

**RULES & REGULATIONS – ENTRIES – ALL DEPARTMENTS**

1. Entries in all classes, except poultry, will be accepted at the Madison County Exposition Building, Lindendale Park. The office will be open Saturday, July 11 from 8-12pm, Sunday, July 12 from 1-4pm, Wednesday, July 15 from 4-8pm and Saturday, July 18 from 8-12pm. **OFFICE HOURS ARE NOT NECESSARILY ENTRY CLOSE TIMES – SEE RULES FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENT LISTED. NO PHONE ENTRIES. THE FAIR BOOK IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: [madisoncountyfairil.com](http://madisoncountyfairil.com)**
2. Entries may also be mailed in as long as entry fees accompany entries. This includes stall or pen fee, bedding fee and the \$10.00 exhibitor sticker for livestock entries. Stalls and pens will not be reserved unless all fees are received with the entry form. Mail entries to: Madison County Fair P.O. Box 111, Highland, IL 62249
3. Livestock entries close on Wednesday July 15 at 8:00pm. The deadline for 4-H members to enter the Open Swine Show is immediately following the 4-H swine show.
4. Poultry entries must be postmarked by Wednesday July 8. All entries must be mailed with fees included.
5. All animals and other exhibits must be entered in the name of the owner or farm name.
6. Exhibits that have been erroneously entered will be transferred to their proper class prior to judging. If such classes have been judged – they will not be rejudged.
7. Social security numbers are required when necessary.
8. The 2026 fair is open to all competitors. 4-H shows are open to members of the Madison County 4-H Clubs only.
9. All exhibitors who show more than two entries on one premium number will be allowed only two monies.
10. The time and date to have exhibits in place are listed with each individual department. Release information can be found on those pages as well. **All non-livestock exhibits will be released and must be picked up on Sunday July 26 between 2:00 and 4:00pm.** Exhibitors moving exhibits or livestock before their release time without consent of the Executive Board will forfeit all premiums won.
11. Rules and Regulations specific to each department are listed under the department headings.

**LIVESTOCK – OPEN AND JUNIOR CLASSES**

1. Livestock premium checks should be picked up the day entries are released – (computer permitting).
2. All exhibits will be assigned stalls or pens by the superintendent of the department and may not be changed without permission.
3. All pens are to be cleaned each day before 8am.
4. Exhibitors must show or drive all animals before the judges, even though there is no competition.
5. Bulls over 1 year must be secured with rings in their noses.
6. All trucks will be permitted to unload feed and straw before 10am and from 4 to 6pm. All other times they must be returned to their parking areas.
7. Trash receptacles will be placed in the barns for wire, paper cups, aluminum cans, twine, etc. Anyone seen or reported throwing these into the straw will be issued a fine of \$2.00 per head on livestock entered.
8. **NO MORE THAN 5 BALES OF STRAW IN PENS FOR STORAGE AT A TIME.**
9. Wheelbarrows are to be furnished by the exhibitor.
10. Manure must be deposited in designated areas.
11. Tie-outs must be made in allocated areas. Neck ropes and halters must be double tied.
12. All winners of first premiums in class are eligible for championship for the same breed without entering.
13. Junior Livestock Division exhibitors must be eight (8) years old and not yet twenty-one (21) years of age by September 1, 2025. Proof of age may be required.
14. Junior livestock shows in Madison County are only open to exhibitors whose home county allows Madison County Jr. exhibitors to show in their Junior Show.
15. All animals exhibited must be the property of and registered in the name of the exhibitor or farm name.
16. **Livestock registration papers on all purebred stock will be checked before show day and will be required on grounds day of the show. NO PAPERS-NO SHOW. Original papers required no photocopies allowed.**
17. Animals must be shown in the same name in Junior Show and Open Show.
18. Market animals in junior classes (wethers and steers) need not be registered but must meet all health requirements as in open class.
19. Any exhibitor who is guilty of Acts of Indecency, Profanity, Misconduct, or failure to keep pens, livestock and equipment clean and neat must forfeit all premiums in this class.
20. Two premiums may be paid under each premium number, except for group classes. Only one group entry per exhibitor.
21. All animals exhibited in Junior classes must be shown by the owner or another Junior member at the discretion of the superintendent to be eligible for Junior Department Premiums.

**GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. First Aid located in Ticket Booth or Announcers Booth. Also available in the hospital room.
2. The Executive Board reserves the right to cancel any and all events and premiums in case of a calamity or any unavoidable circumstances which make such action advisable in the opinion of the Executive Board.
3. The Executive Board reserves the final and absolute right to interpret the foregoing rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, or differences which may arise.
4. No 4-wheelers, scooters, skateboards or bicycles allowed on the fairgrounds.
5. **NO GOLF CARTS OR SIDE BY SIDES!**
6. The sale or possession of illegal drugs is a criminal offense in the State of Illinois. Those persons found to be selling or in possession of any illegal drugs will be arrested by police and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
7. **The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year in which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in the premium book.**
8. The Madison County Fair Association will not be responsible to any person, individual, corporation or association for any loss by either fire, theft, damage, or personal injury sustained by anyone through the negligence of any person or group of persons. We will, however, give adequate protection as is consistent in the operation of the fair.
9. In all cases, the decision of the judge shall be final.
10. Fans must meet the National Electrical Code and be properly grounded.
11. The Fair Association reserves the right to reject an exhibit without explanation and assumes no liability whatsoever for animals which may die or be killed or injured in anyway, nor for the exhibits which may be damaged or lost.
12. All premiums will be payable on the last day of the fair, if time permits. **ALL PREMIUM CHECKS MUST BE CASHED WITHIN 90 DAYS!**
13. All livestock exhibitors must purchase a \$10.00 livestock sticker.
14. A protest of an award must be made in writing accompanied by an affidavit setting forth the grounds for protesting the award and a deposit of \$100.00. In the event of the protest being sustained, the \$100.00 will be refunded to the complainant. If the protest is not sustained, the \$100.00 shall be forfeited to the Association.
15. Superintendents reserve the right to hold open or close entries in any department when they deem it necessary.

**PERMITS & PRIVILEGES**

1. Persons desiring permits or privileges of any kind should apply to the Madison County Fair Association.
2. All permits and privileges will be sold in the order of application.
3. Gambling devices and immoral shows will not be permitted.
4. Payments for space and privileges must be made half at the time of the contracting and the balance of the first day of the Fair.
5. All concessionaries must confine themselves to the space that has been allotted to them.
6. Concessionaires must abide by the state sanitary, pure food and morals regulations or forfeit their privileges. Those failing to comply will be excluded from the ground without recourse. All food must be prepared on grounds.
7. Commercial exhibits will be released on Sunday at 3:00pm.
8. Campers will be charged \$120.00 per week if prepaid by July 1 or \$150.00 if paid after July 1. You must call Shawn Hogg (618-779-5190) to reserve a spot.
  - a. Mail your check to Madison County Fair, PO Box 111, Highland, IL 62249.
  - b. Upon arrival, report to the office for a permit to camp and receive a designated spot.

**PLEASE CHECK ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS CAREFULLY**

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## 840 TAG REQUIREMENTS

**ALL SWINE, BEEF AND DAIRY CATTLE** are required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag (840 tag). The tag must be both visually and electronically readable. We know that there are many questions, here are a few answers to some basic questions. **A COPY OF HEALTH PAPERS WILL BE COLLECTED FOR BEEF, DAIRY AND SWINE.**

1. Who must have 840 tags?
  - Beef – all heifers, all cows and all steers being exhibited at fair
  - Dairy Cattle – all heifers, all cows, all steers and all calves being exhibited at fair
  - Swine – all gilts and all barrows being exhibited at fair
2. Where do I get the 840 tags?
  - Breeder in which you purchased your animal from
  - Local Veterinarian
  - Purchase tag from a farm supply store (Valley Vet, Nasco)
  - Purchase from Illinois Department of Agriculture:  
<https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/premises-registration.html>
3. How do I purchase my own tags?
  - The location where the animal is being kept will have to have a registered Premise ID with the state of Illinois. With the Premise ID, you will be able to purchase tags from a farm supply store such as Valley Vet or Nasco or the Department of Agriculture.
4. We don't have a premise ID, or it is not updated. What do we do?
  - You can obtain an application from the Illinois Department of Agriculture and send it in. The turnaround time is very quick.
  - If you have a Premise ID but need it updated, reach out to [agr.premises@illinois.gov](mailto:agr.premises@illinois.gov)
  - If you are in need of a new Premise ID, you can log onto <https://agr.illinois.gov> and search for 'Fillable Premise Form' fill out the form and email it to the address listed on the form.
5. Will 840 tags be checked when we arrive at the show?
  - Yes, superintendents will be checking that all beef, dairy cattle and swine have the tags.
  - If an animal does not have a tag they are not allowed to be on the fairgrounds.
  - There is a chance that a State Employee will be at the show monitoring that tags are checked. If 840 tags are not checked 4-H and the fairgrounds can be fined.

