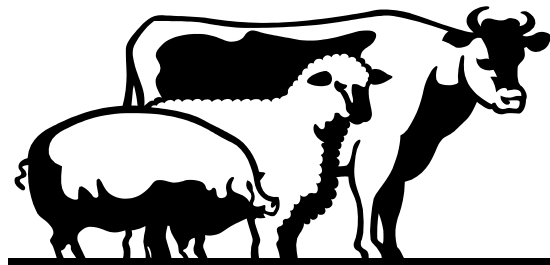


# Animal Science Fairbook

## 2009

Produced by the 2008-2009 4-H Animal Science  
Education Advisory Committee  
4-H Youth Development Program  
University of California



## Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION .....	6
California Agreement for 4-H, FFA, Grange, CDFA .....	7
ADDENDUM #1 .....	9
PROPER CARE OF ANIMALS.....	11
Equipment:.....	11
YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IN MEDICATING LIVESTOCK.....	12
AVIAN .....	13
Health.....	13
Feed and Water.....	13
Housing .....	13
Ventilation and Temperature.....	13
Bedding Material.....	13
Lighting.....	13
Signage .....	13
BEEF CATTLE.....	14
Health.....	14
Feed and Water.....	14
Housing .....	14
Ventilation and Temperature.....	14
Securing.....	14
Lighting.....	14
Grooming and Presentation of Cattle .....	15
Control .....	15
Signage .....	15
DAIRY CATTLE.....	16
Health.....	16
Feed and Water.....	16
Housing .....	16
Ventilation and Temperature.....	16
Securing.....	16
Lighting.....	17
Grooming and Presentation of Cattle .....	17
Control .....	17
Signage .....	17

Milk Disposal .....	17
DAIRY GOATS.....	18
Health.....	18
Feed and Water.....	18
Housing .....	18
Ventilation and Temperature.....	18
Lighting.....	18
Grooming and Presentation of Dairy Goat.....	18
Control .....	18
Signage .....	18
Milk Disposal .....	19
MARKET GOATS.....	20
Health.....	20
Feed and Water.....	20
Housing .....	20
Ventilation and Temperature.....	20
Lighting.....	20
Grooming and Presentation .....	20
Signage .....	21
RABBITS .....	22
Recommended Coop Size and Description .....	22
Absorbent Material .....	22
Feed and Water.....	22
Housing .....	22
Ventilation.....	22
Heat.....	23
Noise .....	23
Signage .....	23
Cleanliness .....	23
CAVIES .....	24
Recommended Coop Size and Description .....	24
Absorbent Material .....	24
Feed and Water.....	24
Housing .....	24
Ventilation.....	24

Heat.....	25
Noise .....	25
Signage .....	25
Cleanliness .....	25
SHEEP .....	26
Health.....	26
Feed and Water.....	26
Housing .....	26
Ventilation and Temperature.....	26
Lighting.....	26
Grooming and Presentation.....	26
Signage .....	26
SWINE.....	27
Health.....	27
Feed and Water.....	27
Housing and Bedding .....	27
Transportation .....	27
Grooming and Presentation.....	28
Proper Handling and Movement.....	28
Signage .....	28
HELPFUL STEPS FOR FAIR EXHIBITORS .....	29
Helpful Steps .....	29
ANIMAL CARE.....	32
Fair Exhibitors –.....	32
Animal Care References .....	32
Animal Handling References .....	32
Prevent Disease Transmission PRIOR to the Fair .....	32
Drug Residues – FDA and Veterinarian booklet .....	33
Disease Prevention – Preparing for the Fair .....	33
Disease Prevention – At the Fair .....	33
Disease Prevention – After the Fair .....	33
Noted Species Specific Diseases of Concern .....	34
Disease Transmission Glossary.....	35
Public Health .....	36
For Fair Staff.....	36

Operators and staff must know about risks.....	36
Operators and staff must maintain a safe environment.....	36
Operators and staff must educate visitors.....	36
Hand Washing.....	37
Hand Washing Facilities or Stations.....	37
Hand Washing Agents.....	37
Hand Washing Signs.....	37
KEY PUBLIC HEALTH POINTS FOR FAIR STAFF.....	38
Populations at high risk.....	38
Consumption of unpasteurized products.....	38
Drinking Water.....	38
EXHIBITORS ROLE IN PUBLIC HEALTH.....	38
Animal Care and Management.....	38
References.....	40
Animal Health.....	41
Preventing Animal Disease.....	41
Disease Risk at the Fair.....	41
Prior to Fair Animal Health Activities – Fair Staff.....	41
Animal Health Activities During Fair – Fair Staff.....	42
Glossary of Terms.....	43
Internet Sites.....	45

## INTRODUCTION

This manual was put together as a guide to help 4-H youth with their specific animal projects. Basic health through animal care and management are outlined for each species.

Following the Proper Care of Fair Animals section, there is information on controlling diseases (species specific), a Glossary of Terms, and a section on how to help with public health prevention of diseases and disease risk.

Included are many internet sites to help the 4-H youth find information on their specific species. As a collaborative group we realize that we could never include every bit of information required for the 4-H youth to manage their 4-H animal project. And of course we recommend contact with your veterinarian in health matters regarding your animal's current health and future management of their health.

4-H youth will find instruction for animal health activities outlined for during and after the fair. We hope the 4-H youth will take the time to read and research about their animals so they can produce healthy and sound animals at fairs and home. Continued research and use of this reference manual will enable the 4-H youth to become more knowledgeable in the health and safety of their animal project.

**It is the exhibitor's responsibility to know the rules that are in the State Rules for California Fairs. The book is on line for all to read at [http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/Fair\\_Information/State\\_Rules\\_for\\_California\\_Fairs.asp](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/Fair_Information/State_Rules_for_California_Fairs.asp).**

Many times county 4-H adult volunteers and members organize and conduct youth fairs where animals are exhibited. They should review those parts of this manual directed to "fair staff."

This reference material was produced by the 2008-2009 4-H YDP State Animal Science Education Advisory Committee for the University of California Davis.



## California Agreement for 4-H, FFA, Grange, CDFA

TO: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION DIRECTORS AND 4-H YOUTH ADVISORS, AGRICULTURE TEACHERS/FFA ADVISORS, GRANGE YOUTH FAIR LEADERS, AND FAIR AND EXPOSITION ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFF.

To maintain the fine statewide cooperation that now exists between Cooperative Extension, high school agriculture education departments, the California State Grange, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Fairs and Expositions it is essential that all staff members, leaders and advisors in these organizations and agencies be informed of the joint policy governing ownership/entrepreneurial projects and enrollment of youth who participate in fairs and expositions as members of the 4-H, FFA, Grange, or as independent exhibitors. We hope that all leaders, staff teachers/advisors, fair and exposition officials, and members/exhibitors will observe these policies so that the best interests of all organizations and the member/exhibitors are served educationally.

The 4-H, FFA, and Grange organizations recognize the role of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Fairs and Expositions to establish and enforce state rules for educational and fair competition at California fairs. These organizations recommend to the Division of Fairs and Expositions that the content of this agreement be supported in the "State Rules for California Fairs" and that equitable rules be included for independent exhibitors. We recommend that the content of this agreement be used as a basis for rule development and enforcement at all endorsed fairs and expositions or other sponsored events.

None of the organizations, publicly or privately supported, have the right to determine the extent to which an individual can participate in projects whether as a member of an organization or independent provided the minimum requirements are met for supervised project work. The member and parents should determine what projects should be undertaken in each organization or independently. The agriculture instructor, the 4-H leader, nor the Grange leader should discourage the member from following the choice agreed upon by the member and parents.

It is agreed that when an individual belongs to more than one organization, or exhibits as an independent, he/she must carry a different ownership/entrepreneurial project in each organization/independent. To further clarify this policy, when a member maintains projects in 4-H, FFA, Grange, or independently, the projects may not be in the same kind of livestock or crop production classification. "Production classifications" refers to the grouping of livestock and crops with consideration given to their production type and usage not simply by species. For example, a beef project in FFA and a sheep project in 4-H would be acceptable since these two projects are both different species and produce a different commodity, but a beef breeding project in FFA and a beef market project in 4-H would not be acceptable since they are of the same species and produce the same commodity of beef; even if the animals were of different breeds. A further example of a project of the same specie but different production type would be a dairy goat project in Grange and a meat goat project in 4-H that would be acceptable since the production of milk versus meat is clearly different. To assist in determining whether the projects are to be considered "different" and may be carried in the different organizations or independently see attached Addendum 1 for a listing of projects production classifications that have been

agreed upon for administration of this agreement. The addendum does not address “projects” which are non-ownership/work experience in nature or involve participation in leadership development activities and events such as public speaking, parliamentary procedure, or judging contests, which are not covered by this agreement.

A member of an FFA chapter, Grange, or 4-H unit (club, group, etc.), or independent exhibitor may transfer projects from one organization/independent to another only once during a calendar year. All transfers must include official notification by the member to the organizations involved of their desire to drop and/or add a project and take place at a time that would allow for the supervision of the project by the respective organization/independent. Transfers must take place not less than 60 days, (or the number of days required for the ownership and supervision of respective species whichever is greater), prior to the exhibit or award recognition of the project. For additional detail regarding agreement for members transferring projects from 4-H or Grange to FFA when entering the ninth grade, refer to Addendum 1. To be able to show a project at an endorsed fair, exposition, or other sponsored event, it must be owned and supervised according to the following requirements:

**Poultry** – must be owned and supervised for not less than 30 consecutive days and be enrolled in the project for not less than 60 consecutive days.

