



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

## Summary of Texas Requirements

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

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

### Exotic Livestock and Ratites Requirements

- I. Intrastate (Exotic Livestock and Ratites moved within the state of Texas)  
All exotic livestock originating in Texas and participating in:
  - A. Intrastate shows, fairs, and exhibitions (those functions that require Texas livestock, poultry and ratites of the same species to be housed and exhibited separate and apart from livestock, poultry and ratites from out of state) are exempt from the certificate of veterinary inspection and testing requirements.
  - B. Interstate shows, fairs, and exhibitions (those functions that permit livestock and poultry from other states to enter for show or exhibition and held in common facilities with Texas origin livestock and poultry of the same species) must meet the same other requirements as for those species entering from out-of-state and be accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection.
    - Ratites must be individually identified and tested negative for Avian Influenza and Salmonella pullorum-typhoid within 30 days.
- II. Intrastate Movement of CWD Susceptible Species
  - A. Definitions
    1. Captive CWD Susceptible Species--A CWD susceptible species captured or privately or publicly maintained or held within a perimeter fence or confined area that is designed to retain the CWD susceptible species under normal conditions at all times.
    2. CWD Susceptible Species--A cervid species determined to be susceptible to CWD, which means a species that has had a diagnosis of CWD confirmed by means of an official test conducted by a laboratory approved by USDA/APHIS. This includes North American elk or wapiti (*Cervus Canadensis*), red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), Sika deer (*Cervus Nippon*), moose (*Alces alces*), and any associated subspecies and hybrids. All mule deer, white-tailed deer, and native species under the jurisdiction of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are excluded from this definition and application of this section.
    3. Free Ranging CWD Susceptible Species--Any CWD susceptible species that is not captured or contained within a fence intended to retain CWD susceptible species under normal conditions at all times.
    4. Premises--A physical location(s) which is contiguous, that is under common ownership or management, and represents a unique and describable geographic location.
    5. Transport--Movement of an animal from one non-contiguous property or premises to another.
  - B. Surveillance Requirements
    1. In order to transport or move a CWD susceptible species live within the state the person controlling the CWD susceptible species shall meet one of the following:
      - a. test 20% percent of mortalities of all CWD susceptible species, maintained on a premise; or
      - b. have status with the Commission in a herd certification program in accordance with the requirements of §40.3 of this chapter (relating to Herd Status Plans for Cervidae); or
      - c. be moved directly from the premises where they were trapped or held to a recognized slaughter facility. A recognized slaughter facility is a slaughter facility operated under the state or federal meat inspection laws and regulations.
  - C. Premise Identification

In order to move a CWD susceptible species from or to a premise which has surveillance, as required under subsection (b) of this section, the location must obtain a "Premises Identification Number (PIN)". A PIN means a unique official seven character alpha numeric identification code issued under this chapter to identify a specific and unique premises. Separate geographic physical locations that are under common ownership and management and on which commingling of animals occurs may be registered as one premises.
  - D. Inventory

An annual inventory shall be verified/accounted/certified by TAHC personnel. The herd owner shall maintain herd records that include a complete inventory of animals with documents showing all test results for those animals that died and were tested.

E. Identification Requirements.

CWD susceptible species moved or transported within the state shall be identified with an official identification device, which may include an ear tag that conforms to the USDA alphanumeric national uniform ear tagging system, which is a visible and legible animal identification number (AIN) or other identification methods approved by the Commission, including a RFID Device.

F. Testing Requirements.

CWD test samples shall be collected and submitted to an official laboratory for CWD diagnosis using a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) validated test for animals that are 16 months of age or older and from the same population as the CWD susceptible species being moved. Test reporting shall be directed to the appropriate TAHC Regional Office. The samples may be collected by a state or federal animal health official, an accredited veterinarian, or a Certified CWD Sample Collector. Tissue samples may be either the obex or a retropharyngeal lymph node from each animal being tested.

G. Test reporting.

Test results shall be directed to the Commission by either writing to Texas Animal Health Commission, c/o CWD Susceptible Species Reporting, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966; or by fax to (512) 719-0729; or by e-mail to CWD\_movement@tahc.texas.gov.

H. Movement Reporting Requirements.

A movement request for all CWD susceptible species that are moved onto or off of premises shall be submitted to the Commission, either in hard copy on forms provided or authorized by the Commission, or an electronic copy. The person moving the CWD susceptible species must have documentation with the CWD susceptible species being moved to show compliance with the requirements of this subsection. A copy of this documentation must be provided to any market selling these species. Such report shall be submitted within 48 hours of the movement. Movement reporting shall be directed to the Commission by either writing to Texas Animal Health Commission, c/o CWD Susceptible Species Reporting, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966; or by fax to (512) 719-0729; or by e-mail to CWD\_movement@tahc.texas.gov. The movement report shall include the following information:

1. PIN for premises of origin;
2. PIN for premises of the destination;
3. Number of CWD susceptible species being moved;
4. Official individual identification device number;
5. Other official or unofficial identification numbers;
6. Age/Gender; and
7. Test results from the testing laboratory.

