manage Wildlife To Prevent Avian Influenza Guidance Document: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fs-manage-wildlife-prevent-ai.508.pdf>
- ii. Do Not Touch Dead Birds Flyer: <https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/njfw/avian-influenza-sign-2-black-and-white.pdf>
- iii. NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Website:
  - 1. Wild Bird Reporting Form: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/749040214c974bb88c89c58483a51ab8>
  - 2. <https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza/>
- b. NJ DEP Fish & Wildlife does not advise that the public handle sick or dead wildlife.
- c. If sick or dead wild birds are discovered on at the fair/show, the local municipality or county should be contacted to inquire about animal control services or private wildlife control services able to dispose of dead wildlife.

**17. Recent Travel to Foreign Countries:** Fair/show attendees should be questioned before entry onto the fair/showgrounds about recent travel to foreign countries to determine potential exposure to disease-infected livestock and poultry.

- a. Anyone who has been within one mile of foreign livestock or poultry areas, zoos, or game parks in the past five days should be considered potentially exposed. This individual should have their shoes cleaned and disinfected at the fair/show entry point and be discouraged from visiting the livestock and poultry. Vinegar should be offered to disinfect watches, eyeglasses, etc.
- b. If a single-entry point/control point cannot be established on the fair/showgrounds to question attendees, it is recommended that attendees not be allowed to get close to or touch the animals.

## Chapter B: Emerging diseases and pest information

The diseases and pests discussed in this section were selected due to their relevance for impacting animal agriculture in New Jersey. Everyone associated with the 2026 fairs/shows is encouraged to remain vigilant for potential cases of unusual diseases or any suspicious or abnormal conditions in an animal, herd, or flock. In the event of such observations, contact a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health (DAH) at 609-671- 6400 or the USDA Veterinary Services office at 609-259-5260 **immediately**.

**African Swine Fever (ASF)** – ASF is a highly contagious and deadly viral disease of domestic and wild pigs. This virus is not harmful to people and is not a food safety issue but would have severe consequences to the swine industry if introduced into the United States.

- ASF is currently devastating pig populations in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti.
- ASF is spread by contact with an infected animal's body fluids. It can also be spread by certain ticks, by people moving the virus on vehicles or clothing, and by feeding pigs infected pork products.
- There is no treatment or vaccine, so prevention depends on strong everyday biosecurity.
- Producers and exhibitors can help protect their animals by:
  - Use dedicated boots and clothing when working with pigs.
  - Clean and disinfect trailers and equipment before and after shows.
  - Prevent contact with feral swine.
  - Never feed food products containing pork to swine.
  - Promptly report any unusual illness or sudden death to a veterinarian.

**Asian Longhorned Tick (ALT)** - The ALT was detected in New Jersey in 2017 and is now found in multiple U.S. states. This tick can reproduce rapidly, allowing for large numbers to build up on livestock.

- Heavy infestations can cause stress, blood loss, and decreased productivity.
- This tick has also been associated with the spread of *Theileria orientalis* Ikeda, a parasite that infects red blood cells and can cause weakness, decreased milk production, reproductive issues, and death.
  - The first confirmed case of [Theileria orientalis Ikeda in New Jersey cattle](#) was detected in November 2024 in Hunterdon County.
- Producers can help protect their herds and exhibition animals by:
  - Routinely checking livestock for ticks.
  - Asking their veterinarian about tick control products.
  - Maintaining their pastures and minimizing tick habitat, like brush.
  - Monitoring their animals and contacting their veterinarian with concerns.
  - Management practices for cattle producers for controlling ALT can be found at: <https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/ENTO/ENTO-382/ENTO-382.html>

**Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** - Also known as “bird flu” has been detected in the US in domestic poultry, backyard flocks, and wild birds since 2022. HPAI is a highly contagious virus that is transmitted from bird-to-bird easily. All poultry owners should be on the lookout for signs of illness in their poultry and use good biosecurity practices to protect their birds.

