



**TEXAS ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
1-800-550-8242, Ext. 777 or 512-719-0777

## **Summary of Texas Requirements**

**For Intrastate, Interstate and International Livestock (Domestic and Exotic), Poultry and Ratites**

**Note:** The following summary is a condensed version of the Texas Animal Health Commission regulations. The regulations will supersede this summary if there is a dispute between the two.

### **Sheep Requirements**

#### **I. Intrastate (Sheep moved within the state of Texas)**

All sheep originating in Texas and participating in :

- A. Intrastate shows, fairs, and exhibitions (those functions that require Texas livestock, poultry and ratites of the same species to be housed and exhibited separate and apart from livestock, poultry and ratites from out of state) are exempt from the certificate of veterinary inspection and testing requirements.
  1. All exhibition breeding sheep must have a scrapie identification eartag.
- B. Interstate shows, fairs, and exhibitions (those functions that permit livestock and poultry from other states to enter for show or exhibition and held in common facilities with Texas origin livestock and poultry of the same species) must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
  1. All out of state exhibition sheep must have a scrapie identification eartag.
  2. All exhibition breeding sheep must have a scrapie identification eartag.
  3. Breeding rams originating in Texas are exempt from the brucella ovis test.

#### **II. Interstate (Sheep moved into the state from other states)**

- A. Any livestock, poultry or ratites that are infected, exposed or quarantined in any manner for an infectious, contagious or communicable disease may not enter the state. Contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242.
- B. Entry permits are required as noted in the following section and may be obtained by calling 512/719-0777 (24 hours) or 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777 or by writing the Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, P. O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966.
- C. Entry Requirements for Domestic Sheep
  1. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection required within 30 days prior to entry.
  2. Scrapie Eradication Program eartag required prior to entry on all sheep.
  3. An entry permit is not required for domestic sheep, except if from an Inconsistent State.
  4. Breeding rams, 6 months of age and over, require a negative ELISA test for brucella ovis within 30 days prior to entry or be from a brucella ovis free flock.
  5. All blackface ovine females and all blackface crossbred females, except hair sheep, imported for breeding purposes shall originate from a Scrapie Certified Free Flock or have documentation supporting that the animals are of the genotype RR at codon 171 or AA at codon 136 and QR at codon 171.
  6. Animals originating from scrapie-affected flocks, scrapie-positive, suspect, exposed, and/or high risk animals, or sheep originating from Inconsistent States, may be granted entry into Texas on a case-by-case basis only after permission of the Executive Director of TAHC or the Designated Scrapie Epidemiologist.
  7. Animals originating from Inconsistent States (without an active scrapie surveillance and control program) may enter the State of Texas only if:
    - b. Obtain an entry permit, and
    - c. Consigned directly to a terminal feedlot, or consigned directly to slaughter.
  8. Animals entering slaughter channels must be identified but the identification does not need to be recorded on the accompanied certificate of veterinary inspection.

#### **III. International (Sheep moved into the state from foreign countries)**

- Contact USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) for international animal requirements