



# Exotic Livestock and Ratites

Current as of April 11, 2022

Exotic livestock include grass-eating or plant-eating, single-hooved or cloven-hooved mammals that are not indigenous to Texas and are known as ungulates, including animals from the Camelidae, Bovidae, Cervidae, Equidae, Suidae, Tapiridae, Rhinocerotidae, and Elephantidae families. Exotic fowl include any avian species that is not indigenous to this state, including ratites.

<h2>Interstate Movement</h2> <p>(Out-of-State Moving into Texas)</p>	<h2>Intrastate Movement</h2> <p>(Texas Moving within Texas)</p>
<p><b>General Entry Requirements</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Prohibited and Restricted Movement:</b> Any exotic livestock or ratites that are affected, exposed or quarantined in any manner for an infectious, contagious, or communicable disease may not enter the state. Entry into Texas may be granted on a case-by-case basis only after permission is granted from the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) Executive Director (<a href="#">4 TAC §51.5</a>). Contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242.</li> <li><b>Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:</b> Unless otherwise noted or excepted, a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI) is required within 30 days prior to entry into Texas (<a href="#">§51.2(b)</a>).               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note: All cervidae, bovine or porcine coming from a vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) affected state must have a CVI issued within 14 days prior to entry and a VSV status for the premises or area should be recorded on the CVI (<a href="#">§51.7(d)</a>).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Entry Permit:</b> Unless otherwise excepted, an entry permit is required within 15 days prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.2(a)(3)</a>). Entry permits may be obtained at any time by calling 512-719-0777, or 1-800-550-8242, ext. 777, or by emailing the TAHC at <a href="mailto:permits@tahc.texas.gov">permits@tahc.texas.gov</a>.               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exception: Exotic fowl, other than ratites, are not required to have an entry permit (<a href="#">§51.3(c)(6)</a>).</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Exhibition and Event Requirements:</b> <a href="http://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show">www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show</a></li> </ol>	<p><b>General Movement Requirements</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Prohibited and Restricted Movement:</b> Any exotic livestock or ratites that are under a Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) quarantine cannot be moved from a Quarantined area unless movement is authorized by the TAHC Executive Director (<a href="#">4 TAC §51.5</a>). Contact the TAHC at 1-800-550-8242.</li> <li><b>Exhibition and Event Requirements:</b> <a href="http://www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show">www.tahc.texas.gov/regs/entry.html#show</a></li> </ol> <p><b>Additional Movement Requirements for Exotic Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Susceptible Species</b></p> <p>Exotic CWD susceptible species include all species in the Cervidae family that have had a CWD diagnosis confirmed by an official test conducted by an approved laboratory. This includes white-tailed deer, mule deer, black-tailed deer, North American elk or wapiti, red deer, Sika deer, moose, reindeer and caribou, muntjac deer, and any associated subspecies and hybrids (<a href="#">§40.1(10)</a> &amp; <a href="#">§51.10(a)</a>).</p> <p>Note: 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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Identification Requirements:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to move live Exotic CWD Susceptible Species to or from a premises, the owner must obtain a Premises Identification Number (PIN) or Location Identification Number (LID) (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(2)</a>).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interstate Movement</b> (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Intrastate Movement</b> (Texas Moving within Texas)</p>
<p><b>5. Official Identification:</b> Any animal requiring an official test, must have <a href="#">official identification</a>.</p> <p><b>Additional Entry Requirements by Exotic Livestock Family</b></p> <p>6. <u>Camelidae Requirements</u></p> <p>6.1 Camelidae is defined as members of the family of animals which include camels, lamas, vicunas &amp; domestic members who include llama, alpaca, and guanaco (<a href="#">§36.1(1)</a>).</p> <p>6.2 Brucellosis or tuberculosis testing is not required at this time. The TAHC may require testing when there is an epidemiological risk of exposure or infection (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(3)</a>).</p> <p>7. <u>Ratite Requirements</u></p> <p>7.1 Ratites are exotic fowl with a flat breastbone and small or nonexistent wings, such as ostriches, emu, rheas, and kiwi (<a href="#">§36.1(8)</a>).</p> <p>7.2 Official Identification: Each bird will be individually identified (RFID device, a permanently attached tag or an implanted electronic device (microchip)) (<a href="#">§51.9(b)(1)</a>).</p> <p>7.3 A negative avian influenza test is required within 30 days prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.9(b)(1)</a>).</p> <p>7.4 A negative Salmonella pullorum-typhoid test is required within 30 days prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.9(b)(1)</a>).</p> <p>7.5 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 (<a href="#">§51.9(b)(1)</a>).</p> <p>7.6 Destined for slaughter only, may enter with an entry permit and either an owner-shipper statement or CVI without meeting the testing or identification requirements (<a href="#">§51.9(b)(2)</a>).</p> <p>8. <u>Exotic Bovidae Requirements</u></p> <p>8.1 Exotic Bovidae are non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes water buffalo, gnu (wildebeest), addax, antelope and nilgai (among others) (<a href="#">§36.1(3)</a>).</p> <p>8.2 A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(2)</a>).</p> <p>8.3 A negative tuberculosis test is required within 60 days prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(2)</a>).</p>	<p>3.2 Live exotic CWD susceptible species moved or transported within the state shall be identified with an official identification device, which may include an eartag that conforms to the USDA alphanumeric national uniform ear tagging system (NUES), a visible and legible animal identification number (AIN) or other identification methods approved by the TAHC, including a RFID device (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(1)</a>).</p> <p>4. <u>Movement Reporting Requirements:</u></p> <p>4.1 A complete <a href="#">movement record</a> for all live exotic CWD susceptible species that are moved onto or off of a premises must be submitted to the TAHC within 48 hours of the movement, either in hard or electronic copy on forms provided or authorized by the TAHC (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(4)</a>).</p> <p>4.1.1 The person moving the exotic CWD susceptible species must have documentation with the exotic CWD susceptible species being moved to show compliance with the requirements (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(4)</a>).</p> <p>4.1.2 A copy of this documentation must be provided to any market selling these species (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(4)</a>).</p> <p>4.1.3 Direct movement reporting to one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Texas Animal Health Commission, CWD Susceptible Species Reporting, P.O. Box 12966, Austin, Texas 78711-2966;</li> <li>(b) by fax to (512) 719-0729; or</li> <li>(c) by email to <a href="mailto:CWD_reports@tahc.texas.gov">CWD_reports@tahc.texas.gov</a> (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(4)</a>).</li> </ul> <p>5. <u>Annual Inventory &amp; Mortality Logs</u></p> <p>5.1 An owner of a premises where exotic CWD susceptible species are located within a high fence must keep herd records that include an annual inventory and mortality log for all exotic CWD susceptible species (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(3)</a>).</p> <p>5.2 The inventory must be submitted to the TAHC on or before April 1 of each year (<a href="#">§40.5(c)(3)</a>).</p> <p>5.3 An annual inventory form can be obtained <a href="#">here</a>.</p>