**Rabbits** – must be owned and supervised for not less than 30 consecutive days and be enrolled in the project for not less than 60 consecutive days.

All feeder and breeding animals (except rabbits, poultry and horses) must be owned and supervised for not less than 30 consecutive days and be enrolled in the project for not less than 60 consecutive days.

**Market sheep, swine, veal, and goats** – must be owned and supervised for not less than 60 consecutive days.

**Market beef** – must be owned and supervised for not less than 120 consecutive days.

**Horses** – must be owned/leased and supervised for not less than 120 consecutive days.

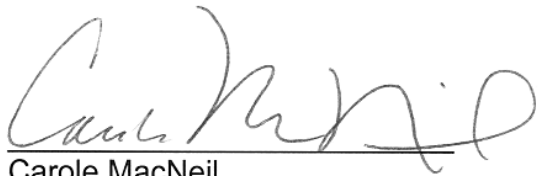
We are in agreement that members are expected to care for, prepare for show, and exhibit their own animals while at the fair or livestock show. However, because of the educational nature of livestock shows, it is appropriate on occasion for parents, leaders, or other youth eligible to exhibit at that show to provide assistance. Assistance should always be given only when the exhibitor is present and actively engaged.

Separate classes for 4-H, FFA, Grange, and independents should be maintained and strengthened. However, we recognize that in some circumstances combined classes may be appropriate. When combined classes are established, that decision should be reached with input and agreement by 4-H, FFA, Grange, and independent representatives participating in the affected show.

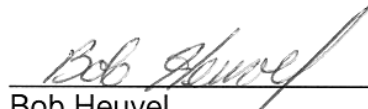
We are in agreement that 4-H, FFA, Grange, and the Division of Fairs and Expositions will unite in an effort to support the ethical and humane treatment of all animals at fairs and expositions and in the production of a healthy and safe food supply. We also agree to reinforce the educational emphasis of competitive programs for plants and animals, and maintain the standards of integrity of all participants while attending endorsed fairs and expositions or other sponsored events.

This agreement becomes effective on July 1, 2005, and remains in effect indefinitely until modified or terminated by mutual consent.





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## **ADDENDUM #1**

### 4-H, FFA, GRANGE AND INDEPENDENT EXHIBITOR AGREEMENT

#### Ownership Projects Classified by Production Unit

The following livestock and crop categories have been agreed to be “different” from each other based on production unit classification.

Dairy Cattle (Including Replacement Heifers)  
Beef Cattle (Including Veal)  
Poultry  
Rabbits  
Swine  
Sheep  
Dairy Goats  
Meat Goats  
Pygmy Goats  
Fiber/Oil Crops  
Floriculture  
Grain  
Landscape Management  
Nursery Operations  
Outdoor Recreation  
Pomology  
Specialty Crops  
Turf Grass  
Vegetables  
Viticulture

## **Transfers to FFA**

Students desiring to transfer projects to FFA must notify both the FFA Advisor and the 4-H or Grange project leader of their intent to transfer and drop/add their project at a period of time not less than the period required for ownership and supervision of that project. To be eligible to be a member of FFA and exhibit a project under FFA a student must: 1.) be pre-enrolled in an agriculture education course, 2.) be affiliated with the State FFA organization, 3.) be legal owner of the project and be supervised by the FFA Advisor for the period of time required by agreement for this project production classification, 4.) keep records of conduct of the project, and 5.) received promotion from eighth to ninth grade. Under this agreement students can transfer projects to FFA and drop them from 4-H or Grange prior to completion of the eighth grade. Under no circumstances however, may a student exhibit as an FFA member prior to official completion of the eighth grade.

## PROPER CARE OF ANIMALS

Youth select animal projects because they like animals. But if the animals are not well cared for in the projects they will not have a positive outcome. Good husbandry must be practiced at all times. The purpose of these recommendations is to ensure the proper husbandry needs of all animals.

Not only is proper care important for the animals, but it helps present a good image to the fairgoer, who in many cases may be an urban dweller who has no other contact with the agricultural community or farm animals.

Some guidelines to emphasize to youth, as well as to post in conspicuous places around the animal barns and show rings, are these:

- Prepare the animals for the show by proper training, fitting and grooming. Keep the needs of the animals the number one priority.
- Provide safe, clean transportation for the animals. Use care when loading and unloading the animals to minimize stress.
- Tie or house the animals with enough space to prevent crowding, fighting, or strangulation.
- Provide fresh, clean water and the right amount of feed to meet the animal's needs.

Good manners and a courteous disposition go a long way in providing a presentation that gives fairgoers a favorable impression. Often these visitors will stop by the member's exhibit and ask questions. Remember: Many of these people are one or more generations removed from the farm and their questions may sound unconventional, but always be polite in answering them.

Animals must be on exhibit as specified in the exhibitor handbook. Fair Management may allow late animal delivery or early removal of animals when it is in the best interest of the fair. Animals will not be removed from the fairgrounds before the release date printed in the exhibitor handbook except as determined by Fair Management in cases of sickness, accident, death, disciplinary actions requested by a youth program supervisor, or other circumstances which are in the best interests of the fair and the animal.

### Equipment:

As a safety precaution, all equipment and facilities should be examined prior to their use at the fair. Loading chutes should be inspected to ensure that they are fully cleated to provide adequate traction for the animals. All latches should be checked for their workability and safety. Pens, gates, wash racks, scales, panels, platforms, milking equipment, and support structures should be inspected to eliminate any sharp edges, and protruding nails, etc. Maintenance records on these facilities should be kept. Exhibitor tack boxes and other equipment should be stored neatly in an area out of reach of animals and small children in compliance with local fair rules.

Junior exhibitors should be encouraged to display informational signs explaining the use of any equipment used at the fair. Stalls, gates, wash racks, scales, panels, and other support structures should be inspected to eliminate any sharp edges, protruding nails, etc.

All electrical cords MUST be picked up have initial use. DO NOT leave laying around when not in use.

## YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IN MEDICATING LIVESTOCK

Food-animal drug-use issues can have a major influence on consumer confidence in animal products. One of our responsibilities as livestock producers is to ensure the public a safe and wholesome food supply. While FDA drug-use laws may appear strict, they are to protect the public, and ultimately to protect the producer by ensuring a healthy food product.

The following points are to be considered guidelines for responsible drug-use in livestock:

- Follow all label directions. This includes using the product only on species mentioned, for diseases mentioned, at stated dosage and duration, and by adhering to the prescribed waiting period (“withdrawal time”) before meat and milk can be harvested.
- Keep records of individual animals that have been medicated. Include any directions on treatment and care given to you by a veterinarian.
- Over- the- counter (“OTC”) livestock and human health products which do not have a label for your species should not be used unless advised by a veterinarian. A proper withdrawal time needs to be determined for these products to avoid contaminating meat and milk. Drugs such as pepto bismol, aspirin, or Garasol can be purchased OTC, but could easily cause treated meat or milk to be condemned.
- Watch out for the following label: “Federal Law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.” These are prescription (“RX”) drugs. If someone other than a veterinarian hands you a RX drug, that person is practicing veterinary medicine without a license (a state crime), and you are violating FDA regulations (a Federal crime).

5) If there are any questions about the administration of a certain product ASK A VETRINARIAN!

Federal law does allow the use of unapproved products, however there are strict guidelines that necessitate the advice of a licensed veterinarian. When in doubt, ask. Section 4 of the State Rules Animal Health Policy states:

“Exhibitors are required to procure the proper health certificates as listed. Management is asked to review these certificates for dates and animal description. Fairs that have many out of state cattle should contact the animal health branch of California Department of Food and Agriculture for a review of current health situations that may affect the fair or for inservicing of staff.”

Exhibitors must adhere to all State rules which prohibit any market animal from receiving certain medication(s) that are not in accordance with withdrawal times.

A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention.

Stop and think the next time your grab a syringe, bolus, or a spray. At the very least you will be protecting yourself from violating Federal law. At most, you are protecting the public and the image of your industry.

## AVIAN

### Health

All poultry, by mandate of the State Veterinarian, must be seen by a Poultry Health Inspector (PHI) at the fair. This is done at a remote site and no poultry shall be allowed in the poultry barn until they have passed the PHI.

### Feed and Water

The animals may be fed once daily or the ration may be divided up into morning and night feedings. It is important to regulate the feed in order to prevent overeating and to ensure the maximum well-being of the birds. When choosing the feed keep in mind that most national name brand feeds offer a complete diet. Some exhibitors may choose to remove the feed from the birds prior to actual judging. This poses no threat to the bird. Birds should have a continuous supply of clean, fresh water.

### Housing

The birds should never be in direct sunlight because they are heat sensitive. Tents are discouraged because they absorb the sun's heat and are difficult to keep properly ventilated.