- Signs of HPAI may include:
  - Sudden increase in bird deaths
  - Sneezing, nasal discharge (runny nose)
  - Gasping for air and/or coughing
  - Swelling around eyes, neck, head
  - Purple/blue discoloration of the wattles, combs, or legs
  - Watery and/or green diarrhea
  - Lack of energy
  - Poor appetite
  - Drop in egg production
  - Soft, thin-shelled, or misshapen eggs
- Information on good biosecurity practices for backyard flocks can be found here:
  - [USDA's Defend the Flock: www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock)
- To protect the New Jersey poultry industry, the NJDA recommends that all fair/show management:
  - Adopt rules requiring all exhibited poultry and hatching eggs to be accompanied by a certification that they are free from avian influenza, regardless of where the birds originated.
  - Allow only healthy birds to attend the fair/show.
  - Designate separate areas to show waterfowl and gallinaceous poultry.
  - Do not allow sharing of any equipment.
  - Do not allow touching/petting of birds.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently.
  - Use a deterrent to keep wild birds away.
  - Remove sick birds and report to fair/show veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 immediately.
  - If highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is detected in NJ, the NJDA may ask for the cancellation of fairs and shows to prevent the spread of HPAI.

**Avian Influenza Virus (HPAI) in Livestock** - HPAI was detected in dairy cattle in the United States in early 2024. As of this writing, HPAI has been detected in dairy cattle in 19 states. There have been no detections in NJ and neighboring states, but cattle owners should remain especially vigilant.

- Signs of HPAI in dairy cattle include:
  - Decreased appetite
  - Drop in milk production
  - Thickened milk
  - Abnormal feces
  - Fever
- To protect New Jersey’s dairy industry, NJDA recommends all fair/show management work with their fair/show veterinarian to tailor their written site-specific biosecurity and animal handling policies. Some key aspects of such a plan include:
  - Exhibitors should clean and disinfect all their equipment on site.
  - Exhibitors should only use their own milking equipment, tools, feeding and cleaning supplies, etc.
  - It is recommended that owners transport only their own cattle.
  - Exhibitors should provide their own feed and bedding.
  - Limit co-mingling of cows from different herds.
- Fair/show management should ensure that accurate exhibitor contact information is on file to facilitate prompt communication, should it be necessary.
- All cattle entering the event should have their farm origin and identification collected.
- Any animal at a fair/show that becomes ill with signs consistent with HPAI should be reported to a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 immediately.
- For additional information: [USDA HPAI in Dairy Cattle: www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-livestock/hpai-dairy-cattle-story-map](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/avian-influenza/hpai-livestock/hpai-dairy-cattle-story-map)

**New World Screwworm (NWS):** NWS is a parasitic fly that lays eggs in open wounds of livestock and other warm-blooded animals. The maggots feed on living tissue, causing rapidly worsening, painful wounds that can be fatal if untreated. NWS is not currently in the United States, but it remains a serious threat and requires immediate reporting if suspected. Producers and exhibitors can help protect their animals by:

- Treating and covering any cuts, surgical sites, or naval areas.
- Inspecting animals daily – especially around wounds, navels, and natural openings.
- Maintain good sanitation in pens and trailers.
- Any unusual, foul-smelling wounds with visible maggots or tissue damage should be reported to a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 immediately.
- For more information visit: [USDA, www.screwworm.gov](http://www.screwworm.gov)

**Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease (RHDV2)** – In March 2020, a case of RHDV2 was found in New Mexico and has been detected in many states since, including New Jersey. RHDV2 is a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease affecting domestic and wild rabbits. This virus does not affect people or other livestock species, but it can cause sudden death in rabbits with few or no warning signs. The virus spreads through direct contact with infected rabbits, contaminated cages, equipment, clothing, feed and water, and it can survive in the environment for long periods. Producers and exhibitors can reduce the risk by:

- Limiting contact between show rabbits and wild rabbits.
- Clean and disinfect cages and transport carriers often.
- Use dedicated footwear and clothing when handling rabbits.
- Quarantining new or returning rabbits before mixing them with others.
- Talk to their veterinarian to determine if vaccination is appropriate for their rabbit.

