

**Summary of Texas Requirements
For Entry of Livestock (Domestic and Exotic), Poultry and Ratites into the State
and into Shows, Fairs, Exhibitions, and Assemblies**

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.

1. Infected, Exposed or Quarantined for Disease

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 unless:

- A. They are consigned direct to slaughter or to a designated pen or to a quarantined feedlot or directly from the premise of origin to a specifically approved market for sale to slaughter or to a designated pen or to a quarantined feedlot accompanied by a VS 1-27 permit (Swine that are infected or exposed to PRV may be moved from out of state only directly to a slaughter plant in Texas.); or,
- B. If quarantined as a result of Commission action may enter only as specified in the quarantine order established by the Commission; or,
- C. Given written permission by the Executive Director of the Commission for each movement.

NOTE: Cattle, cervids and goats originating from specific areas of Michigan are required to be tested for tuberculosis because of the presence of this disease in free-ranging deer (Refer to 4 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 51, Section 51.8, 51.10 and 51.11).

NOTE: "Brushy-tailed possums cannot be transported into the State."

2. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection

The certificate must indicate that the accredited veterinarian found the animals or fowl to be free of symptoms or evidence of communicable disease and that all tests, immunizations or treatments required by the Commission were completed. For certain diseases, a specific statement may be required indicating disease free status. The certificate is required to accompany animals and fowl entering the State of Texas as stated in the following summary of entry requirements. The certificate is valid for 45 days for equine and 30 days for all other species.

3. Waybill

The waybill may be used in lieu of a certificate of veterinary inspection to accompany:

- A. Cattle, 18 months of age and over, delivered directly from a farm of origin consigned to slaughter.
- B. Beef cattle, 18 months of age and over, delivered directly to a USDA specifically approved livestock market by the owner or consigned there.
- C. Beef steers, spayed heifers and beef cattle under 18 months of age, consigned to slaughter or a livestock market.
- D. Beef steers, spayed heifers and beef cattle under 18 months of age delivered to a feedlot for feeding for slaughter by the owner or consigned there.
- E. Swine consigned to slaughter.
- F. Poultry consigned to a slaughter establishment that maintains federal postmortem inspection.

The waybill must contain the name and address of the owner or shipper; point of origin; number and type of livestock and/or poultry; purpose of movement; and destination.

4. Prior Entry Permit

Entry permits are required as noted in the following summary of entry requirements. Permits may be obtained by calling 512/719-0777 (24 hours) or 1/800-550-8242, or by writing the Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, P. O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966.

5. Entering Shows, Fairs, Exhibitions, and Assemblies

- A. Livestock, poultry and ratites entering from out of state must meet this state's entry requirements. Texas origin dairy cattle are not required to test for tuberculosis to participate in a show, fair or exhibition within the state.
- B. Animals moving from out of state and entering for exhibition and sale must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection and a permit for entry when required by the entry regulations. The permit for entry is not required when livestock enter for exhibition and return to the state of origin.
- C. Poultry entered in terminal public exhibition events shall be accompanied by a certificate of source which identifies the flock of origin. Poultry entering in a non-terminal public exhibition shall be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection. The certificate of veterinary inspection shall state that poultry have been inspected and are free from evidence of infectious or contagious diseases; that the poultry have been vaccinated only with approved vaccines, and poultry have not originated from an area that has had an active avian disease within 30 days of entry. Poultry entering the state for public exhibition, from other states, must have either a negative flock or individual bird test for Avian Influenza, within 30 days of entry and the results of such test shall be recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- D. Equine may enter Texas for shows, fairs, exhibitions, or assembly purposes when accompanied by a valid equine interstate passport or equine identification card and a completed VS Form 10-11 showing negative results to an official EIA test within the previous 6 months or a certificate of veterinary inspection and a completed VS Form 10-11 showing negative results to an official EIA test with the previous 12 months.
- E. Equine originating in Texas and:
 - (1) Entering parimutuel racetracks - Must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection and a negative test for EIA conducted within 12 months. Foals nursing a negative dam are exempt from testing.
 - (2) Entering a show, fair, exhibition, and assembly - Must have a negative test for EIA conducted within the previous 12 months. Foals nursing a negative dam are exempt from testing.
- F. All other livestock, poultry and ratites originating in Texas and:
 - (1) Entering 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) - Are exempt from an entry permit but must meet the same other requirements as for those entering from out-of-state and be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
 - a. Ratites must be individually identified with either an RFID device, a permanently attached tag or an implanted electronic device (microchip) and tested negative for Avian Influenza and Salmonella pullorum-typhoid within 30 days of entry.
 - b. Swine entered in terminal shows are exempt from brucellosis, leptospirosis and pseudorabies requirements.
 - c. Breeding rams originating in Texas are exempt from the brucella ovis test.
 - d. Vaccination for brucellosis is not required for cattle.
 - e. Texas origin dairy cattle are not required to test for tuberculosis to participate in a show, fair or exhibition within the state.
 - (2) Entering all 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 entry permit, certificate of veterinary inspection and testing requirements, except poultry must originate from flocks or hatcheries free of pullorum disease and fowl typhoid or have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 30 days before exhibition.
- G. Rodeo stock from Mexico shall be tested for tuberculosis by an accredited US veterinarian within 12 months prior to their utilization as rodeo or roping stock, and retested for tuberculosis every 12 months thereafter. This is in addition to the entry requirements set out in the section "Cattle Entering the State from Foreign Countries".