### Ventilation and Temperature

The exhibit area should be adequately supplied with fresh air, aid in cooling of the birds, and prevent the buildup of odors, including ammonia. In open-sided exhibition, poultry barns or those barns without air conditioning, it may be necessary to utilize cooling mechanisms if the ambient temperature exceeds 75° Fahrenheit. If the birds are panting, they are too hot. Misting can be used to cool birds, but fans or a combination of fans and misters are very effective in our dry climate.

### Bedding Material

In poultry management, bedding material is referred to as litter. Wood shavings are common litter, as are rice hulls. Basically, the desired material is one that will absorb dropping moisture and odor.

### Lighting

Birds should be on a minimum of 16 hours of light per day. 24 hour lighting is NOT recommended. However, if constant night time lighting is needed to ensure security if the barn, it should be used.

### Signage

Stock cards are a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed. Signs can also be used to explain when birds are fed and why there is no feed (during judging). Other items can include facts like waterfowl dump their water, and water is replaced in a regular basis, but an empty duck waterer does not mean the bird has not been given water.

## BEEF CATTLE

Every fair must adhere to the State rules established by the California Division of Fairs and Expositions. The 4-H and FFA Junior livestock exhibitors primarily show market steers and breeding animals. When a fair sponsors a carcass contest, the market steers will be processed and data collected immediately after the show.

### Health

Please check your local health standards regarding brucellosis and tuberculosis. All dairy female cattle more than six (6) months of age, and female beef cattle more than twelve (12) months of age must bear evidence of official calthood vaccination against brucellosis with a legible, official tattoo visible in the right ear. Owners of Purebred Registered cattle without brucellosis tattoos must present documentation certifying brucellosis vaccination, or written documents showing the animal has an exemption from AHFSS, CDFA.

### Feed and Water

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements cannot be met. The feed should be put in proper feed pans and bins. If water is not continually available, the animals should be watered at least three times per day. Frequency of watering should be increased as the temperature rises. Fairs should have plans and procedures for lotted sale animals.

### Housing

The cattle can be housed either indoors or outside. It is recommended they have access to shade, a wind break, and an exercise area. Stall size should be adequate. Stall surface is not important in dry weather but is very important during wet periods. For the comfort of the animal, stall beds should be covered with appropriate bedding. The stalls should be cleaned daily and the animal's manure should be picked up several times per day. Fences, gates, and walls should be secure and enough to handle the weight of the animal. Straw bales can be used as a dividing wall between animals and the public.

### Ventilation and Temperature

Proper ventilation in the barn area is very important for animal and public comfort. Animal pens must be kept clean through the removal of manure and straw daily. The comfort range for animals is between 60 and 80 degrees and below 80% humidity. An increase in ventilation and air circulation should be made through mechanical means (i.e., fans) should the temperature or humidity exceed these levels.

### Securing

Most cattle shown at fairs are tied to the stall. This is done to assure the well being of the animal, exhibitor, and fairgoer. Care should be taken to ensure that the animals can lie down, stand, and still remain within its stall space. An animal can be injured if the lead rope is too long. The animal's halter should fit securely and comfortably. A barrier or space between fairgoers viewing public that discourages them from coming into stall is recommended. Straw bales can be used as barriers between the animals and the public.

### Lighting

Adequate lighting should be provided in the barn area for inspection of cattle and to provide safe conditions for personnel.

## **Grooming and Presentation of Cattle**

The animal's appearance should not be altered beyond what is accepted by the livestock and veterinary industry as acceptable for the welfare of the animal. Changing the hair color and other grooming practices fall under the guidelines of state and local rules. Any technique involving invasive procedure (breaking of the skin that is unnecessary for animal health such as use of needles, knives, etc.) should be discouraged.

## **Control**

Proper use of equipment should be encouraged. Nose rings are used to control bulls of yearling age or older. Use of nose rings is necessary to prevent bulls from injuring other animals and taking advantage of the exhibitor and fairgoers. Halters must be used to control cattle. Halters with chains may be used to control the animal. Show sticks are used to soothe the animal and to place the feet when showing.

## **Signage**

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they are from (club), and breed.

## DAIRY CATTLE

4-H, FFA, and open division livestock exhibitors must adhere to all local and state regulations.

### Health

Exhibitors should make certain that their fair animals are in good health before and during the fair. Cows should be milked at their regular times. A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention. If an animal needs to be disposed of, it should be done by a veterinarian away from public scrutiny and removed from the fairgrounds as soon as possible.

Exhibitors should provide proof of tuberculosis testing for all dairy breeding cattle over six (6) months of age with one of the following documents:

- Signed documentation from a licensed accredited veterinarian of a negative TB test obtained within sixty (60) days prior to exhibition of all cattle to be sold, or
- Signed documentation from a licensed accredited veterinarian of a negative TB test obtained within six months prior to exhibition of all cattle for exhibition only, or
- Signed documentation from a licensed accredited veterinarian of a negative whole herd test for the animal's herd of origin (i.e., the herd where the animal has resided for a minimum 4-month period of time immediately prior to the exhibition) obtained within the twelve (12) months prior to the exhibition.

### Feed and Water

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements cannot be met. The feed should be put in proper feed pans and bins. If water is not continually available, the animals should be watered at least three times per day. Frequency of watering should be increased as the temperature rises.

### Housing

The cattle can be housed either indoors or outside. It is recommended they have access to shade, a wind break, and an exercise area. Stall size should be adequate. Stall surface is not important in dry weather but is very important during wet periods. For the comfort of the animal, stall beds should be covered with appropriate bedding. The stalls should be cleaned at least every other day and the animal's manure should be picked up frequently. Fences, gates, and walls should be secure and enough to handle the weight of the animal. Straw bales can be used as a dividing wall between animals and the public.

### Ventilation and Temperature

Proper ventilation in the barn area is very important for animal and public comfort. Animal pens must be kept clean through the removal of manure and straw daily to avoid a buildup of ammonia. The comfort range for animals is between 60 and 80 degrees and below 80% humidity. An increase in ventilation and air circulation should be made through mechanical means (i.e., fans) should the temperature or humidity exceed these levels.

### Securing

Most cattle shown at fairs are tied to the stall. This is done to assure the well being of the animal, exhibitor, and fairgoer. Care should be taken to ensure that the animals can lie down, stand, and still remain within its stall space. An animal can be injured if the lead rope is too long by becoming tangled, backing into the alley or in attempting to jump over the tie stall. The animal halter should fit securely and comfortably.



## **Lighting**

Adequate lighting should be provided in the barn area for inspection of cattle and to provide safe conditions for personnel.

## **Grooming and Presentation of Cattle**

The animal's appearance should not be altered beyond what is accepted by the livestock and veterinary industry as acceptable for the welfare of the animal. Changing the hair color and other grooming practices fall under the guidelines of state and local rules.

## **Control**

Proper use of equipment should be encouraged. Nose rings are used to control bulls of yearling age or older. Use of nose rings is necessary to prevent bulls from injuring other animals, and to prevent them from taking advantage of the exhibitor and fairgoers. Halters must be used to control beef animals. Halters are also used to control cattle. Halters with chains may be used to control the animal.

## **Signage**

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## **Milk Disposal**

Check with local fairground management regarding the proper disposal of milk.

## DAIRY GOATS

The purpose of this recommendation is to ensure the proper husbandry needs of dairy goats.

### Health

Exhibitors should make certain that their fair animals are in good health before and during the fair. Goats should be milked at their regular times. A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention. If an animal needs to be disposed of, it should be done by a veterinarian away from public scrutiny and removed from the fairgrounds as soon as possible. All goats must have proper scrapie identification as approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. See current official CDFA scrapie requirements.

### Feed and Water

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements cannot be met. The feed should be put in bins and troughs that are appropriate for goats and that minimize contamination. If water is not continually available, the animals should be watered at least two or three times per day. Frequency of watering should be increased as the temperature rises. Feeders and waterers should be raised off the ground high enough to discourage the goats standing or relieving themselves in it.

### Housing

It is preferable to house goats in the shade. Pens should be large enough to ensure their comfort. They should be able to lie down without having to lie in their food, water, and manure. An exercise area should be provided if the pens are cramped. Pens should be cleaned daily and bedded with appropriate bedding materials.

### Ventilation and Temperature

Proper ventilation in the barn area is very important for animal and public comfort. Animal pens must be kept clean through the removal of manure and straw daily to avoid a buildup of ammonia. The comfort range for animals is between 60 and 80 degrees and below 80% humidity. An increase in ventilation and air circulation should be made through mechanical means (i.e., fans) should the temperature or humidity exceed these levels.

**\*\*NOTE** - Goats are not to be penned in drafty areas.

### Lighting

Adequate lighting should be provided in the barn area for inspection of cattle and to provide safe conditions for personnel.

### Grooming and Presentation of Dairy Goat

Animals should not be altered in any way that is not acceptable by the American Goat Association and the veterinary experts.

### Control

Chains may be used around the goat's neck for control. Most chains are made of plastic and fit loosely around the goat's neck. Chains should not be handled in a rough manner.

### Signage

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## **Milk Disposal**

Check with local fairground management regarding the proper disposal of milk.