**Swine Enteric Coronavirus Disease (SECD)** – SECD includes infections with the Porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV) and porcine deltacoronavirus (PDCoV), which are highly contagious viral diseases that cause severe diarrhea and dehydration in pigs. These viruses do not affect people, but they can be easily spread through manure, contaminated trailers, equipment, clothing, and boots, making fairs and shows higher-risk environments. Producers and exhibitors can reduce risk by:

- Thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting trailers before and after events.
- Use dedicated boots and clothes when handling pigs.
- Avoid sharing equipment between farms.
- Closely monitoring animals for signs of diarrhea, vomiting, or sudden illness.
- Fairs/shows should have biosecurity measures planned and in place for SECD.
- Exhibitors should avoid bringing their show animal home to their original herd. If an animal that attends a fair/show needs to return home, it should be separated from the rest of the herd and monitored for signs of illness. Exhibitors should consult their veterinarian on herd management in these cases.

**Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND)** – formerly known as exotic Newcastle disease- is a highly contagious and often deadly viral disease of poultry that can spread rapidly through flocks at farms and exhibitions. This virus does not pose a food safety risk to people, but it can cause severe illness in birds, including sudden death, trouble breathing, green diarrhea, swelling around the eyes, and neurological signs such as tremors or twisted necks. The virus spreads through direct contact

between birds and through contaminated equipment, cages, clothes, shoes, and vehicles. Producers and exhibitors can reduce the risk by:

- Limiting contact between flocks – do not mingle birds from other farms.
- Use dedicated footwear and clothes in poultry areas.
- Clean and disinfect cages and equipment before and after events.
- Prevent contact with wild birds.
- Isolate birds when they return home from a fair/show.
- Any unusual or sudden increase in deaths should be reported to a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 immediately.


**Vesicular Stomatitis virus (VSV)** – VSV is a viral disease that affects horses, cattle, swine, and other livestock, causing painful blister-like lesions on the mouth, tongue, lips, teats, and hooves. Animals may drool, refuse feed, or appear lame. While the illness is usually not fatal, it can significantly impact animal welfare and movement. The virus is primarily spread through biting flies and can move between animals through direct contact or contaminated equipment. Because its signs resemble foreign animal diseases, like foot-and-mouth disease, it must be taken seriously and reported immediately to a veterinarian and the NJDA Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400. Producers and exhibitors can reduce the risk by:

- Implementing insect control measures near barns and animals.
- Cleaning and disinfecting shared surfaces.
- Minimizing animal comingling when possible.
- Keep different species of animals separate and not housed together.
- Monitor livestock closely for sores or excessive drooling.


## Chapter C: Species-Specific Health Regulations and Recommendations

**Symbol Key:** ✓ (Circle with a checkmark) is a **Requirement**.  
○ (Empty circle) is a **Recommendation**.

### New Jersey Cattle attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:

- **Requirements:** None.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.
  - Recommended that NJ-origin cattle be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
    - A USDA issued National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tag if applied prior to Nov. 5, 2024. This tag type is no longer valid for interstate movement if applied after Nov. 5, 2024.
    - A 15-digit Animal Identification Number (AIN) ear tag starting with “840” and bearing the US shield .
  - It is recommended that fair/show management work with their fair/show veterinarian to have site-specific biosecurity plans for exhibiting dairy cattle given the risk of avian influenza (HPAI) transmission to dairy cattle.
    - See [Chapter B](#) for information on HPAI in dairy cattle and additional biosecurity recommendations.