I. Record Keeping: The buyer and seller must maintain records for all CWD susceptible species transported within the state or where there is a transfer of ownership, and provide those to Commission personnel upon request. Records required to be kept under the provisions of this section shall be maintained for not less than five (5) years. The records shall include the following information:

1. Owner's name;
2. Location where the animal was sold or purchased;
3. Official ID and/or Ranch tag (additional field for retag);
4. Gender/age of animal;
5. Source of animal (if purchased addition);
6. Movement to other premises; and
7. Disposition.

III. Interstate (Exotic Livestock and Ratites moved into the state from other states)

A. Any livestock, poultry or ratites that are infected, exposed or quarantined in any manner for an infectious, contagious or communicable disease may not enter the state. Contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242.

B. Entry permits are required as noted in the following section and may be obtained by calling 512/719-0777 (24 hours) or 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777 or by writing the Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, P. O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966.

C. Exotic Livestock Entry Requirements

1. Exotic Livestock are grass-eating or plant-eating, single-hooved or cloven-hooved mammals that are not indigenous to this state and are known as ungulates, including animals from the swine, horse, tapir, camel, llama, rhinoceros, elephant, deer, and antelope families.
2. Certificate of Veterinary Inspection required within 30 days prior to entry.
3. Entry permit required within 15 days prior to entry except for when animals are entering for exhibition and returning to their state of origin. See "Exotic cervidae 4. d." below for permits for Elk and Black-tailed deer.

4. Exotic Livestock Categories
  - a. Camelidae are defined as members of the family of animals which include camels, lamas, vicunas & domestic members who include llama, alpaca, and guanaco.
    - 1) Brucellosis or Tuberculosis testing is not required
  - b. Ratites are defined as exotic fowl with a flat breastbone and small or nonexistent wings, such as ostriches, emu, rheas, and kiwi.
    - 1) Individual identification (RFID device, a permanently attached tag or an implanted electronic device (microchip).
    - 2) A negative Avian Influenza test required within 30 days prior to entry.
    - 3) A negative Salmonella pullorum-typhoid test required within 30 days prior to entry.
    - 4) Birds or hatching eggs must originate from flocks that show no evidence of infectious disease and have no history of Avian Influenza in the past six months.
    - 5) For slaughter only, may enter with an entry permit and either an owner-shipper statement or certificate of veterinary inspection without meeting the testing or identification requirements.
  - c. Exotic bovidae means non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes water buffalo, gnu (wildebeest), addax, antelope and nilgai (among others).
    - 1) A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry.
    - 2) A negative tuberculosis test is required within 60 days prior to entry.
  - d. Exotic cervidae is non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the sub-family musk deer.
    - 1) A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry or be from a certified free herd.
    - 2) Two tuberculosis tests which were conducted no less than 90 days apart; the second test was conducted within 90 days prior to date on movement; and that the animals were isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period; or,
      - a) Originate from an accredited free herd; *or*;
      - b) Originate from a qualified herd and have a classified negative 90-day tuberculosis test. If the qualifying herd test was administered within 90 days of movement, the animal(s) do not require an additional test; *or*;
      - c) Originate from a monitored herd and have a classified negative 90-day tuberculosis test; *or*;
      - d) Be less than 12 months of age, originate and were born in accredited, qualified, or monitored herds and have not been exposed to cervids from a lower status.
    - 3) CWD susceptible species require a written TAHC entry permit. Contact TAHC 512/719-0777 (24 hours) or 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777 or by writing the Texas Animal Health Commission, 2105 Kramer Lane, P. O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966.
      - a) All requests for entry must be made in writing and accompanied with the information necessary to support import qualifications of the animal(s). This should be received by the TAHC at least 10 working days prior to the proposed entry date.
      - b) The applicant must identify the herd of origin and herd of destination on both the permit application and the certificate of veterinary inspection.
      - c) The cervid(s), to be imported, shall be identified by a minimum of two official/approved unique identifiers.
      - d) The cervid(s) must meet the herd status or testing information for brucellosis and tuberculosis for entering the state as stated above.
      - e) The applicant must provide documentation showing that the animal(s) originate from a herd that has successfully participated in a complete CWD herd certification program that is in compliance with the interstate movement requirements of the USDA Chronic Wasting Disease Program Standards and the Code of Federal Regulations for a minimum of five years.
  - e. Exotic swine includes Russian Wild Boars, African Wild Pigs and Warthogs (among others)
    - 1) A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry or be from a validated free herd.
    - 2) A negative pseudorabies test is required within 30 days prior to entry or be from a qualified free herd.

IV. International (Animals moved into the state from foreign countries)

- Contact USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) for International animal requirements.
  - For Export call (512) 383-2411
  - For Import call (301) 851-3300