## MARKET GOATS

### Health

Exhibitors should make certain that their fair animals are in good health before, during and after the fair. A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention. If the animal is at the fair check with fair management to contact the veterinarian assigned to the fair. Animals must meet all state and local health requirements. Carefully read the local and state health rules for the fair or show to be sure you comply with all regulations. Exhibitors must adhere to all state rules which prohibit any market animal receiving certain medication prior to processing and follow withdrawal times. All goats must have proper scrapie identification as approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. See current official CDFA scrapie requirements.

### Feed and Water

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should be put in feed bins and troughs that are appropriate for goats and minimize contamination. The feed should be put in bins and troughs that are appropriate for goats and that minimize contamination. Feeders and waterers should be raised off the ground high enough to discourage the goats standing or relieving themselves in it. Old feed should be removed to prevent mildew and cause illness. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements for withdrawal time cannot be met. Fresh and clean water should be available at all times. Frequency of watering should be increased as the temperature rises.

### Housing

The enclosure for the animal should be large enough to ensure the comfort of the animal. The animal should have enough area to lie down, eat and drink without crowding. The pens should be cleaned daily and the bedding should be appropriate bedding materials according to fair requirements. Signs, displays and handouts should be designed and constructed so that material is out of reach of the animal.

### Ventilation and Temperature

Proper ventilation in the barn area is very important for animal and public welfare. Animal pens should be kept clean through the removal of manure and straw daily to avoid a buildup of ammonia. The comfort range for animals is between 60 and 80 degrees and below 80% humidity. An increase in ventilation and air circulation should be made through structure and mechanical means (ie, fans) should the temperature or humidity exceed these levels. Again all fans, cords and other cooling devices should meet safety and fair regulations and be installed out of reach of the animals and the public.

### Lighting

Adequate lighting should be provided in the barn area for inspection of the goats and to provide safe conditions for personnel, exhibitors and the public.

### Grooming and Presentation

The animal's appearance should not be altered beyond what is accepted by the livestock and veterinary industry for the welfare of the animal. At the fair the animal should be exercised with a secure halter and lead at least twice a day. Never leave a tied animal alone. Goat grooming can be divided into three different tasks: washing, clipping and foot care. Changing the appearance of the animal or grooming practices fall under the guidelines of both state and local fair and 4-H rules. Market goats are only wethers and does, no bucks are allowed. Market goats must show milk teeth. Most goats lose their milk teeth by 10 to 12 months of age. Either horned, tipped or

de-horned animals are permissible under state rules. Check your local fair rules for any additional requirements for exhibiting market goats. Be sure to bring any health and management records with you to the fair and have them available upon request for inspection.

### **Signage**

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## RABBITS

The American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) was the major contributor to the following recommendations concerning the proper care and comfort for rabbits being exhibited at fairs. For further information, contact the ARBA at (309) 827-6623.

### Recommended Coop Size and Description

Pens should be large enough to ensure the comfort of rabbit, taking into consideration the breed of the animal. The proper coop designed for a rabbit should be made of an inedible material such as metal. The cage should have a double wire partition. The double wire partition prevents the rabbits from biting and clawing each other. For this reason, poultry cages should not be used to house the rabbits because they have a single wire partition which offers little protection. There are three types of coops designed for different size animals according to weight. For animals that weigh a maximum of six pounds a small coop (15" x 16" x 15") is used. For animals of a medium weight between 6 and 12 pounds, a coop size of 21" x 23" is recommended. Finally, for large animals weighing over 12 pounds, a 30" x 27" coop is recommended.

### Absorbent Material

Absorbent material is important in order to prevent droppings from falling on the next rabbit. Absorbent paper is recommended. In addition, the ARBA recommends that wood shavings be used. Check with fair management regarding bedding requirements.

### Feed and Water

The ARBA claims that there is little difference among name brand feeds currently on the market. They all offer a complete diet. ARBA recommends the following amounts of feed be administered to rabbits daily. This quantity of food can be fed once a day or the ration can be divided up into morning and night feedings. It is important to regulate the feed in order to prevent over eating. Small rabbits weighing no more than six pounds should be fed a maximum of four ounces of feed per day. A medium rabbit weighing between 6 and 12 pounds should receive a maximum of six ounces of food per day. A large rabbit weighing more than 12 pounds should be fed between 8-9 ounces of food daily. The ARBA and the SPCA require that one water container per cage is accessible to the animal. Water should be clean and free from debris and available in appropriate containers. It is very important to the animal's health that water be accessible at all times in order to prevent stress. The ARBA claims that additional salt does not need to be provided because rabbits receive their daily recommended amount in their feed. Salt also tends to rust the cages.

### Housing

Rabbits should never be in direct sunlight. It is crucial to remember that rabbits are very sensitive to the heat. The ARBA claims that tents are discouraged because they absorb heat from the sun and are difficult to keep properly ventilated. Acceptable housing is a pole barn, barn, or in a metal building. If it is during a cool time of the year, weather permitting, rabbits can be housed under trees until other arrangements can be made for housing.

### Ventilation

Providing good ventilation for your rabbits is important and necessary. Air should move over the animals at all times. Depending on the location, fans and air conditioning can be used to keep the air flowing.

## Heat

The ARBA recommends that in periods of hot weather, it may be necessary to provide ice blocks or hard plastic covered containers of blue ice in each of the cages. Two-liter plastic containers filled with water and frozen can also be used. Fairs expecting hot weather should encourage exhibitors to provide the ice blocks for their rabbits.

## Noise

Rabbits should be housed and shown away from areas that expose them to loud, distracting, and stress inducing areas such as carnival areas, parade routes, and race tracks.

## Signage

It is very important to have signs posted a minimum of every 50 feet instructing people not to feed the animals or put their fingers in the cages. This is for both the animals and fairgoers welfare. Rabbits are known to bite and will attempt to protect their territory. Rabbits must have permanent tattoo in left ear. Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## Cleanliness

The ARBA stresses that rabbits should not be artificially altered in appearance. Exhibitors should use a comb and moistened cloth for grooming their rabbits. Trimming the toenails is recommended, especially for older rabbits. This procedure does not harm the animal if done properly. It is much like trimming your own nails.

## CAVIES

The American Cavy Breeders Association (ACBA) was the major contributor to the following recommendations concerning the proper care and comfort for cavies being exhibited at fairs. For further information, contact the ACBA.

### Recommended Coop Size and Description

Pens should be large enough to ensure their comfort. The proper coop designed for a cavy should be made of an inedible material such as metal. The cage should have a double wire partition. The double wire partition prevents the cavies from biting and clawing each other. For this reason, poultry cages should not be used to house the cavies because they have a single wire partition which offers little protection. There are three types of coops designed for different size animals according to weight. For animals that weigh a maximum of sixteen ounces a small coop (15" x 16" x 15") is used. For animals of a medium weight between 16 and 32 ounces, a coop size of 21" x 23" is recommended. Finally, for large animals weighing over 32 ounces, a 30" x 27" coop is recommended.

### Absorbent Material

Absorbent material is important in order to prevent contamination from spreading from cavy to cavy. Wood pellets are recommended. In addition, the ACBA recommends that wood shavings be used. Check with fair management regarding bedding requirements.

### Feed and Water

The ACBA claims that there is little difference among name brand feeds currently on the market. They all offer a complete diet. ACBA recommends the following amounts of feed be administered to cavies daily. This quantity of food can be fed once a day or the ration can be divided up into morning and night feedings. It is important to regulate the feed in order to prevent over eating. Small cavies weighing no more than sixteen ounces should be fed a maximum of four ounces of feed per day. A medium cavy weighing between 16 and 32 ounces should receive a maximum of six ounces of food per day. A large cavy weighing more than 32 ounces should be fed between 8-9 ounces of food daily. The ACBA and the SPCA require that one water container per cage is accessible to the animal. Water should be clean and free from debris and available in appropriate containers. It is very important to the animal's health that fresh water be accessible at all times in order to prevent stress. Water bottles are recommended over crocks. The ACBA claims that additional salt does not need to be provided because cavies receive their daily recommended amount in their feed. Salt also tends to rust the cages.

### Housing

Cavies should never be in direct sunlight. It is crucial to remember that cavies are very sensitive to the heat. The ACBA claims that tents are discouraged because they absorb heat from the sun and are difficult to keep properly ventilated. Acceptable housing is a pole barn, barn, or in a metal building. If it is during a cool time of the year, weather permitting, cavies can be housed under trees until other arrangements can be made for housing.

### Ventilation

Providing good ventilation for your cavies is important and necessary. Air should move over the animals at all times. Depending on the location, fans and air conditioning can be used to keep the air flowing.



## Heat

The ACBA recommends that in periods of hot weather, it may be necessary to provide ice blocks or hard plastic covered containers of blue ice in each of the cages. Two-liter plastic containers filled with water and frozen can also be used. Exhibitors expecting hot weather should provide ice blocks for their cavies.

## Noise

Cavies should be housed and shown away from areas that expose them to loud, distracting, and stress inducing areas such as carnival areas, parade routes, and race tracks.

## Signage

It is very important to have signs posted a minimum of every 50 feet instructing people not to feed the animals or put their fingers in the cages. This is for both the animals and fairgoers welfare. Cavies are known to bite and will attempt to protect their territory. Animal must have permanent identification tag in left ear. Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## Cleanliness

The ACBA stresses that cavies should not be artificially altered in appearance. Exhibitors should use a comb and moistened cloth for grooming their cavies. Trimming the toenails is recommended, especially for older cavies. This procedure does not harm the animal if done properly. It is much like trimming your own nails. No trimming of hair on long haired breeds.