### Imported Cattle attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:

- **Requirements:**
  - ✓ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.
  - ✓ Must have USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
    - A USDA issued National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tag if applied prior to Nov. 5, 2024. This tag type is no longer valid for interstate movement if applied after Nov. 5, 2024.
    - A 15-digit Animal Identification Number (AIN) ear tag starting with “840” and bearing the US shield .
  - ✓ Must be negative to a tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry – *Cattle from an accredited-free [State, zone, or herd](#) are exempt from testing*. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.

- For an accredited herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last tuberculin tested and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the cattle to be imported were:
        - Included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement, or they are natural additions to the herd.
  - ☑ Cattle six months of age or older must be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days of entry – *Cattle to be imported that originates from a [Class Free State or Area](#) are exempt from brucellosis testing.* The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
    - Brucellosis vaccinated heifers under 14 months of age, steers, and spayed heifers are exempt from brucellosis testing.
  - ☑ Must be negative to an anaplasmosis and/or bluetongue test within 30 days prior to entry if the cattle originate from a state that the USDA determines to be endemic for anaplasmosis and/or Bluetongue. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - ☑ Lactating Dairy Cattle must be negative to an official HPAI test within 7 days prior to movement. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Goats attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ All NJ-origin goats of any age who undergo a change of ownership and are not in slaughter channels must be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
    - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
      - Tattoo is recommended for breeds with small ears. Can be tattooed at base of tail.
    - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the goat is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
      - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
      - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.
      - Microchip can be placed in the tail for “earless” animals.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended to be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.

- All NJ-origin goats of any age are recommended to be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
  - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
    - Tattoo is recommended for breeds with small ears. Can be tattooed at base of tail.
  - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the goat is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
    - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
    - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.
    - Microchip can be placed in the tail for “earless” animals.

### **Imported Goats attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**

- ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.
- ☑ All goats of any age must be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
  - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
    - Tattoo is recommended for breeds with small ears. Can be tattooed at base of tail.
  - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the goat is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
    - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
    - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.
    - Microchip can be placed in the tail for “earless” animals.
- ☑ All goats to be imported must be negative to an official tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry. *Goats from an accredited-free [State or Zone](#) or from an accredited herd shall be exempt from testing.* The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - For an accredited herd, the CVI shall include the date on which the herd of origin was last tuberculin tested and a statement by the accredited veterinarian that the goats to be imported were:

- Included in the most recent test of the herd of origin and testing with negative results occurred within one year prior to the date of movement, or they are natural additions to the herd.
- ☑ All goats to be imported four months of age or over must be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry. *Wethers are exempt from brucellosis testing.* The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - Please note: In lieu of brucellosis testing, the State Veterinarian may allow goats that do not originate from brucellosis-free herds to attend NJ fairs/shows if the owner contacts the NJ Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400 between 9:00am – 4:30pm EST M-F to obtain a permit number to be included on the CVI. Owners will need to provide the following information:
    - Name of owner
    - National Premises Identification number or scrapie flock identification number
    - Addresses of premises of origin and destination
    - Number of goats to entering into New Jersey
    - Precise dates of movement.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Horses attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ Must be accompanied by a valid EIA (Coggins) form certifying the animal has had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia (EIA) within the past 24 months.
    - *Horses younger than 6 months old, that is accompanied by its dam that has a negative official Coggins test within the past 24 months is exempt from testing.*
  - ☑ Horses that are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade must have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to the change of ownership.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended to be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.

### **Imported Horses attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.

- ☑ Must be accompanied by a valid EIA (Coggins) form certifying the animal has had a negative official test (AGID or ELISA) for equine infectious anemia (EIA) within the past 12 months. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - *Horses younger than 6 months old, that is accompanied by its dam that has a negative official Coggins test within the past 12 months is exempt from testing.*
- ☑ Horses that are to change owners via sale, barter, or trade must have a negative Coggins test within 90 days prior to the change of ownership.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Camelids (Llama/Alpaca) attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:** None.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended to be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.
    - There is no official ID requirement for camelids (llamas/alpacas). They may be identified by name, number, species, breed, and physical description.

