

Exhibition of Livestock in Minnesota (2024)

Always check with exhibition management to make sure they have not imposed any restrictions or additional requirements. For Minnesota State Fair exhibition requirements, call ☎ 651-288-4417 or visit www.mnstatefair.org.

Animal Health

All animals will be inspected by the official veterinarian the opening day of the Fair and throughout fair week. The official veterinarian will order the immediate removal to a quarantine facility or removal from the exhibition premises of any animal showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious or communicable disease, including ringworm and warts. Any animal showing evidence of any disease, abscesses, or any open contagious lesions will not be allowed to exhibit or show and will be subject to isolation or expulsion depending on the nature and seriousness of the disease, abscess or lesion in question. If illness of any nature is suspected in any animal, said animal is subject to examination by the Official Veterinarian and Fair Superintendent and owner or exhibitor of said animal must abide by the decision of this Veterinarian and the designated Fair Superintendent. Animals with warts or ringworm may not be shown. A statement from a veterinarian that an animal is being treated for these diseases is not acceptable. Animals known by the exhibitor to have an infectious, communicable disease or to have been exposed to an infectious, communicable disease, or to be from a quarantined flock may not be entered in an exhibition.

Official Identification

Please note that the following types of identification are not considered official on certificates of veterinary inspection or test records required for exhibition:

1. 4-H tags
2. Producer tags without a state or USDA assigned premises number and individual animal number preceded by state abbreviation
3. Tattoos not registered with either a breed association or a state agency

For questions about approved official identification, contact the MN Board of Animal Health at ☎ 651-296-2942 or

www.bah.state.mn.us/board/rules/official-id/

Note: Cattle, Swine & Poultry slaughter divisions

All cattle, swine and poultry entered in this division, which are kept isolated in a separate building from all other livestock and poultry at the exhibition and which are slaughtered during or immediately following the exhibition, do not require tests or individual identification.

Cattle

Cattle must be officially identified:

www.bah.state.mn.us/board/rules/official-id/

Dogs

Dogs four months of age or older must be accompanied by a certificate of rabies vaccination documenting that the dog is currently vaccinated for rabies.

Sheep and Goats

Sheep and goats must be officially identified. No sheep or goat that is within 30 days of giving birth may be exhibited without prior approval from the Board of Animal Health.

Deer and Elk

Deer and elk must be officially identified:

www.bah.state.mn.us/board/rules/official-id/

Swine

Swine must be individually identified with an ear tag or tattoo.

Horses

Horses, except 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.

Poultry

Poultry defined as "turkeys, chickens (fancy, exhibition, and game), waterfowl, and game birds maintained in captivity, excluding pigeons and doves"

Poultry Test Requirements: Chickens, turkeys, and game birds, except baby poultry, must be individually identified with a leg or wing band. Chickens, turkeys, game birds, and hatching eggs from these birds must be accompanied by a certificate or test chart to show that they originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified pullorum-typhoid clean or are negative to a pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition. Turkeys and turkey hatching eggs must be accompanied by a certificate or test chart to show that they originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified Mycoplasma gallisepticum clean and Mycoplasma synoviae clean or are negative to a Mycoplasma gallisepticum and a Mycoplasma synoviae test within 90 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition.



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IMPORTANT

This information pertains to 4-H, FFA and open class lactating dairy animals being shown at the 2024 Carver County Fair

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health is providing guidance to all MN exhibitions involving lactating dairy cattle. This involves new requirements to prevent the introduction and spread of H5N1 in all species and information about testing.

The Carver County fair management would like to make you aware of these concerns as we prepare for our event on August 7th to 11th. Enclosed is the latest information pertaining to these guidelines. The most important requirement that you will need to plan for is the testing of all lactating dairy cows and provide a negative test result and certificate of veterinarian inspection prior to your exhibit being placed on display. Please review the enclosed resources and familiarize yourself with this information.

The new guidelines also impact how the Carver County Fair will plan for the event. We are requesting you to provide us with details of your plans to exhibit at this year's fair. We realize that it is difficult to provide accurate information at this time. Please provide an accurate estimate below. Additional information is available and will be forwarded upon request.

Exhibitor Name or Farm Group:

Email?

Number of lactating cows?

Number of yearlings?

Number of calves?

Please respond with an email to entries@carvercountyfair.com

These estimates will help us be more strategic in our stalling plans, providing the best scenario for these newly recommended guidelines for exhibition. Our goal is to minimize contact between herds and provide the best possible environment for you and your cattle.