## **SHEEP**

### **Health**

Exhibitors should make certain that their fair animals are in good health before, during and after the fair. A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention. If the animal is at the fair check with fair management to contact the veterinarian assigned to the fair. Animals must meet all state and local health requirements. Carefully read the local and state health rules for the fair or show to be sure you comply with all regulations. Exhibitors must adhere to all state rules which prohibit any market animal receiving certain medication prior to processing and follow withdrawal times. All sheep must have proper scrapie identification as approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. See current official CDFA scrapie requirements.

### **Feed and Water**

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should be put in feed bins and troughs that are appropriate for goats and minimize contamination. The feed should be put in bins and troughs that are appropriate for goats and that minimize contamination. Feeders and waterers should be raised off the ground high enough to discourage the goats standing or relieving themselves in it. Old feed should be removed to prevent mildew and cause illness. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements for withdrawal time cannot be met. Fresh and clean water should be available at all times. Frequency of watering should be increased as the temperature rises.

### **Housing**

Sheep pens should be large enough to ensure the comfort of the animal. The animal should have enough area to lie down, eat, and drink without crowding. If the pens appear to be crowded, the animals should be exercised at least twice a day. The pens should be cleaned daily and the bedding should be of appropriate bedding materials. Lambs and yearlings should be penned together. In addition, rams and ewes should not be penned together.

### **Ventilation and Temperature**

Proper ventilation in the barn area is very important for animal and public welfare. Animal pens should be kept clean through the removal of manure and straw daily to avoid a buildup of ammonia. The comfort range for animals is between 60 and 80 degrees and below 80% humidity. An increase in ventilation and air circulation should be made through mechanical means (ie, fans) should the temperature or humidity exceed these levels.

### **Lighting**

Adequate lighting should be provided in the barn area for inspection of the sheep and to provide safe conditions for personnel.

### **Grooming and Presentation**

The animal's appearance should not be altered beyond what is accepted by the livestock and veterinary industry as acceptable for the welfare of the animal. Changing the appearance of the animal or grooming practices fall under the guidelines of both state and local rules.

### **Signage**

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## SWINE

### Health

Exhibitors should make certain that their fair animals are in good health before, during and after the fair. A veterinarian should be contacted if the animal(s) are in need of medical attention. If the animal is at the fair check with fair management to contact the veterinarian assigned to the fair. Animals must meet all state and local health requirements. Carefully read the local and state health rules for the fair or show to be sure you comply with all regulations. Exhibitors must adhere to all state rules which prohibit any market animal receiving certain medication prior to processing and follow withdrawal times. If an animal needs to be disposed of, it should be done humanely and quietly by a veterinarian away from public scrutiny and removed from the fairgrounds as soon as possible.

### Feed and Water

Animals should be fed a nutritionally balanced diet at least twice a day. The feed should not be medicated to the degree that the requirements cannot be met. The feed should be put in proper feed pans and bins. Old food should be removed to prevent mildew. If water is not continually available, the animals should be watered at least two or three times per day. There are watering devices for hogs available to use in show pens. Your hog should be familiar with how to use these devices before arriving at the fair.

### Housing and Bedding

Hogs are heat sensitive animals and should be housed in a shaded area. They should have ample space to walk around and lie down free from their feed dishes and water troughs. Animals should be bedded with appropriate bedding provided the coolest and most comfortable bedding – especially during hot periods of the day. Hogs should have ample air circulation to keep them cool as well as to improve air quality.

### Transportation

Safety and comfort must be the primary concern when transporting pigs. Weak or unhealthy pigs should not be taken to the fair. Adequate ventilation is essential when pigs are being transported. The floors of trucks and trailers should be slip resistant. Whenever possible, pigs should be separated into groups of uniform weight. Separating by gender may be necessary when older pigs are being transported as well as when they are housed at the fair. Boars require individual separation to prevent fighting.

Adverse weather can add to discomfort during handling and transporting. When transporting pigs in hot weather, they should be shaded from the sun and bedded with wet shavings or wet sand. When the weather is extremely warm, it may be necessary to periodically stop to provide water mist or fog to cool the pigs. A tank of water, a small pump powered by the vehicle's electrical system, and foggers in the truck or trailer can keep pigs cool during the long periods of travel in hot weather.

Pigs transported in cold weather require protection from extreme temperatures. Protection from the chilling effects of the winds should be provided when the air temperature drops below 32°; however, adequate ventilation for the pigs must still be available. Trucks and trailers should be bedded with dry straw or dry shavings for additional protection for the pigs.

The pigs' condition should be checked often during transit. Every attempt should be made to make the pigs as comfortable as possible during transport.

## **Grooming and Presentation**

The animal's appearance should not be altered beyond what is accepted by the experts of swine husbandry and AVMA as acceptable for the welfare of the animal. Changing the appearance of the animal or grooming practices fall under the guidelines of both state and local rules.

Animals should not be dressed with grooming products that contain oils which can block their pores. The animals should be clean. Water based sprays which will not clog their pores can be used. Local grooming practices can sometimes be located in premium books.

## **Proper Handling and Movement**

Hog canes/sticks/whips are used to guide the animals only. Animals that have been properly trained only need to be gently touched with the cane to get them to move. The cane should not be used maliciously. Panels should be used to prevent the animals from harming each other. A panel can be slipped between two aggressive animals to prevent them from fighting. Exhibitors of boars, six months and older, should have a person accompanying them with a panel in the event of aggressive behavior.

## **Signage**

Stock cards a minimum. Information should include name, animal number, where they from (club), and breed.

## HELPFUL STEPS FOR FAIR EXHIBITORS

The following “Helpful Steps for Fair Exhibitors” are provided to help improve the exhibitor’s understanding of what information or preparation may be necessary prior, during, and after exhibiting at a fair. Reviewing these steps will help achieve a more enjoyable fair experience for the exhibitor, fair management, and the public.

### Helpful Steps

Fair Handbook/Premium Book. Make yourself familiar with the contents.

- A. Board of Directors. These are the people in your community that make decisions that govern how your fair is managed.
- B. State of California Officials. These are people in state government that aid with the existence of your fair through state funding. Officials included will be the Governor of California, Secretary, Department of Food and Agriculture, Director, Division of Fairs and Expositions, and State Senator/Assemblyman.
- C. County Board of Supervisors. These are people at the county level of government that help to oversee the fair management.
- D. Fair Management. These are people that are hired to actually manage your local fair. They will include the CEO or Manager and the Deputy Manager.
- E. Department Superintendents. These are the people that are hired by fair management to supervise the exhibits and activities within the different fair departments such as livestock, fine arts, home arts, and junior exhibits.
- F. State Rules for California Fairs. The California Department of Food and Agriculture under the Division of Fairs and Expositions has a State Rules Advisory Committee that reviews these rules for recommendation to the Director. By signing and submitting an entry form, the exhibitors and their agents, parents, and leasers acknowledge and agree that they:
  1. Understand and have read these state rules and local fair rules;
  2. Agree to abide by them;
  3. Certify that all information on the entry form is true and accurate;
  4. Agree to comply with the fair’s decision regarding any alleged violation of the state or local rules; and,
  5. In the event that it is determined that there has been unethical treatment of animals or violation of state or federal regulations or of state or local fair drug policy rules, exhibitor names will be forwarded to the Division of Fairs and Expositions as well as given to the network of California fairs and to appropriate government agencies.

\*It is very important that all fair exhibitors familiarize themselves with state and local rules that govern their fairs—nearly all questions pertaining to fairs are addressed in this document. The premium book may include a copy of State Rules for California Fairs or your local fair office may have copies for the exhibitor to review.

Division of Fairs and Expositions  
1010 Hurley Way, Suite 200  
Sacramento, California 92825  
916.263.2955  
[www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe)

- G. Exhibitor Contract. An exhibitor contract may be required by the fair. Be sure to adhere to the deadline. Carefully read the document and include signatures where required before submitting to fair office/livestock department.
- H. Code of Conduct. Be sure to review your youth organizational code of conduct before you exhibit at the fair.