6. **Cattle Entering the State from Other States**

- A. Brucellosis Requirements
Test eligible cattle are defined as all cattle that are parturient, post parturient or that are 18 months of age and over, except steers and spayed heifers.

(1) Vaccination

All non-vaccinated female cattle between 4 and 12 months of age shall be officially vaccinated prior to entry. Exceptions to these vaccination requirements:

- a. Female cattle entering for purposes of shows, fairs and exhibitions and returning to their original location.
- b. Female cattle moving within commuter herds.
- c. Spayed heifers.
- d. Female cattle from free states.
- e. Female cattle from other than free states shall be vaccinated as follows:
 - (i) Entering from an out-of state farm of origin will be accompanied by a waybill to a Texas market, feedlot for feeding for slaughter or direct to slaughter. These cattle may be vaccinated at the market at no expense to the state prior to leaving the market and be moved freely. If these cattle are not vaccinated at the market then they shall be consigned from the market only to a feedlot for feeding for slaughter or direct to slaughter, accompanied by an "S" permit. If consigned to a feedlot they shall also be "F" branded high on the tail-head prior to or upon entering the feedlot.
 - (ii) Entering from an out-of-state livestock market to a Texas livestock market, feedlot for feeding for slaughter or direct to slaughter will be accompanied by an "S" brand permit or certificate of veterinary inspection. Individual identification is not required. These cattle may be vaccinated, at no expense to the state, prior to leaving the market and be moved freely. If these cattle are not vaccinated at the market, then they shall be consigned from the market only to a feedlot for feeding for slaughter or direct to slaughter, accompanied by an "S" permit. If consigned to a feedlot, they shall also be "F" branded high on the tail-head prior to or upon entering the feedlot.
 - (iii) Entering from any out-of-state location and destined for a Texas premise, may enter on a calfhood vaccination permit and must be vaccinated, at no expense to the state, within 14 days after arriving at the premise of destination.

(2) To Quarantined Feedlots or Designated Pens

- a. Sexually intact cattle, 18 months of age and older and not from class free states or areas, certified brucellosis free herd or commuter herds, may enter provided they meet one of the following:
 - (i) Be "S" branded and accompanied by an "S" permit; or,
 - (ii) If entering from other than a farm of origin may be accompanied by an "S" permit on which individual animal identification is listed along with brucellosis test data including test date and results; or,
 - (iii) Be "F"-branded high on the tail-head prior to or upon entering the feedlot; or,
 - (iv) May meet test requirements for entry and be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
- b. Steers, spayed heifers, *and* bulls and vaccinated heifers under 18 months of age must be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
- c. Nonvaccinated females, over 4 months of age and under 12 months of age, must be accompanied by an "S" permit or certificate of veterinary inspection when moving from a livestock market or accompanied by a waybill when moving directly from the premise of origin. Individual identification is not required.
- d. Cattle, which are parturient, post parturient, or 18 months of age and over (as evidenced by the loss of the first pair of temporary incisor teeth), except steers and spayed heifers, being shipped to a feedyard prior to slaughter shall be officially individually identified with a permanent identification device prior to leaving the state of origin.