**PLEASE CHECK ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS CAREFULLY**

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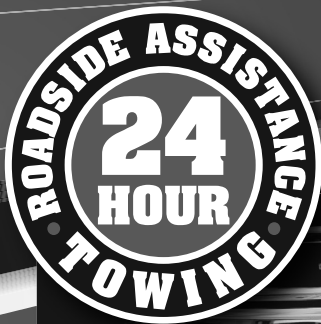
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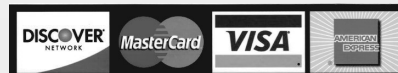


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**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****2026 Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements for Illinois County Fairs****GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. These Exhibition Health Requirements apply to all livestock present on County Fairgrounds, including livestock that are not entered in competitive events. Species specific information follows the general requirements.
2. Exhibitors are required to familiarize themselves with all rules applicable to their exhibits.
3. All out-of-state animals must have an entry permit. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>.
4. All animals, except as noted in species specific information below, shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI).
5. All animals must be officially identified.
6. All livestock shall be subject to examination upon entry to County Fairgrounds. Examination may include but is not limited to ultrasound, urine testing, blood testing, and similar actions.
7. Definitions, abbreviations, and administration:
  - a. The Illinois Department of Agriculture may be referred to as "Department" or "IDOA"
  - b. The Department contains a Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare, which receives all CVIs.
  - c. Department or IDOA staff, as used in this document, includes all Bureaus
8. IDOA will continue to monitor state and federal trends in animal health as it relates to this document. Any updates to these requirements will be posted on our website.

**CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS**

9. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) means a legible record, made on an official form from the state of origin, containing an accurate description or identification of the animal including age, sex, breed, health status, and vaccination information.
10. The CVI must be signed, dated, and issued by a licensed and accredited veterinarian in that state.
11. Submitted CVIs must be as originally issued by the veterinarian; no CVIs with alterations, edits, or changes, will be accepted. The CVI must show that the animal meets all health requirements for the State of Illinois (species specific information noted later in this guidance)
12. CVI must show the name and address of the animal's owner or exhibitor.
13. CVI must include the animal's Animal Identification Number.
  - a. Animal identification number (AIN): A numbering system for the official identification of individual animals in the United States that provides a nationally unique identification number for each animal. The AIN consists of 15 digits, with the first 3 being the country code (840 for the United States or a unique country code for any U.S. territory that has such a code and elects to use it in place of the 840 code).
14. If one CVI is used for multiple animals, each animal identification must be made on a separate line.
15. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to obtain electronic CVIs whenever possible; IDOA is moving toward only accepting electronic CVIs.
16. Exhibitors shall make CVIs available to Department of Agriculture and County Fair staff on request.
  - a. If an official electronic CVI is utilized, the exhibitor should be able to log on and show County Fair staff or Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Personnel the completed CVI.
17. If animals are from tuberculosis accredited, brucellosis certified, pseudorabies qualified, or brucellosis validated herds, the identifying herd number(s) along with the date of the last herd test(s) shall appear on the CVI.
18. CVIs for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance.
19. CVIs for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance.

**QUARANTINE AND REMOVAL**

20. Quarantine shall be at the animal owner (or exhibitor) risk and expense.
21. Quarantine and removal from the Fairgrounds shall be as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
22. Quarantine will be required until the animal has been properly treated and recovered, or the animal can be released to return to the owner's premise, both in the opinion of the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
23. Any animal presenting with a condition that would subject it to quarantine must be withdrawn from any/all entered competitions and are not permitted to exhibit.
24. Any condition meriting quarantine may also result in required removal of the animal from the Fairgrounds, as determined appropriate by the County Fair Veterinarian, State Veterinarian, or their designee(s).
25. Conditions subject to quarantine (not an exhaustive list)
  - b. Any animal showing evidence of infectious, contagious or communicable diseases shall be held in quarantine.

- c. Any livestock infected with scabies, mange, active lesions of ringworm, soremouth, or multiple warts which are easily visible without close examination
  - d. Sheep and goats with caseous lymphadenitis as evidenced by draining abscesses
  - e. Suspicion of or diagnosis of a foreign animal disease, emerging animal disease, or other actionable disease, animals may be subject to quarantine on the fairgrounds until such time that it is determined that the disease is no longer a threat.
26. Any Illinois cattle, bison, cervidae or goats being exhibited in non-accredited free states must be isolated from the remainder of the herd/flock upon return to Illinois and retested for tuberculosis 60-120 days post-entry back into the state.

### **SPECIES SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

The information included below for any species is in addition to the requirements noted above. There are no additional species-specific information or requirements for llamas, pigeons, or rabbits.