### **Imported Camelids (Llama/Alpaca) attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.
  - ☑ Must be negative to a bluetongue test within 30 days prior to entry if the camelids originate from a state that the USDA determines to be endemic for Bluetongue. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - ☑ All camelids to be imported six months of age or over must be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry. *Neutered males are exempt from brucellosis testing.* The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - ☑ Must be negative to a tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry – *Camelids from an accredited-free State or zone are exempt from testing.* The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Poultry and Hatching Eggs attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**

- ☑ All poultry (except waterfowl, pigeons, and doves) and hatching eggs must originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean (or equivalent) flocks or must have an individual negative Pullorum-Typhoid test performed within 90 days prior to the fair/show.
  - Individual Pullorum-Typhoid testing requirements are created by the federal government and can be found in the [Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) at 9CFR part 145](#). These requirements include:
    - Poultry (except for those types listed below) must be tested when 4 months of age or older.
      - *Poultry under 4 months of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks or*
      - *Parents of poultry under 4 months of age may be tested to move the young poultry to a fair/show. Both parents must be present and identified on farm in these cases.*
    - Turkeys must be blood tested when 12 weeks of age or older. Turkeys shall only be tested by NJDA authorized personnel. *Turkeys under 12 weeks of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Game birds (including quail, chukar, grouse, pheasant) must be tested when 4 months of age or older or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first. *Game birds under 4 months of age and have not reached sexual maturity must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Ostriches, emus, rheas, and cassowaries must be blood tested when 12 months of age or older. *All ostriches, emus, rheas, and cassowaries less than 12 months of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Waterfowl, pigeons, and doves are exempt from Pullorum-Typhoid testing.
  - Contact information for certified pullorum testers is available by calling the Division of Animal Health at (609) 671-6400.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended that all poultry and hatching eggs, including chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl, peafowl, quail, grouse, chukars, pheasant, ratites (ostrich, emu, rhea, and cassowaries), waterfowl, pigeons, and doves be accompanied by an official [CVI, AHC, VS Form 9-2 or 9-3, or a 4-H Poultry, Rabbit, or Cavy Health Form](#).
  - It is recommended that all fair/show management adopt rules requiring all exhibited poultry and hatching eggs to be accompanied by a certification that they are free from avian influenza, regardless of where the birds originated.
    - See [Chapter B](#) for additional information about avian influenza and recommendations.

## Imported Poultry and Hatching Eggs attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:

- **Requirements:**

- ☑ All poultry and hatching eggs, including chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl, peafowl, quail, grouse, chukars, pheasant, ratites (ostrich, emu, rhea, and cassowaries), waterfowl, pigeons, and doves must be accompanied by an official CVI or [VS Form 9-2 or 9-3](#).
- ☑ All poultry (except waterfowl, pigeons, and doves) and hatching eggs must originate from U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean (or equivalent) flocks or must have an individual negative Pullorum-Typhoid test performed within 90 days prior to the fair/show.
  - Individual Pullorum-Typhoid testing requirements are created by the federal government and can be found in the [Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) at 9CFR part 145](#). These requirements include:
    - Poultry (except for those types listed below) must be tested when 4 months of age or older.
      - *Poultry under 4 months of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks or*
      - *Parents of poultry under 4 months of age may be tested to move the young poultry to a fair/show. Both parents must be present and identified on farm in these cases*
    - Turkeys must be blood tested when 12 weeks of age or older. Turkeys shall be tested using a microtiter or tube agglutination test. *Turkeys under 12 weeks of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Game birds (including quail, chukar, grouse, pheasant) must be tested when 4 months of age or older or upon reaching sexual maturity, whichever comes first. *Game birds under 4 months of age and have not reached sexual maturity must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Ostriches, emus, rheas, and cassowaries must be blood tested when 12 months of age or older. *All ostriches, emus, rheas, and cassowaries less than 12 months of age must originate from Pullorum-Typhoid negative flocks.*
    - Waterfowl, pigeons, and doves are exempt from Pullorum-Typhoid testing.
- ☑ All poultry and hatching eggs, including chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl, peafowl, quail, grouse, chukars, pheasant, ratites (ostriches, emus, rheas, and cassowaries), waterfowl, pigeons, and doves must originate and move directly from an established flock that participates in the [NPIP U.S. Avian Influenza Clean program or NPIP U.S. H5/H7 Avian Influenza Clean or Monitored programs](#); or