Your questions and concerns may be directed to Jim Klein, dairy superintendent, at 612.867.5632.

These guidelines are subject to change as this situation develops.

Thank you for your help.

The Carver County livestock management team.

Exhibition Recommendations to Prevent H5N1 in Livestock

This document serves as guidance for exhibition managers to prevent the introduction and spread of H5N1 or other pathogens among livestock including poultry. These recommendations are subject to change based on emerging cases and regulatory guidance.

Before the Exhibition

- Lactating dairy cows coming from out of state are required by [Federal Order](#) to test negative for influenza and be sampled no more than 7 days prior to import. They can travel back to their home herd on the same negative test result if the exhibition does not exceed 10 days.
 - Although lactating dairy cows attending from within Minnesota are not required to be tested it is strongly encouraged. The cost of testing will be covered at the [UMN Veterinary Diagnostic Lab](#). Non-lactating cattle can also be tested.
- Plan ahead for where each species will be housed and avoid housing different species in adjacent pens or separate herds by leaving an empty pen in between.
 - *Do not house cattle and poultry in the same building! If possible, exhibit those species on different days of the exhibition with cleaning and disinfection between.*
- Coordinate with your Official Veterinarian for an organized check-in for livestock and poultry.
 - When possible, block different hours for different species.
- Communicate Official ID, import, and testing requirements to exhibitors at registration and provide [Biosecurity Recommendations](#). Gather exhibitor contact information with each animal registration (phone, email) so exhibitors can be easily reached if needed.
- Develop written biosecurity and emergency response procedures for the event and post biosecurity information at locations you plan to hold livestock.
- Encourage exhibitors to stay home if they are ill.
- Designate an isolation area for sick animals away from other animals and public display.
- Contact your Board of Animal Health Field Inspector with questions.

During the Exhibition

- Post and provide exhibitors with [Biosecurity Recommendations](#) as they arrive.
- Have tagging equipment available for the Official Veterinarian in the event an animal is not appropriately identified on arrival.
- Have frequent [handwashing stations with signage](#) in areas with animals.
- [Post signage](#) discouraging eating or drinking in designated animal areas.
- Limit availability of shared equipment and clean and disinfect it frequently.

- Limit animal contact to the general public. For example, no interactive milking exhibits.
- Maximize physical separation of animals and utilize barriers like tarps to prevent nose-to-nose contact of animals in adjacent stalls.
- Limit comingling of animals from different herds and of different species. Have designated stalls and organized times for animals moving to exhibition areas.
- Ensure adequate ventilation, temperature, and water access in barns to reduce animal stress.
- Dispose of raw milk safely
 - Exhibitors should wash hands after milking.
 - Prohibit dumping milk anywhere outside the designated location.
 - Ship all milk collected for pasteurization or pasteurize on-site using a calf milk pasteurizer or similar heat treatment.
 - If pasteurization isn't an option, waste milk should be disposed of in a contained manure pit and stored for 30 days prior to spreading on fields.
- Contact the Official Veterinarian immediately if animals show signs of illness. Work with exhibitors to ensure sick animals are isolated or removed as ordered by the veterinarian.
 - Signs of influenza in dairy cows may include decreased milk production, appetite, and rumen motility, thick or discolored milk, lethargy, fever, and/or dehydration.
- Have gloves, goggles, and masks available for those who may want to utilize personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling livestock. PPE can [be requested through the Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\)](#).

After the Exhibition

- Follow a written cleaning and disinfection protocol in areas where animals are housed and exhibited between groups and after the exhibition ends.
- Hold a meeting to summarize what went well and what can be improved for future events.
- Organize and store required animal records for 5 years.
- Encourage exhibitors to consult a health care provider or the MDH if they or family members develop influenza-like illness (e.g., fever or chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, tiredness, conjunctivitis, and/or vomiting and diarrhea).

Suspect Cases

- If the Official Veterinarian is concerned an animal may have influenza, they will contact the Board and/or collect samples.
- Lactating dairy cows with signs of infectious disease should be removed from the premises immediately.
 - When moving sick animals, do not let them contact other animals.
 - Clean any feces, urine, and milk from the animal.
 - Clean and disinfect the pen and any equipment that may have contacted the animal.
- If livestock tests positive for influenza that is or was at an exhibition, the Board will conduct an investigation to determine if there were other animals potentially exposed.