- I. Fair Code of Conduct. Check premium/fair handbook for code of conduct that may be required.
- J. Fair Entry Form. Make sure you have the correct entry form and fill it out completely:
1. Be sure to sign each entry form;
  2. Parent's signature is required on junior forms;
  3. Adult volunteer's signature is required where appropriate;
  4. Please include phone number and complete address even if you are a part of an organization;
  5. Make sure both division number and class number are clearly listed on the form;
  6. Enter the classes you feel are best suited for your exhibit. The fair will attempt to enter exhibits in the proper classes when entries are made in error on the forms; however, fair will not be liable for entries made in error;
  7. Be sure to adhere to entry form deadline – some fairs may take a post entry (after deadline date);
  8. Be sure all appropriate spaces are filled out properly and accurately. This includes fields for birthdate, association number, name or ID number or animal, etc.
  9. Sale of auction animal – be sure to include the animal ID number, tag, tattoo, name of breeder, scrapie or brucellosis number if required on entry form. \*Sale of auction animal's point of origin must be on entry form. For example, breeder name and location, animal ID number, receipt or bill of sale may be required.
- \*Other important Information. The following information should be reviewed:
- calendar with deadlines and arrival times
  - date and weigh schedules at the fair as well as any pre-fair weigh-in dates and times
  - educational display requirements
  - exhibitor activities and meetings
  - map of fairgrounds to include
    - in and out gates
    - parking for vehicle
    - parking for trailer
    - unloading and loading area
    - scale location
    - show ring or arena location
    - pen or stall area
    - livestock office
    - first aid facility
- K. Passes. May be free or reduced season priced:
1. Exhibitor – wrist band, ticket, badge, etc.
  2. Parent – wrist band, ticket, badge, etc.
  3. Vehicle – sticker, display pass, etc.
  4. Feed pass – sticker, display pass.
- \*May be used only during certain time periods.  
 \*\*Be aware of consequences for abuse of passes.
- L. Feed. Be sure to know where your feed will be coming from during the fair:
1. Members are responsible for supplying feed for their animal(s).
  2. On site – fair may provide a feed source and straw bedding on the fairgrounds.
  3. Scheduled – fair may make arrangements with local feed store to take orders or be available during certain time periods during the fair.
- M. Certified/Calibrated Scales. Be sure to know the date, location and weigh time for the specie of animal you are exhibiting.

- N. Health/Veterinarian Check. Know the location, date and time of specie health checks. Fair personnel may choose to health inspect pens, stalls, scales or require a health check prior to unloading at the fair.
- O. Rules Clearly Stated:
  - 1. Market or combination show – fair may allow breeding animals and/or sale (auction) animals only;
  - 2. Fair may limit number of animals exhibited or sold (auctioned);
  - 3. Fair may have slick shear or hair or wool length rule based on time period or measurement;
  - 4. Animal requirement – age, weight, breed categories, tail docking length (sheep), horn budding (market goats), etc.
  - 5. Fitter rule – fair may have rules involving fitter assistance by other than the exhibitor. Check local rules. Examples:
    - a. Exhibitor – other than the owner, another exhibitor may assist in fitting and showing.
    - b. Advisor or parent – may assist exhibitor pre-fair or at the fair.
    - c. Professional – may assist exhibitor pre-fair, at the fair, or as a coach only.
- P. Pens or Stalls. Fair may supply first bedding, then exhibitor must supply for duration of the fair. Fair may require exhibitor to clean out bedding at the end of the fair.
- Q. Sale/Auction. Fair requires exhibitor to care for and feed sale animal up to the end of the fair or until transported to the harvest plant. \*It is the **exhibitor's responsibility** to ensure that the buyer receives a healthy, consumable product.
- R. Issues. Procedure for concerns or protest varies from fair to fair. Check California State Rules for California Fairs and Expositions and local rules for proper procedure. Issues requiring immediate response may include:
  - 1. Procedure to present issue or concern;
  - 2. Individual or committee consideration;
  - 3. Response set time;
  - 4. Extended response time.

#### What is Expected from Exhibitors?

- A. Members may be required to complete Quality Assurance and Ethics training prior to entering fairs and competitions. Check with local fair administration to see if this one of their requirements.
- B. Entries returned on time, with all documents required, fees, and signatures.
- C. Initials of parents and exhibitor at each point of contract.
- D. Courteous behavior with staff, exhibitors, and public.
- E. Aisle ways clear of chairs, tables, equipment, etc.
- F. Livestock to be halter broke prior to arrival and/or under complete control at all times.
- G. Animals are to be fed, fit and shown with ethics and responsibility to the livestock or animal industry standards, the auction buyer, and the consumer.
- H. Animal daily weight gain based on feed intake.
- I. Sportsmanship in and out of the show ring.
- J. A debriefing statement that includes:
  - 1. What the exhibitor learned from the fair experience;
  - 2. Did the exhibitor understand the placing of his or her animal;
  - 3. Exhibitor should give constructive suggestions to help future exhibitors and the show.

**Work cooperatively with other members in your 4-H project or county exhibit group.**

## ANIMAL CARE

### Fair Exhibitors –

Everyone associated with livestock exhibition is responsible for the animal's health and well being. More importantly, the care of market animals is critical to assuring wholesome food. Animal care begins with meeting the basic animal's needs such as water, food, shelter, and handling. Good animal husbandry is necessary to produce high-quality marketable animals and products. All animal health plans should be developed in consultation with a veterinarian. Plans must be individualized because each animal has unique requirements for housing, feed, and handling.

### Animal Care References

1. General UCD Main Animal Welfare Page
  - a. <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/animalwelfare/>
2. Cattle, Beef & Dairy Quality Assurance Program
  - a. <http://www.bga.org/StateBAContacts.aspx>
  - b. <http://www.allamerican.state.pa.us/files/PDCA%20Show%20Ring%20Code%20of%20Ethics.pdf>
3. University of California Davis Animal Care Practices
  - a. [http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/INF-BE\\_CarePrax.html](http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/INF-BE_CarePrax.html)

Dairy

  - a. <http://cdga.org/ahw/infodl.htm>
  - b. California Dairy Quality Assurance Program - <http://cdga.org/ahw/dweg>

Swine

  - a. <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/animalwelfare/care/swineCarePrax.pdf>
  - b. National Pork Board – [www.porkboard.org](http://www.porkboard.org)

Goat

  - a. <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/animalwelfare/care/goatCarePrax2000.pdf>
4. Other Resources
  - Rabbit
    - a. [www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net)
  - Sheep
    - a. [www.pipevet.com](http://www.pipevet.com)
    - b. [www.sheepandgoat.com](http://www.sheepandgoat.com)
    - c. [www.mylamb.com](http://www.mylamb.com)

### Animal Handling References

Dr. Temple Grandin is a designer of livestock handling facilities and a Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. She obtained her B.A. at Franklin Pierce College and her M.S. in Animal Science at Arizona State University. Dr. Grandin received her Ph.D. in Animal Science from the University of Illinois in 1989. Currently, she teaches courses on livestock behavior and facility design at Colorado State University and consults with the livestock industry on facility design, livestock handling, and animal welfare. Dr. Grandin's website is a critical resource for understanding animal behavior and animal care issues. <http://www.grandin.com>

### Prevent Disease Transmission PRIOR to the Fair

Establishment and implantation of an efficient and effective herd health management plan is critical for preparing your animals for the show. Animals may require treatment for disease or prophylactic use of



medications. All products should be used in consultation with a veterinarian. All exhibitors should address the following issues pertaining to the use of medications:

- Establish a veterinarian/client/patient relationship for all treatment decisions.
- Review policies pertaining to over the counter and prescription drugs, extra label drug use, and veterinary feed directives.
- Ensure proper storage labeling, and accounting of all drug products.
- Administration techniques, needle-use procedure, observation of withdrawal times and methods to avoid marketing adulterated products.
- Use antibiotics responsibly and identify and track all animals treated.

### **Drug Residues – FDA and Veterinarian booklet**

<http://www.fda.gov/cvm/3047.htm>

### **Disease Prevention – Preparing for the Fair**

Tools and equipment may harbor disease agents. To minimize potential disease spreading from home to the fair, before packing for transport clean and disinfected the following items:

- Feed equipment: buckets, feeders, hay racks
- Cleaning utensil: shovels, pitchforks, and wheelbarrows
- Grooming equipment: clippers and brushes
- Vehicles and trailers

Animal health checks should be completed by a veterinarian and animals should be monitored for signs of disease prior to leaving for the fair. For more information on appropriate disinfecting procedures, see the following sites:

- California Department of Food and Agriculture
  - [http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/pdfs/DPG\\_Bkyard\\_Flock\\_Web\\_11-23-03.pdf](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/DPG_Bkyard_Flock_Web_11-23-03.pdf)
  - [http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal\\_Health/](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal_Health/)
- Center for Food Safety and Public Health – Iowa State University
  - <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/BRM/resources/Disinfectants/Disinfection101Feb2005.pdf>
  - <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/BRM/resources/Disinfectants/CharacteristicsSelectedDisinfectants.pdf>
  - <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/BRM/resources/Disinfectants/AntimicrobialSpectrumDisinfectants0909.pdf>

### **Disease Prevention – At the Fair**

To protect fair animals and minimize disease transmission risk while at the fair:

- Limit animal to animal contact
- Limit animal to human to animal contact (prevent disease transmission between groups of animals)
- Avoid sharing equipment with other exhibitors unless you thoroughly clean and disinfect between each use.
- Cover feed and equipment to reduce risk of contamination
- Change clothing, hats, and shoes used at the fair before doing chores at home

At the end of the fair, clean all animals returning home and disinfect all equipment before unloading the trailer. Unused feed, hay, milk, and bedding should be discarded at the fairgrounds and not taken home.

- California Department of food and Agriculture Animal Health Branch  
[http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/pdfs/Biosecurity\\_Fair\\_Exhibitors\\_b17\\_June2007.pdf](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/Biosecurity_Fair_Exhibitors_b17_June2007.pdf)

### **Disease Prevention – After the Fair**

The possibility of animal exposure to disease agents can occur with even the best biosecurity practices at the fair. Since they may be harboring disease agents without clinical signs, animals returning from the fair should be

isolated from other animals and pets for an appropriate of period of time. Consult your veterinarian to develop an isolation plan suitable for your premises and herd or flock. Monitor animals in isolation daily for signs of illness and contact the herd or flock veterinarian if any unusual symptoms are observed. To minimize the possible chance of disease spread to the main herd or flock, modify your routine chores to care for isolated fair animals last and away from other animals in the herd or flock. Change your clothes after completing chores for isolated animals.