(3) To Slaughter Plants

- a. Sexually intact cattle, 18 months of age and older and not from class free states or areas, certified brucellosis free herd or commuter herds, may enter provided they meet one of the following:
 - (i) Be delivered directly from the farm of origin and accompanied by a waybill; or
 - (ii) Be "S" branded and accompanied by an "S" permit; or,
 - (iii) If entering from other than a farm of origin may be accompanied by an "S" permit on which individual animal identification is listed along with brucellosis test data including test date and results; or,

- (iv) May meet test requirements for entry and be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
 - b. Steers, spayed heifers, *and* bulls and vaccinated heifers under 18 months of age may enter without restriction if delivered by the owner. A waybill is required to accompany the shipment when delivered by another person.
 - c. Nonvaccinated females, over 4 months of age and under 12 months of age, must be accompanied by an "S" permit or certificate of veterinary inspection when moving from a livestock market or accompanied by a waybill when moving directly from the premise of origin. Individual identification is not required.
- (4) To Livestock Markets
 - a. Sexually intact cattle, 18 months of age and older and not from class free states or areas, certified brucellosis free herd or commuter herds: (1) moving from other than a farm of origin must meet prior testing requirements for entry from the particular state or country of origin and be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection; (2) delivered directly from a farm of origin to an USDA specifically approved livestock market by the owner are exempt from the above requirements and need only a waybill, if delivered by another person.
 - b. Steers, spayed heifers, and bulls and vaccinated heifers under 18 months of age may enter without restriction if delivered to the market and accompanied by a waybill.
 - c. Nonvaccinated female cattle between 4 and 12 months of age moving directly from the premise of origin must be accompanied by a waybill or if entering from a livestock market they must be accompanied by an "S" permit or a certificate of veterinary inspection. These females are not required to be individually identified.
- (5) To a Premise or Nonquarantined Feedlot
 - a. A certificate of veterinary inspection is required.
 - b. An entry permit is required on sexually intact cattle, 18 months of age and older, except those entering from class free or "A" states, certified free herds or commuter herds.
 - c. Female cattle between 4 and 12 months of age must be vaccinated according to entry requirements.
 - d. Sexually intact cattle, 18 months of age and older, from noncertified free herds in Class "A" and "B" States or areas must be tested negative within 30 days prior to entry.

B. Tuberculosis Requirements

- (1) All beef cattle, bison and sexually neutered dairy cattle originating from a tuberculosis free state or area, or from a tuberculosis accredited herd are exempt from tuberculosis testing requirements.
- (2) All beef cattle, bison and sexually neutered dairy cattle originating from a state or area with anything less than a tuberculosis free state shall be tested negative for tuberculosis in accordance with the appropriate status requirements as contained in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77, Sections 77.10 through 77.19, within 60 days prior to entry with results of this test recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- (3) All sexually intact dairy cattle, that are two (2) months of age or older may enter provided that they are officially identified, and are accompanied by a certificate stating that they were negative to an official tuberculosis test conducted within 60 days prior to the date of entry. All sexually intact dairy cattle that are less than two (2) months of age must be officially identified and obtain an entry permit from the Commission to a designated facility where the animals will be held until they are tested negative at the age of two (2) months. Animals which originate from a tuberculosis accredited herd and/or animals moving directly to an approved slaughtering establishment are exempt from the test requirement. Dairy cattle delivered to an approved feedlot for feeding for slaughter by the owner or consigned there and accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection with an entry permit issued by the commission are exempt from testing unless from a restricted herd. In addition, all sexually intact dairy cattle originating from a state or area with anything less than a tuberculosis free state status shall be tested negative for tuberculosis in accordance with the appropriate requirements for states or areas for that status, prior to entry with results of the test recorded on the certificate of veterinary inspection.

(4) All "M" branded steers, which are recognized as potential rodeo and/or roping stock, being imported into Texas from another state shall be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection which indicates that the animal (s) were tested negative for tuberculosis within twelve (12) months prior to entry into the state.

C. Fever Tick Requirements

Cattle originating in a tick quarantined area must be accompanied by a certificate issued by an authorized representative of the Commission showing the cattle are free of infestation and exposure to fever ticks and have been dipped or treated under supervision in an approved dipping solution or treatment immediately prior to shipment.

D. Scabies Requirements

Cattle originating in a scabies quarantined area must be accompanied by an entry permit along with certification that the herd of origin is declared free of scabies or exposure to scabies and cattle have either been dipped with approved dip or injected with Ivermectin.