<p align="center"><b>Interstate Movement</b> (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)</p>	<p align="center"><b>Intrastate Movement</b> (Texas Moving within Texas)</p>
<p>9. <u>Exotic Cervidae Requirements</u></p> <p>9.1 Exotic Cervidae are non-indigenous members of the family of animals which includes deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the sub-family musk deer (<a href="#">§36.1(4)</a>).</p> <p>9.2 A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry if the animals are from the Brucellosis Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) or for any free ranging exotic cervidae trapped for movement (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(1)</a>).</p> <p>9.3 Classified negative to two tuberculosis tests which were conducted no less than 90 days apart; the second test was conducted within 90 days prior to date of movement; and the animals were isolated from all other members of the herd during the testing period (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(4)</a>); or</p> <p>9.3.1 Originate from an accredited free herd (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(1)</a>); or</p> <p>9.3.2 Originate from a qualified herd and have been classified negative to a tuberculosis test 90 days prior to movement. If the qualifying herd test was administered within 90 days of movement, the animal(s) do not require an additional test (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(2)</a>); or</p> <p>9.3.3 Originate from a monitored herd and have been classified negative to an official tuberculosis test 90 days prior to the date of movement (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(3)</a>); or</p> <p>9.3.4 Be less than 12 months of age, originate and were born in accredited, qualified, or monitored herds and have not been exposed to cervids from a lower status (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(5)</a>).</p> <p>9.3.5 Cervids moving from an American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZAA) accredited facility directly to another facility accredited by the AZAA are exempt from these entry requirements provided those cervids being moved are not commingled with cervids from other sources during the transfer (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(6)</a>).</p> <p>9.4 Cervids originating from the tuberculosis restricted zone(s) in Michigan shall be tested in accordance with Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77, prior to entry with results recorded on the CVI (<a href="#">§51.10(c)(7)</a>).</p>	<p>5.4 A mortality log can be obtained <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>6. <u>Dealer Requirements</u></p> <p>6.1 A dealer is a person engaged in the business of buying or selling exotic CWD susceptible species in commerce on the person's own account, as an employee or agent of a vendor, purchaser, or both, or on a commission basis (<a href="#">§40.5(h)</a>).</p> <p>6.2 A dealer must maintain records for all exotic CWD susceptible species transported within the state or where there is a transfer of ownership, and provide these to TAHC personnel upon request (<a href="#">§40.5(h)</a>).</p> <p>6.3 Records required to be kept under the provisions of this section must be maintained for not less than five years and must include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Owner's name;</li> <li>(b) Location where the animal was sold or purchased;</li> <li>(c) Official ID and/or Ranch tag (additional field for retag);</li> <li>(d) Sex and age of animal;</li> <li>(e) Source of animal (if purchased addition);</li> <li>(f) Movement to other premises; and</li> <li>(b) Disposition of the animal (<a href="#">§40.5(h)</a>).</li> </ul> <p>6.4 To maintain separate herd status for the animals a dealer sells, a dealer shall maintain separate herd facilities and separate water sources; there shall be at least 30 feet between the perimeter fencing around separate herds; and no commingling of animals may occur. Movement of animals between herds must be recorded as if they were separately owned herds (<a href="#">§40.5(h)</a>).</p> <p>6. <u>CWD Movement Restriction Zones</u></p> <p>7.1 Containment Zones: No exotic CWD susceptible species may be transported outside a Containment Zone (CZ) unless from a herd with a Certified Status as established through <a href="#">§40.3(c)(6)</a> (relating to Herd Status Plans for Cervidae) (<a href="#">§40.6(c)(1)</a>).</p>



