RI 4-H Guide to Animal Health

Sheep

Necessary Vaccines:
- Rabies
  - Animals over 6 months: The animal must be vaccinated at least 30 days prior to showing and be current according to manufacturer standards.
  - Animals 3-6 months: The animal must have been vaccinated prior to showing; animal is considered vaccinated at time of inoculation.
- *** Rabies Vaccination Certificate is necessary and must accompany the animal.

Necessary Testing:
- Out of State:
  - Bluetongue:
    o If the animal originates from a region or state that is endemic for Bluetongue or Anaplasmosis, the animal must test negative within 30 days of entry into Rhode Island. (Contact State Veterinarian)

Suggested Vaccines:
- Clostridium CD
- Tetanus

Required Documentation:
- Rabies Vaccination Certificate
  The certificate should follow the above stated timeline for entry into the show and should include:
  - Name of the licensed veterinarian, his/her practice name, practice address, practice phone number, and the state veterinary license number
  - Animal owner’s name and address
  - Animal species, age, sex and coloration
  - Name of the rabies vaccine, vaccine manufacturer, brand name of the product used, vaccine serial number, and vaccine expiration date
  - Date of inoculation and date of the next booster administration
  - Signature of licensed veterinarian who administered/supervised the administration of the rabies vaccine.

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI in-state animal requirement is a 4-H rule)
  - Ownership of the animal
  - Farm of origin
  - Issued current calendar year prior to entry in the first event of the season
  - May include proof of any required or recommended vaccinations (see suggested vaccinations)

Out of State:
- Scrapie Statement (ON CVI)
  o “The animals on the certificate did not originate from a herd/flock that has been diagnosed as a scrapie source, infected or exposed, herd/flock.”

Identification:
Criteria
- Permanent
- Secure
- Assigned a unique number from a central repository
• Traceable
May be:
• Official tamper-resistant eartag approved by APHIS
  NOTE: Tattoos (not allowed unless approved as a permanent form of
  identification by the breed association or USDA)
  o Flank/ear
  o Approved for animals participating in Scrapie Flock Certification Program
  o APHIS approved in Scrapie Eradication Program
  o Recorded in animal registry association or record book when the animal
    is accompanied by the certificate of registration
• Electronic ID Implants
  o Approved for use in animals participating in a Scrapie Flock Certification
    Program and when accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection
    or an owner statement
    ▪ Owner statement/Certificate of Veterinary Inspection must include
      chip manufacturer and chip numbers
  o Approved for animals with a national breed registry association and the
    electronic ID implant number is recorded by the registry on the
    registration certificate accompanying the animal
  o The animal MUST be accompanied by an implant reader capable of
    reading the electronic implant in that animal

Miscellaneous:
All animals must be free from disease including, but not limited to:
• Foot rot
• Sore mouth
• Pinkeye
• Ringworm
• Scrapie-exposure
• External parasites

Note: Sheep enrolled in the Voluntary Scapie Eradication Program must be kept
separated from non-enrolled sheep and goats by a vacant pen, alleyway, or solid
physical barrier in order to prevent contact.

Note: No sheep will be allowed from flocks in which Scrapie has been diagnosed or from
flocks under current surveillance for Scrapie without prior approval by the state
veterinarian.

Note: Sheep on exhibition are prohibited from having contact with kidding does or
lambing ewes.

Note: Sore Mouth
Although there is no test for Sore Mouth, sheep from flocks in which sore
mouth has been diagnosed or in which sore mouth vaccination has been
conducted shall not be allowed entry until 60 days have passed since the last
clinical signs of sore mouth or sore mouth vaccination.

The RI 4-H Guide to Animal Health (by species) was developed to assist 4-H families and 4-H leaders in
preparing for exhibit at RI 4-H Fairs. These guides serve as supplement to the Rhode Island 4-H Animal
Exhibit Guidelines which state the rules that govern RI 4-H Fairs. These guides have also been developed
to comply with the DEM “Animal Health Regulations: For Exhibition and Showing Only”. These guides have
been reviewed by the RI DEM Animal Health Section and been found to be in compliance.