E. Screwworm Requirements

All animals presented for entry into Texas from any area in which the screwworm is known to exist must be free of screwworms and screwworm fly eggs. Wounds (infested or non-infested) must be treated with USDA approved screwworm killer and fly repellent. Animals other than lactating dairy animals and young animals under two weeks of age must be sprayed with a spray approved by the Executive Director.

7. **Cattle Entering the State from Foreign Countries**

A. Brucellosis Requirements

Requirements for cattle from foreign countries without comparable brucellosis status that enter and remain in Texas.

(1) Permit Requirement. Sexually intact cattle must obtain an "E" permit prior to entry other than direct to slaughter, quarantined feedlot or designated pens. The permit number must be entered on the Importation Certificate (VS Form 17-30).

(2) Branding Requirements.

- a. Sexually intact cattle destined for a quarantined feedlot or designated pen must be "S" branded prior to or upon arrival at the quarantined feedlot or designated pen.
- b. Spayed heifers shall be identified by branding prior to entry.

(3) Vaccination Requirement. Nonvaccinated sexually intact female cattle between 4 and 12 months of age entering for purposes other than immediate slaughter or feeding for slaughter in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen shall be placed under quarantine on arrival and officially brucellosis vaccinated. The quarantine may be released after a negative test is conducted 30 days after they have had their first calf.

(4) Testing Requirements for Bulls entering for purposes other than immediate slaughter or feeding in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen. Bulls entering for purposes other than immediate slaughter or feeding in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen shall be tested at the port of entry into Texas under the supervision of the port veterinarian, and placed under quarantine and retested 120 to 180 days after arrival. The quarantine will be released following a negative brucellosis test.

(5) Testing Requirements for Females entering for purposes other than immediate slaughter or feeding in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen. All sexually intact female cattle entering for purposes other than immediate slaughter or feeding for slaughter in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen shall be tested at the port of entry into Texas under the supervision of the port veterinarian, and placed under quarantine on arrival and retested for brucellosis in no less than 120 days nor more than 180 days after arrival for release of the quarantine however, if the sexually intact female cattle have not had their first calf prior to the 120 to 180 day post entry test, the quarantine will not be released until a second negative test for brucellosis is conducted no sooner than 30 days after the animal has had its first calf and the second negative test has been confirmed.

(6) Testing Requirements for Sexually Intact Cattle moving directly to a quarantined feedlot or designated pen. All sexually intact cattle destined for feeding for slaughter in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen must be tested at the port of entry into Texas under the supervision of the port veterinarian. These cattle must be "S" branded prior to or upon arrival at the quarantined feedlot or

designated pen, and may move to the quarantined feedlot or designated pen only in sealed trucks with a VS 1-27 permit issued by a representative of TAHC or USDA personnel.

B. Tuberculosis Requirements

- (1) All sexually intact cattle, from any foreign country or part thereof with no recognized comparable tuberculosis status.
 - a. To be held for purposes other than for immediate slaughter or feeding for slaughter in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen, must be tested at the port of entry into Texas under the supervision of the port veterinarian, and shall be under quarantine on the first premise of destination in Texas pending a negative tuberculosis test no earlier than 120 days and no later than 180 days after arrival. The test will be performed by a veterinarian employed by the TAHC or APHIS/VS.
 - b. When destined for feeding for slaughter in a quarantined feedlot or designated pen, cattle must be tested at the port-of-entry into Texas under the supervision of the port veterinarian; moved directly to the quarantined feedlot or designated pen only in sealed trucks; accompanied with a VS 1-27 permit issued by TAHC or USDA personnel; and "S" branded prior to or upon arrival at the feedlot.
- (2) All other cattle from foreign countries, foreign states or areas within foreign countries defined by the Commission, with comparable tuberculosis status, would enter by meeting the requirements for a state with similar status as stated in subsections (1), (2) and (3) of the section: "Cattle Entering the State from Other States.
- (3) Cattle originating from Mexico
 - a. All sexually intact cattle shall meet the requirements provided for in subsection (1) of this section.
 - b. Steers and spayed heifers from Mexico shall meet the federal importation requirements as provided in Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 93, Section 93.427, regarding importation of cattle from Mexico. In addition to the federal requirements, steers and spayed heifers must be moved under permit to an approved pasture, approved feedlot, quarantined feedlot, designated pen or approved pens.
 - c. Cattle utilized as rodeo and/or roping stock shall meet the requirements set out in subsection (3) (a) of this section and the applicable requirement below:
 - (i) All sexually intact cattle shall be retested annually for tuberculosis at the owner's expense and the test records shall be maintained with the animal and available for review,
 - (ii) All sexually neutered horned cattle imported from Mexico are recognized as potential rodeo and/or roping stock and must:
 - (I) be tested for tuberculosis at the port of entry under the supervision of the USDA port veterinarian, and
 - (II) be moved by permit to a premise of destination and remain under Hold Order, which restricts movement, until permanently identified by methods approved by the Commission, and retested for tuberculosis between 60 and 120 days after entry at the owner's expense. The cattle may be allowed movement to and from events/activities in which commingling with other cattle will not occur and with specific permission by the TAHC until confirmation of the negative post entry retest for tuberculosis can be conducted, and
 - (III) be retested for tuberculosis annually at the owner's expense and the test records shall be maintained with the animal and available for review.
 - d. Regardless of reproductive status, test history, or Mexican state of origin, Holstein and Holstein cross cattle are prohibited from entering Texas.
 - e. All cattle moved into Texas from Mexico shall be identified with an "M" brand prior to moving to a destination in Texas.
 - f. A copy of the certificate issued by an authorized inspector of the USDA,APHIS, for the movement of Mexico cattle into Texas must accompany such animals to their final destination in Texas, or so long as they are moving through Texas.