<b>Interstate Movement</b> (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)	<b>Intrastate Movement</b> (Texas Moving within Texas)
<p>9.5 Additional movement requirements for exotic chronic wasting disease (CWD) susceptible species:</p> <p>9.5.1 Exotic CWD susceptible species include all species in the Cervidae family that have had a CWD diagnosis confirmed by an official test conducted by an approved laboratory. This includes white-tailed deer, mule deer, black-tailed deer, North American elk or wapiti, red deer, Sika deer, moose, reindeer and caribou, muntjac deer, and any associated subspecies and hybrids (<a href="#">§40.1(10)</a> &amp; <a href="#">§51.10(a)</a>).</p> <p>9.5.2 All requests for entry must be in writing, accompanied with the information necessary to support import qualifications of the animal(s), and submitted at least 10 working days prior to the proposed entry date. The application must be accompanied by the owner's statement that to his/her knowledge the animal (or donor animals) to be imported have never come in contact with equipment or resided on a premises where CWD has been diagnosed (<a href="#">§51.10(a)</a>).</p> <p>9.5.3 The applicant must identify the herd of origin and herd of destination on both the permit application and CVI (<a href="#">§51.10(b)</a>).</p> <p>9.5.4 The cervid(s), to be imported, shall be identified to their herd of origin by a minimum of two official unique identifiers to include, but not limited to, a legible tattoo, USDA approved eartag, breed registration, RFID device or other TAHC-approved permanent identification method (<a href="#">§51.10(b)</a>).</p> <p>9.5.5 The applicant must provide documentation showing the animal(s) originate from a herd that has achieved Certified status in an Approved State CWD Herd Certification Program in compliance with the interstate movement requirements of the May 2019 USDA CWD Herd Certification</p>	<p>7.2 Surveillance Zones: Prior to the movement of an exotic CWD susceptible species outside a Surveillance Zone (SZ) or from one premises in the SZ to another premises within the SZ, the premises of origin shall have an epidemiological risk assessment conducted by the TAHC (<a href="#">§40.6(d)(1)</a>).</p> <p>7.3 No exotic CWD susceptible species may be released within a CZ or SZ outside a high fence premises (<a href="#">§40.6(c)(2)</a> &amp; <a href="#">§40.6(d)(2)</a>).</p> <p>7.4 For carcass movement restrictions and requirements visit (<a href="#">§40.6(c)(4)</a>).</p>