## Noted Species Specific Diseases of Concern

### *Swine*

- PRRS, Circovirus, Mycoplasma Pneumonia, Erysipelas, Haemophilus parasuis
- Websites
  - ✓ [www.thepigsite.com](http://www.thepigsite.com)
  - ✓ [www.pighealth.com](http://www.pighealth.com)
  - ✓ [www.nationalhogfarmer.com](http://www.nationalhogfarmer.com)
  - ✓ [www.porkboard.org](http://www.porkboard.org) (youth quality assurance program information)

### *Cattle*

- Endemic diseases: Shipping Fever, Salmonella, Ringworm, Pinkeye, Bovine Viral Diarrhea
- Websites
  - ✓ <http://www.thebeefsite.com/diseaseinfo>
  - ✓ <http://cattletoday.info>
  - ✓ [www.thecattlesite.com](http://www.thecattlesite.com)
- Regulatory diseases: Tuberculosis, Trichomonosis, Brucellosis, Johnes
  - ✓ [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)
  - ✓ [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/cattle](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/cattle)

### *Sheep and Goat*

- Club lamb fungus (ringworm)
- Sore mouth (contagious ecthyma) (Orf)
- Scrapie

### *Avian*

- Salmonella
- Coccidiosis
- Cholera

### *Rabbit*

- Coccidiosis
- Pasturella
- Ear Mites
- Conjunctivitis

## **Disease Transmission Glossary**

Disease causing agents can be spread from animal to animal or animal to human and vice versa, through a variety of transmission routes

**Aerosol** – Droplets are passed through the air from one animal to another.

**Direct contact** – A susceptible animal becomes exposed when the disease agent directly touches open wounds, mucous membranes, or the skin through blood, saliva, nose to nose contact, rubbing, or biting.

**Reproductive** – A subtype of direct contact that includes diseases spread through mating or the fetus during pregnancy.

**Fomite** – An inanimate object carrying a disease agent from one susceptible animal to another. A vehicle, trailer, or human spreads organic material to another location.

**Oral** – Consuming disease causing agents in contaminated feed, water, or licking/chewing on contaminated environmental objects.

**Vector-borne** – An insect acquires a disease agent from one animal and transmits it to another.

**Zoonotic** – Diseases transmitted from animals to humans.

**Environmental contamination must always be taken into consideration!**

## Public Health

### For Fair Staff

Information directly from Compendium of Measures to Prevent Disease Associated with Animals in Public Settings, 2007, by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc. (NASPHV).

<http://www.cdc.gov>

Certain fair venues encourage or permit the public to physically come into contact animals, resulting in millions of human-animal interactions each year. Although multiple benefits of human-animal contact exist, infectious diseases, rabies exposures, injuries, and other human health problems associated with these settings are possible. Infectious disease outbreaks reported during the previous decade have been caused by *Escherichia coli* O 157:H7, *Salmonella*, *Cryptosporidium*, *Coxiella burnetii*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, ringworm, and other pathogens. Such incidents have substantial medical, public health, legal, and economic effects. Venue operators should know about risks for disease and injury, maintain a safe environment, and inform staff and visitors about appropriate disease and injury-prevention measures.

#### Operators and staff must know about risks.

- Healthy animals can carry organisms that make visitors sick.
- Some visitors are at increased risk for developing serious or life-threatening illnesses, especially young children (i.e., aged <5 years), older adults, pregnant women, persons who are mentally impaired, and persons with weakened immune systems.
- Visitors can become infected with organisms when they touch animals or their droppings or enter the animal's environment and do not wash their hands.
- Disease and injury have occurred following contact with animals at fairs.

#### Operators and staff must maintain a safe environment

- Design the venue with safety in mind by having designated animal areas, nonanimal areas, and transition areas.
- Do not permit animals, except service animals, in nonanimal areas. Provide hand washing facilities where food and beverages are prepared, served, or consumed.
- Assign trained staff to monitor animal contact areas. Exclude from animal areas food and beverages, toys, pacifiers, spill-proof cups, and baby bottles. Also, prohibit smoking.
- Keep the animal areas clean and disinfected to the extent possible and limit visitor contact with manure and animal bedding.
- Design animal transition areas for entering and exiting animals with appropriate signs or other forms of notification regarding risks for and location of hand washing facilities. Maintain hand washing stations that are accessible to children and require washing upon exiting animal areas.
- Ensure that animals are appropriately cared for.
- Due to the increased risk of tuberculosis and other bacteria, prohibit consumption of unpasteurized products (e.g., milk products and juices).

#### Operators and staff must educate visitors.

- Provide simple instructions in multiple formats that are age and language appropriate.
- Warn visitors about the risks for disease and injury.
- Notify visitors that eating and drinking or placing things in their mouths should not occur after leaving the animal area until after their hands are washed.

- Advise visitors to closely supervise children and to be aware that objects such as clothing, shoes, and stroller wheels can become soiled and serve as a source of germs after leaving an animal area.
- Direct visitors to wash their hands and assist children with hand washing following contact with animals or visiting an animal area.
- Make visitors aware that young children, older adults, pregnant women, and persons who are mentally impaired or immunocompromised are at increased risk for illness.

## Hand Washing

Hand washing is the single most important prevention step for reducing disease transmission. Hands should always be washed upon exiting animal areas and before eating or drinking. Venue staff should encourage hand washing as persons exit animal areas.

### Hand Washing Facilities or Stations

- Hand washing facilities should be accessible and sufficient for the maximum anticipated attendance and configured for use by children (low enough for them to reach or equipped with a stool), adults, and those with disabilities.
- Hand washing stations should be conveniently located in transition areas between animal and nonanimal areas and in the nonanimal food concession areas.
- Maintenance should include routine cleaning and restocking to ensure adequate water supply of paper towels and soap.
- Running water should be of efficient volume and pressure to remove soil from hands. Volume and pressure might be substantially reduced if the water supply is furnished from a holding tank. Therefore, a permanent pressurized water supply is preferable.
- The hand washing station should be designed so that both hands are free for hand washing by having operation with a foot pedal or water that stays on after turning in hand faucets.
- Hot water is preferable, but if the hand washing stations are supplied with only cold water, a soap that emulsifies easily in cold water should be provided.
- Communal basins, where water is used by more than one person, do not constitute adequate hand washing facilities.

### Hand Washing Agents

- Liquid soap dispensed by a hand or foot pump is recommended.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be used if soap and water cannot be made available and are effective against multiple common disease agents (e.g., shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, *Salmonella*, and *Campylobacter*). However, they are ineffective against certain organisms (e.g., bacterial spores, *Cryptosporidium*, and certain viruses).
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recommends using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with a concentration of 60% or higher to be effective against common disease agents.
- Hand sanitizers are less effective if hands are visibly soiled. Therefore, visible contamination and dirt should be removed to the extent possible before using hand sanitizers.

### Hand Washing Signs

- At venues where human-animal contact occurs, signs regarding proper hand washing practices are critical to reduce disease transmission.
- Signs that are reminders to wash hands should be posted at exits from animal areas (exit transition areas) and in nonanimal areas where food is served and consumed.
- Signs should be present to direct all visitors to hand washing stations upon exiting animal areas.

- Signs with proper hand washing instructions should be posted at hand washing stations and restrooms to encourage proper practices.
- Depending on the setting, hand washing signs might need to be available in different languages.
- Use of a public address system for public health and hand washing messages in multiple languages may be beneficial.

## **KEY PUBLIC HEALTH POINTS FOR FAIR STAFF**

### **Populations at high risk**

Children aged 5 years or older are at particularly high risk for serious infections. Other groups at increased risk include persons with waning immunity (e.g., older adults) and persons who are mentally impaired, pregnant, or immunocompromised (e.g., persons with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, without a functioning spleen, or on immunosuppressive therapy). Persons at high risk should take precautions at any animal exhibit. In addition to thorough and frequent hand washing, heightened precautions could include avoiding contact with animals and their environment (e.g., pens, bedding, and manure). Animals of particular concern for transmitting enteric diseases include young ruminants, young poultry, reptiles, amphibians, and ill animals.

### **Consumption of unpasteurized products**

Prohibit the consumption of unpasteurized dairy products (e.g., milk, cheeses, and yogurt) and unpasteurized apple cider or juices.

### **Drinking Water**

Local public health authorities should inspect drinking water systems before use. Only potable water should be used for consumption by animals and humans. Back-flow prevention devices should be installed between outlets in livestock areas and water lines supplying other uses in the grounds. If the water supply is from a well, adequate distance should be maintained from possible sources of contamination (e.g., animal holding areas and manure piles). Maps of the water distribution system should be available for use in identifying potential or actual problems. The use of outdoor hoses should be minimized, and should be labeled “water not for human consumption.” Operators and managers of these settings in which treated municipal water is not available should consider alternative methods for disinfection of their water supply or should consider methods to disinfect their water supply.