8. Equine Entering the State

- A. All equine shall have a certificate of veterinary inspection and proof of a negative EIA test within the previous 12 months prior to entering Texas. The negative test results, together with the name of the laboratory conducting the test, must be shown on the certificate of veterinary inspection. Alternatively, a

completed VS Form 10-11 may be attached to the certificate of veterinary inspection. Only test results from USDA approved laboratories are acceptable.

Exceptions to these test requirements:

- a. equine consigned directly to an approved slaughtering establishment accompanied by a prior permit issued by the Commission; or
 - b. equine that have been "S" branded and consigned directly to an approved slaughter establishment accompanied by a VS 1-27 permit; or
 - c. equine may enter Texas when consigned directly to a veterinary hospital or clinic for treatment or for usual veterinary procedures when accompanied by a permit number issued by the Commission. Following release by the veterinarian, equine must be returned immediately to the state of origin by the most direct route; or
 - d. equine entering Texas for sale at a livestock market, may first be consigned directly to a veterinary hospital or clinic for issuance of the certificate of veterinary inspection and EIA testing, when accompanied by a prior entry permit issued by the Texas Animal Health Commission; or
 - e. equine may enter Texas for shows, fairs, exhibitions or assembly purposes when accompanied by a valid equine interstate passport or equine identification card and a completed VS Form 10-11 showing negative results to an official EIA test within the previous six (6) months.
 - f. foals, under eight months of age, accompanying and nursing a dam with a negative test within the last twelve months.
- B. All equine must meet the same requirements for fever ticks and scabies as for "Cattle Entering the State from Other States".
- C. Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA): Owners, shippers or exporters of EVA carrier stallions which are to be imported into Texas, shall notify the buyer or receiver of the stallion, in writing, prior to shipment into the state, that the stallion is an EVA carrier stallion. The equine shall be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection on which the carrier status of the stallion is notated.

9. **Swine Entering the State**

- A. A certificate of veterinary inspection is required for all but slaughter swine listing permanent identification and including a statement that they have not been fed garbage, have not been exposed to hog cholera or pseudorabies and have not been vaccinated for pseudorabies. Swine may be consigned direct to slaughter or a specifically approved market for sale to slaughter accompanied by a waybill in lieu of the certificate.
- B. Leptospirosis vaccination is required on breeding swine within 30 days prior to entry with Leptospirosis vaccine containing the following strains: Canicola, Hardjo, Icterohaemorrhagiae, Grippotyphosa, Pomona.
- C. A negative brucellosis test is required on breeding swine within 30 days prior to entry, if not originating from a validated brucellosis free herd or state or area.
- D. Swine not known to be infected with or exposed to pseudorabies, and originate from a state not classified as Stage IV or V, may enter provided they:
- (1) are tested negative within 30 days prior to entry and then held in isolation and under quarantine on the premise where first unloaded and tested or retested for PRV in not less than 30 nor more than 60 days after arrival. Feeder swine are exempt from the retest provided that the swine enter on an entry permit from the Commission and are destined directly to a designated feedlot and remain restricted to the feedlot until they are sent to slaughter; or
 - (2) originate from a qualified PRV negative herd; or
 - (3) are shipped directly from a farm of origin in a Stage IV or free state or area as described in the National PRV Program; or
 - (4) originate from and are sold at an approved feeder pig market in a Stage IV or free state or area and enter the state directly from that market.