- Originate and move directly from a test negative Avian Influenza monitored flock (as defined in [N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.1](#)); or
  - Originate and move directly from a test negative Avian Influenza tested flock (as defined in [N.J.A.C. 2:9-2.1](#)).
  - Poultry under 7 days of age are exempt from testing requirements if these birds originate and move directly from a breeding flock that meets the above-mentioned requirements.
  - Pigeons and doves are exempt from Avian Influenza testing.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Sheep attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ All NJ-origin goats of any age who undergo a change of ownership and are not in slaughter channels must be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
    - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
    - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the sheep is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
      - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
      - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended to be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.
  - All NJ-origin sheep of any age are recommended to be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
    - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
    - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the sheep is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
      - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
      - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.

### **Imported Sheep attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.

- ☑ Sexually intact sheep of any age must be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Identification can be:
  - USDA-approved ear tag or tattoo
  - USDA- approved ISO 11784/95 compliant implantable microchip if the sheep is registered with a national breed association that allows the use of implantable microchips.
    - Registration papers documenting the microchip number must travel with the animal.
    - Microchip reader must be brought to the fair/show.
- ☑ Must be negative to an official bluetongue test within 30 days prior to entry if the sheep originate from a state that the USDA determines to be endemic for Bluetongue. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
- **Recommendations:** None.

### **New Jersey Swine attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**
  - ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI or AHC.
  - ☑ NJ-origin swine must be identified by USDA-approved official identification if an official CVI is used. Official identification must be an official 840 series tag. This number must appear on the CVI.
- **Recommendations:**
  - Recommended that pigs attending fairs/shows should not return home or be re-introduced to other pigs. If pigs are to return to the herd, preventative measures should be put in place to reduce the chance of introducing swine enteric coronavirus disease (SECD) into the herd.
    - Isolate and test the returning swine for SECD before returning to the herd.
    - SECD is not a zoonotic disease and does not pose a public health risk to humans. However, the public can spread this virus to other pigs at fairs/shows. Public separation from pigs is recommended but not required. Enhanced biosecurity measures to prevent the potential spread of SECD is recommended.
    - For more information on SECF, visit the [NJDA's website](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/prog/swineentericdiseases.shtml) at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/prog/swineentericdiseases.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/ah/prog/swineentericdiseases.shtml)

### **Imported Swine attending a New Jersey Fair/Show:**

- **Requirements:**

- ☑ Must be accompanied by an official CVI.
    - The CVI must contain a statement from the issuing veterinarian that they personally inspected the pigs and found them free of clinical signs of infectious, contagious, or communicable diseases or known exposure within 30 days of the shipment.
  - ☑ Pigs of any age must be identified by USDA-approved official identification. Official identification must be an official 840 series tag. This number must appear on the CVI.
  - ☑ Must be negative to an official brucellosis test within 30 days prior to entry- *swine from a Brucellosis Free [State, Area](#), or herd are exempt from brucellosis testing*. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
  - ☑ Must be negative to an official pseudorabies test within 30 days prior to entry – *swine from a pseudorabies IV or V [State/Area](#) or originate from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd are exempt from testing*. The date and test results must be included on the CVI.
- **Recommendations:** None.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture appreciates your commitment to protecting animal health and supporting New Jersey’s agricultural community. Thank you for helping keep our state’s livestock healthy, and we wish you a safe and enjoyable 2026 fair and show season!