#### **CATTLE**

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). The identification tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

##### **Illinois Cattle:**

- Illinois is a Bovine Brucellosis Class-Free State and an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Brucellosis and Tuberculin testing are not required for Illinois cattle.
- Illinois calves under 6 months of age are not required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

##### **Out-of-State-Cattle**

- Brucellosis
  1. Female cattle six (6) months of age and older and bulls eighteen (18) months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds, unless exempt by one (1) of the following:
    - A. Originate directly from a certified brucellosis-free herd.
    - B. Official vaccinates of dairy breeds under twenty (20) months of age or official vaccinates of beef breeds under twenty-four (24) months of age.
    - C. Animal originated from a "Class Free" state (if entire state is so classified).
    - D. Animal is a steer or spayed heifer.
  2. The negative brucellosis test shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
- Tuberculosis
  1. Accredited Tuberculosis Free States
    - A. No tuberculin test required.
  2. Non-Accredited Tuberculosis Free Areas or States (Not TB Free)
    - A. Cattle must originate from a herd where a complete herd test was conducted within the past year.
    - B. The individual animals entering Illinois must be negative to an additional tuberculin test conducted within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

**ALL Dairy Cattle (In-State and Out-of-State):** A rRT-PCR test for Influenza A virus (IAV) on milk from lactating dairy cattle present at the Illinois or Du Quoin State Fair shall be conducted prior to livestock arriving on the fairgrounds. The animals must be sampled no more than seven (7) days prior to the date of arrival, and a negative test record must be presented to Department staff.

#### **SWINE**

**Identification:** Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). The identification tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.

##### **Illinois Swine:**

- Brucellosis and Pseudorabies testing are not required for Illinois swine.

##### **Out-of-State Swine:**

- Brucellosis
  1. Breeding swine 4 months of age and older shall be negative to an official test for brucellosis within 30 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds unless exempt by one (1) of the following:
    - A. Originate immediately and directly from a validated brucellosis-free herd.
    - B. Originate directly from a validated brucellosis-free state.
  2. Swine brucellosis tests shall be conducted at a state or federal laboratory.
- Pseudorabies
  1. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage IV or V state are exempt from the pseudorabies testing requirement.
  2. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage III state shall be negative to an official test for

pseudorabies conducted within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds or originate immediately and directly from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd.

3. Swine originating from a Pseudorabies Stage I or II state shall be negative to an official test for pseudorabies conducted within 10 days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.
4. Barrows and females in market classes must meet the same requirements as breeding swine.

### SHEEP

#### Identification

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Ear tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Market Lambs:** All market lambs must be slick shorn (show ring ready) before weigh-in so that show lamb fungus can be identified.

**Scrapie:** Sheep originating from a flock that has previously been classified as either an infected or source flock can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved flock plan.

**CVI** must include the flock of birth and the flock of origin, if different.

### GOATS

#### Identification

- Individual identification of each animal shall be by an ear tattoo or official metal or plastic tag. A microchip ID is acceptable if the owner provides the reader.
- Tattoos may be used when a registration certificate, listing the tattoo number, accompanies the animal. If the tattoos are not visible, another form of official identification must be presented.
  - Ears should be used for tattooing when possible. If there is no space in the ear, the flank or tail fold may be used.
- When using ear tags, the tag must indicate the premises ID and state of origin. The tag number must be assigned by a state or APHIS representative and recorded in the Scrapie Record Database.

**Scrapie:** Goats originating from a herd that has previously been classified as either an infected or source herd can be exhibited in Illinois upon the completion of an approved herd plan.

**CVI** must include the herd of birth and the herd of origin, if different.

#### Out-of-State Goats

Goats from states that are not Accredited Bovine Tuberculosis Free, must also have the following information included on their CVI:

- (1) that the goats originated from a herd where a complete negative herd test has been conducted within the past twelve (12) months and (2) the individual animals are negative to a tuberculin test conducted within thirty (30) days prior to entry onto the Fairgrounds.

### POULTRY

1. All entries (except waterfowl, i.e., domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.
2. Prior to being used to transport poultry to a show, all crates, boxes, containers and vehicles shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
3. Any poultry vaccinations must be performed at least 4 weeks prior to delivery to the show.
4. Upon admission to a show, all entries shall be examined by the State Veterinarian or their designee or qualified state personnel who shall also receive and examine all certificates necessary for admission of birds to a show. Birds not in show condition will be removed from exhibition and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.
5. Any fowl showing signs of illness during the Fair will be removed from the Fairgrounds.
6. All out-of-state turkeys must originate from flocks that are officially classified as U.S. Mycoplasma Gallisepticum Clean in accordance with the provisions of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or be negative to a test for Mycoplasma gallisepticum within 30 days prior to entry.

**For clarification or additional information on health requirements, contact:**

**Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Phone (217) 782-4944**

Or visit our webpage: <https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth.html>