## **EXHIBITORS ROLE IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **Animal Care and Management**

The risk for disease or injuries from animal contacts can be reduced by carefully managing the specific animals used for such contacts. These recommendations should be considered for management of animals in contact with the public.

### **Animal Care**

Monitor animals daily for signs of illness, and ensure that animals receive appropriate veterinary care. Ill animals, animals known to be infected with a pathogen, and animals from herds with a recent history of abortion or diarrhea should not be exhibited. Animals should be housed to minimize stress and overcrowding, which can increase shedding of pathogens.

### **Veterinary Care**

Retain and use the services of a licensed veterinarian. Vaccination, prevention care, and parasite control appropriate for the species should be provided. Certificates of veterinary inspection from an accredited veterinarian should be up-to-date according to local or state requirements for animals in public setting. A herd

or flock inspection is a critical component of the health certificate process. Poultry inspections must be conducted a poultry health inspector.

### **Animal Births**

Ensure that the public has no contact with animal birthing by-products. In live birth exhibits, the environment should be thoroughly cleaned after each birth, and all waste products should be properly discarded. Holding such events outside is preferable. If held indoors, ventilation should be maximized.

## References

Recommendations to reduce the risk of disease transmission from animals to humans at petting zoos, fairs, and other animal exhibits are available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/RecommendationsPettingZoo.pdf>

The compendium of measures to prevent disease associated with animals in public settings published in 2005 and a report from the Centers of Disease Control, the Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5404.pdf>

Preventing fair and petting zoo outbreaks. Marier-Clark, Attorney at Law. <http://www.fair-safety.com/preventing-outbreaks.htm>

Enjoy the fair but don't forget to wash your hands before you eat! Val Hillers, PhD, RD. Washington State University Food Extension Specialist. [http://4h.wsu.edu/VTM/mood04/mod4\\_03.pdf](http://4h.wsu.edu/VTM/mood04/mod4_03.pdf)



## Animal Health

### Preventing Animal Disease

Everyone associated with livestock exhibition is responsible for the animal's health and well-being. More importantly the care of market animals is critical to assuring wholesome food. Animal care begins with meeting basic animal needs such as water, food, shelter, and handling. Good animal husbandry is necessary to produce high-quality marketable animals and products. All animals' health plans should be developed in consultation with a veterinarian. Each animal has unique requirements for housing, feed, and handling thus plans must be individualized. Throughout the fair, animal husbandry and facility sanitation is critical for the protection of animal and public health.

### Disease Risk at the Fair

1. Mixing of animals from various sources
2. Shared equipment and facilities
3. Multiple human-animal interactions
4. Airborne transmission of disease

### Prior to Fair Animal Health Activities – Fair Staff

1. Facilities disease risk management
  - a. Determine areas of risk for animal disease transmission by species
    - i. Pens, show ring, wash racks
    - ii. Diseases can spread through direct contact, aerosol transmission, humans contact, equipment, reproductive route, fecal oral route, and vectors such as mosquitoes
  - b. Determine areas of risk for animal disease transmission to humans
    - i. Any animal in a public view area which can be within reach of humans
  - c. Implement disease control measures
    - i. Signage
    - ii. Sanitization stations
    - iii. Animal handling and stabling policies
    - iv. Ventilation protocols
    - v. Sanitation protocols: How often aisles are cleaned, manure management, equipment management, cleaning between move in and move out groups
    - vi. Health checks on animals entering
    - vii. Veterinary contact for show period: Local veterinarian for each species will know what diseases are circulating and can assist with implementing specific disease control measures.
2. Animal identification policies
  - a. Brand inspection
    - i. [http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Livestock\\_ID](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Livestock_ID)
  - b. Official ID
    - i. California [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)
  - c. Scrapie Information
    - i. [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_disease/scrapie/approved-tag-co.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_disease/scrapie/approved-tag-co.shtml) (To order ear tags)
    - ii. [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_disease/scrapie/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_disease/scrapie/) (Scrapie Program)
  - d. National Animal Identification System (NAIS) Program
    - i. [www.californiaid.org](http://www.californiaid.org)

3. Disease Prevention Regulations
  - a. Health Checks
  - b. Rules
  - c. Specialized Poultry Health Inspections – off site
4. Emergency Management Plan
  - a. Evacuation Plan
  - b. Contingency plan
  - c. Emergency Power Supply
  - d. Emergency Water Supply

### **Animal Health Activities During Fair – Fair Staff**

1. Sanitation equipment checks and signage
2. Daily inspections of the Family: barn cleanup crew
3. Onsite inspection of animals at entry
  - a. Animal identification

## Glossary of Terms

**CDFA** – California Department of Food and Agriculture

**Commodity Group** – Agricultural product group. Each livestock species is a commodity.

**Dose** – The amount of a drug or other substance given to an animal.

**Exogenous** – Not made by the body, as in administered hormones.

**Extra Label Drug Use (ELDU)** – This is using a medication in a way other than that stated on the label by the manufacturer. This includes using a drug at a different dose, giving it a different route, using it in a different species, or using it for a different disease. Extra label use, if not directed by a veterinarian with a valid Vet-Client-Patient Relationship is illegal.

**FDA** – Food and Drug Administration

**Food Processor** – Meat packer and retailer.

**Food Product** – Meat, milk, eggs, and consumable by-products of food production.

**Intramuscular (IM)** – An injection into the muscle, preferably in the neck.

**Intravenous (IV)** – An injection into a vein.

**Jackpot Show Activity** – A livestock competition that is not attached to a fair. Jackpot competition is also a process to generate the revenue to be paid out to winners, less administrative costs.

**Livestock** – Food producing animals, including poultry and rabbits.

**Oral** – Placement of something into the mouth. PO – per os.

**Over the Counter Drugs (OTC)** – Can be purchased and used without veterinary supervision. 95% of all drug residues are associated with these products. Residues are a result of people not following directions.

**Producer** – Breeder/owner of animals.

**Quality** – Excellence, outstanding character. Demands high standards and consistency.

**Quality Assurance** – The ethical production of wholesome food animals and products using the best management practices with quality standards consistent with the commercial food industry.

**Residues** – Remnants of a drug or other compound that are found in the tissues and fluids (meat and milk).

**Route of Administration** – The method by which an animal is given a drug such as topical, oral (PO), injection (S, IM, IV), nasal, etc.

**Sanitary** – Clean; the absence of organisms that can cause disease.

**Stakeholder** – Group, industry, or individual that is virtually involved in animals exhibited at fairs, including, but not limited to youth organizations, academia, fairs, livestock producers, membership associations, veterinary medicine, allied industry companies, judges, agricultural media, fair and youth sponsors, auction buyers, and government agencies.

**Subcutaneous (Sub Q or SQ)** – An injection under the skin, preferably in the neck.

**Topical** – Treatment applied in the skin.

**Vaccine** – A preparation of bacteria or virus that has been designed to stimulate an animal's immune response and therefore protect against future exposure to the disease causing agent.

**USDA** – United States Department of Agriculture

**Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship** – This is established when your veterinarian knows about your animal's health having seen it or other animals with the same condition as your herd, takes charge of medical decisions regarding the animals treatment. The veterinarian must be available for follow-up if your animal does not get better. You as the caretaker must agree to follow the veterinarian's instructions.

**Withdrawal Time** – The time that is needed to allow a residue to diminish to a safe tolerance level. It is the time that must elapse from the last treatment to the slaughter of the animal.

## Internet Sites

Agriculture Research Service	<a href="http://ars.usda.gov">ars.usda.gov</a>
American Cavy Breeders Association	<a href="http://acbaonline.com">acbaonline.com</a>
American Rabbit Breeders Association	<a href="http://arba.net">arba.net</a>
American Sheep Industry Association	<a href="http://sheepusa.org">sheepusa.org</a>
American Agriculture Alliance	<a href="http://soundagscience.org">soundagscience.org</a>
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service	<a href="http://aphis.usda.gov">aphis.usda.gov</a>
Animal Welfare Council	<a href="http://animalwelfarecouncil.org">animalwelfarecouncil.org</a>
California Agriculture Teachers Association	<a href="http://calagteachers.org">calagteachers.org</a>
California Beef Council	<a href="http://calbeef.org">calbeef.org</a>
California Department of Food & Agriculture	<a href="http://cdfa.ca.gov">cdfa.ca.gov</a>
Food Safety Inspection Service, USDA	<a href="http://fsis.usda.gov">fsis.usda.gov</a>
National Cattlemen's Beef Association	<a href="http://beef.org">beef.org</a>
National Institute for Animal Agriculture	<a href="http://animalagriculture.org">animalagriculture.org</a>
National Pork Producers Council	<a href="http://nppc.org">nppc.org</a>
Ohio State Extension Service	<a href="http://ag-ohio-state.edu">ag-ohio-state.edu</a>
Purdue Extension Service	<a href="http://ces.purdue.edu">ces.purdue.edu</a>
United State Department of Agriculture	<a href="http://usda.gov">usda.gov</a>
University of California, Davis	<a href="http://vetmed.ucdavis.edu">vetmed.ucdavis.edu</a>
University of Nebraska, Lincoln	<a href="http://deal.unl.edu">deal.unl.edu</a>