10. **Sheep Entering the State**

- A. A certificate of veterinary inspection is required on all imports. All breeding sheep regardless of age, all sheep 18 months of age or older, and all sexually intact show or exhibition sheep, must be officially

identified with a Scrapie Eradication Program eartag prior to entry. Animals originating from Inconsistent States (without an active scrapie surveillance and control program) may enter the State of Texas only if:

- (1) Obtain an entry permit, and
- (2) Consigned directly to a terminal feedlot, or
- (3) Consigned directly to slaughter.

- B. All breeding rams, six months of age and over must have had a negative ELISA test for brucella ovis within 30 days prior to entry or be from a brucella ovis free flock. Each ram shall be individually identified with an individual eartag or registration tattoo. This number, along with the test results and name of the approved laboratory and date of test, shall be entered on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- C. All blackface ovine females and all blackface crossbred females, except hair sheep, imported into the State of Texas 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.

11. **Goats Entering the State**

A certificate of veterinary inspection is required on all imported goats. See NOTE on first page about goats originating from Michigan.

- A. All breeding or exhibition goats must be officially identified with a Scrapie Eradication Program eartag prior to entry, except registered goats with a registration tattoo and accompanied by registration papers. Animals originating from Inconsistent States (without an active scrapie surveillance and control program) may enter the State of Texas only if:
 - (1) Obtain an entry permit, and
 - (2) Consigned directly to a terminal feedlot, or
 - (3) Consigned directly to slaughter.
- B. All goats in slaughter channels must be officially identified with a Scrapie Eradication Program eartag prior to entry, except goats that have not commingled with sheep.

12. **Poultry Entering the State**

- A. A certificate of veterinary inspection and entry permit is required on poultry except poultry delivered to a slaughter establishment (which maintains federal postmortem inspection) by the owner or consigned there and accompanied by a waybill indicating the plant of destination.
- B. Live domestic poultry, except those entering for slaughter and processing at a slaughter facility owned or operated by the owner of the poultry entering, may enter Texas only under the following circumstances:
 - (1) The domestic poultry originate from a flock that is certified as Avian Influenza clean in accordance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan and the shipment is accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection; or
 - (2) The domestic poultry is from an Avian Influenza negative flock that participates in an approved state-sponsored Avian Influenza monitoring program and the shipment is accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection indicating participation and listing the general description of the birds, test date, test results, and name of testing laboratory; or
 - (3) The domestic poultry originate from a flock in which a minimum of 30 birds, 4 weeks of age or older, or the complete flock, if fewer than 30, are serologically negative to an Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) or Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) test for Avian Influenza within 30 days of entry or a minimum of 10 birds (e.g. two pools of 5 birds per house) are tested negative on trachea swabs to a real-time reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR) test within 30 days of entry or negative to other tests approved by the Commission; the shipment shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection listing the general description of the birds, test date, test results, and name of testing laboratory.
 - (4) Live domestic poultry from states affected with Avian Influenza may enter Texas for slaughter and processing only under the following circumstances: A minimum of 30 birds per flock are serologically negative to an ELISA or AGID test for Avian Influenza within 72 hours of entry, or a minimum of 10 birds (e.g., two pools of 5 birds per house) are tested negative on tracheal swabs to a RRT-PCR test

within 72 hours of entry or negative to other tests approved by the TAHC, and specific written permission has been granted.

- (5) Live domestic poultry broilers from states affected with Infectious Laryngotracheitis and vaccinated with chick embryo vaccine may enter Texas for immediate slaughter and processing only under the following conditions. The request for authorization to bring poultry into the state must be in writing and shall include a proposed route to slaughter that would not pose a disease risk to Texas poultry. The initial request must be approved by the Executive Director prior to entry of the poultry. All shipments of poultry qualifying for entry shall have an entry permit and documentation of the origin of the shipment.
- C. Vaccination must be with vaccines approved by USDA and TAHC. (Contact TAHC for a list of approved vaccines.) NOTE: No modified live virus chick embryo origin Laryngotracheitis (LT) vaccine and no modified live virus mycoplasma gallisepticum (MG) attenuated vaccine may be used on poultry entering the State.
- D. The certificate should state that the poultry have not originated from an area that has had active Laryngotracheitis within the last 30 days.
- E. A negative pullorum-typhoid test is required within 30 days prior to entry or poultry must originate from flocks that meet either the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program and/or the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP).
- F. Baby poultry are exempt from these requirements if from a NPIP or equivalent hatchery and accompanied by a NPIP VS Form 9-3 or an APHIS Form 17-6 or, are covered by an approved "Commuter Poultry Flock Agreement" on file with the state of origin and the Texas Animal Health Commission.