<b>Interstate Movement</b> (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)	<b>Intrastate Movement</b> (Texas Moving within Texas)
<p>Program Standards and 9 CFR, Part 55 and 81, for a minimum of five years and is more than 25 miles from a location where CWD has been confirmed or as otherwise been epidemiologically determined by the TAHC Executive Director (<a href="#">§51.10(b)</a>).</p> <p>10. <u>Exotic Swine Requirements</u></p> <p>10.1 Exotic swine includes Russian wild boars, African wild pigs and warthogs (among others).</p> <p>10.2 A negative brucellosis test is required within 30 days prior to entry or be from a brucellosis validated free swine herd (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(4)</a>).</p> <p>10.3 A negative pseudorabies test is required within 30 days prior to entry or be from a pseudorabies qualified free herd (<a href="#">§51.9(a)(4)</a>).</p> <p>11. <u>Exotic Equidae Requirements</u></p> <p>11.1 Exotic Equidae includes zebras and all other Equidae not indigenous to Texas.</p> <p>11.2 Unless excepted, proof of a negative equine infectious anemia (EIA) test within the previous 12 months prior to entry (<a href="#">§51.13(a)</a>).</p> <p>11.2.1 Exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Equine may enter Texas when consigned directly to a veterinary hospital or clinic for treatment or for usual veterinary procedures when accompanied by an entry permit number. Following release by the veterinarian, equine must be returned immediately to the state of origin by the most direct route (<a href="#">§51.13(a)(3)</a>); or,</li> <li>(b) Equine entering Texas for sale at a livestock market, may first be consigned directly to a veterinary hospital or clinic for issuance of the certificate of veterinary inspection and/or EIA testing, when accompanied by an entry permit (<a href="#">§51.13(a)(5)</a>); or,</li> <li>(c) Equine may enter Texas for shows, fairs, exhibitions or assembly purposes when accompanied by a valid equine interstate passport or equine identification card or equine go pass and a completed VS Form 10-11 showing negative results to an official</li> </ul>	<p><i>Exotic Livestock and Ratites intrastate movement requirements are listed on pages 1-4.</i></p>



<b>Interstate Movement</b> (Out-of-State Moving into Texas)	<b>Intrastate Movement</b> (Texas Moving within Texas)
<p>EIA test within the previous six (6) months (<a href="#">§51.13(a)(4)</a>); or,</p> <p>(d) Foals, under eight months of age, accompanying and nursing a dam with a negative test within the last twelve months (<a href="#">§51.13(a)(6)</a>).</p> <p>11.3 Unique and permanent forms of identification, such as electronic identification that complies with ISO 11784/11785; or non-ISO electronic identification injected in the equine on or before March 11, 2014; or digital photographs sufficient to identify the individual equine (<a href="#">§51.13(a)</a>).</p> <p>11.4 Fever tick requirements: Equidae originating in a fever tick infected area must be accompanied by a certificate issued by an authorized state or federal inspector showing them free of fever tick infestation or exposure thereto and dipped in a recognized dipping solution. Dipping must be under the supervision of a state or federal inspector immediately prior to shipment, and the equidae must be transported in clean and disinfected trucks, railroad cars, or other vehicles (<a href="#">§51.13(b)</a>).</p> <p>11.5 Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) requirements:</p> <p>11.5.1 Owners, shippers, or exporters of Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) carrier stallions shall notify the buyer or receiver of the stallion, in writing, prior to shipment into the state, that the stallion is an EVA carrier stallion (<a href="#">§51.13(c)(1)</a>).</p> <p>11.5.2 Owners of EVA carrier stallions, who intend to ship semen from the carrier stallion into Texas, shall notify, in writing, the owners, managers or caretakers of mares to be inseminated that the semen is from an EVA carrier stallion and that the mare could become EVA infected through insemination with infective semen (<a href="#">§51.13(c)(2)</a>).</p> <p>11.5.3 Any equine that originate from an area quarantined, excluding a quarantined facility, for EVA, must be accompanied by a CVI which states that the animal does not exhibit clinical signs of EVA, and that the equine had a rectal temperature of 101° F. or less at the</p>	<p><i>Exotic Livestock and Ratites intrastate movement requirements are listed on pages 1-4.</i></p>



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time of examination for entry. EVA carrier stallions shall also comply with paragraph 10.5.1 of this subsection ( <a href="#">§51.13(c)(3)</a> ).	

<b>International Movement</b> (Exotic livestock and ratites moved into Texas from foreign countries)
Contact USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) for international animal requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For Export call 512-383-2411</li><li>• For Import call 301-851-3300</li></ul>