13. **Exotic Livestock and Ratites Entering the State**

Exotic Livestock are defined as grass-eating or plant-eating, single-hooved or cloven-hooved mammals that are not indigenous to this state and are known as ungulates, including animals from the swine, horse, tapir, camel, llama, rhinoceros, elephant, deer, and antelope families.

Camelidae are defined as members of the family of animals which includes camels, lamas, and vicunas. The domestic members of the genus lama include the llama, alpaca, and guanaco.

Ratites are defined as exotic fowl with a flat breastbone and small or nonexistent wings, such as ostriches, emu, rheas, and kiwi.

Exotic bovidae means non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes water buffalo, gnu (wildebeest), addax, antelope and nilgai (among others).

Exotic cervidae is further defined as non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the sub-family musk deer.

- A. An entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection are required on all exotic livestock and ratites entering the state. The accredited veterinarian must state on the certificate that the exotic livestock and ratites have been inspected and are free of external parasites and evidence of contagious and communicable disease.
- B. In addition to an entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection, exotic cervidae must originate from a certified free herd or be tested negative for brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry and meet the tuberculosis entry requirements as outlined in "Cervids Entering the State" (# 14.).
- C. In addition to an entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection, exotic bovidae must be tested negative for brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry and negative to a tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to entry.
- D. In addition to an entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection, exotic swine must be tested negative to pseudorabies and brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry or originate from a brucellosis validated free and pseudorabies qualified free herd.

- E. In addition to an entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection, camelidae must be tested negative to a brucellosis and axillary skin test for tuberculosis within six months prior to entry on all animals 18 months of age and older. All neutered camelidae are exempt from the brucellosis test requirement.
- F. In addition to an entry permit and a certificate of veterinary inspection, ratites must be;
 - (1) Individually identified with an RFID device, a permanently attached tag or an implanted electronic device (microchip). The identification will be shown on the certificate of veterinary inspection along with the location and name brand of the implanted electronic device. If an animal has more than one implanted microchip, then the location, microchip number, and name brand of each will be documented on the certificate of veterinary inspection; and
 - (2) Tested and found to be serologically negative for Avian Influenza and Salmonella pullorum-typhoid from a sample collected within 30 days of shipment. Birds or hatching eggs must originate from flocks that show no evidence of infectious disease and have no history of Avian Influenza in the past six months.

Ratites, destined for slaughter only, may enter accompanied by an entry permit and either a waybill or health certificate without meeting the testing or identification requirements.

14. **Cervids Entering the State**

- A. All cervids entering the State must be accompanied by a certificate stating they were classified negative to two tuberculosis tests, which were conducted no less than 90 days apart; the second test was conducted within 90 days prior to the date of movement; and that the animals were isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period, *or*;
 - (1) originate from an accredited free herd, *or*;
 - (2) originate from a qualified herd and have a classified negative 90-day tuberculosis test. If the qualifying herd test was administered within 90 days of movement, the animal(s) do not require an additional test, *or*;
 - (3) originate from a monitored herd and have a classified negative 90-day tuberculosis test, *or*;
 - (4) be less than 12 months of age, originate and were born in accredited, qualified, or monitored herds and have not been exposed to cervids from a lower status.
 - (5) See NOTE on first page about cervidae originating from Michigan.
- B. All cervidae entering Texas must meet the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Monitoring Program and entry permit requirements. Contact TAHC during business hours for information on the CWD requirements or read the full text of the Texas Administrative Code requirements at: [http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=4&pt=2&ch=51&rl=10](http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=4&pt=2&ch=51&rl=10).
- C. All mule deer and white-tailed deer are also required to obtain an entry permit from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). (TPWD are prohibiting white-tailed and mule deer to enter Texas at the present time.)