

Ohio Fair Regulation Guidance



We Are Here to Help!

ODA has free cattle RFID tags.

ODA is in the process of having swine RFID tags available.

ODA has limited RFID readers available for loan.

Call 614-728-6220.

Key Definition Changes to Ohio's Exhibition Rules*

Approved Drug means a drug with an established tolerance approved by FDA listed at 21 CFR part 556 when used according to label directions for the species indicated on the label.

Exhibition Drug Residue Legal means livestock:

- Have only been administered an approved drug, for which the withdrawal time has elapsed and met tolerance.
- Have not been administered an unapproved drug.
- Do not contain an unlawful substance.

Official Ear Tag means a USDA APHIS approved electronic identification device that is both visibly and electronically readable (i.e. 840 RFID tag).

Tolerance means the lowest of the maximum concentrations of a marker residue (or other residue indicated for monitoring) that can legally remain in edible tissues of a treated animal species according to label instructions under FDA regulations.

Unapproved Drug means:

- Any drug, chemical, or pharmacologic compound not approved for use in livestock by FDA;
- A drug, or approved drug used extra label, for which no established tolerance has been listed by the United States food and drug administration under 21 C.F.R. 556, but has been detected through testing;
- Any drug, chemical, or compound that alters the mental or behavioral status of the animal, including, but not limited to sedatives, tranquilizers, depressants, stimulants, or dissociative or psychoactive compounds;
- Any drug prohibited by division (E)(1)(b) of section 901.76 of the Revised Code; or
- An approved drug administered to livestock not in accordance with paragraph (M) 901-19-12 of the Administrative Code.

(continued)

Unlawful Substance means any of the following:

- A substance which is not normally found in or does not naturally occur in livestock; or
- A substance which is normally found in or does naturally occur in livestock, but is detected or discerned in an amount or area greater than normal; or
- Any drug required to be listed, but which is not listed on a drug use notification form; or
- Any unapproved drug present in livestock regardless of how the drug came to be present; or
- Any other drug, chemical, or compound which is not considered an approved drug.

Withdrawal Period/Time means the period of time from when a drug is administered to when the drug concentration falls below the tolerance.

The terminology “Approved Veterinarian” has changed to “Official Veterinarian”. This is a wording change only. “Livestock” for the purposes of these chapters and regulations does not include horses.

*Full definitions can be found at: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/chapter-901:1-18> and <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/chapter-901-19>.

Official Identification Changes

- Rules 901:1-18-06 and 901:1-18-10 of the Administrative Code require official ear tags for cattle and swine imported into Ohio directly for exhibition.
- Beginning January 1, 2027, ALL cattle and swine will be required to have official ear tags at exhibitions.

Programmatic Changes

- All livestock are required to be exhibition drug residue legal prior to the start of the show.
- All Livestock includes: terminal, partial terminal, open class, and breeding class shows. It is a prohibited practice to show, sell, or offer for sale any livestock which is not ‘exhibition drug residue legal.’

Other Changes to Note

- Drug Use Notification Forms are now required for market rabbits and feeder cattle (Rule 901-19-06).
- Treatment of livestock at an exhibition with approved drugs is permitted as long as in compliance with paragraph (M) of rule 901-19-12. Please call ODA prior to treatment to ensure eligibility.
- Chiropractic care and Magna Wave type devices are prohibited at an exhibition for the use in livestock (horses are not livestock for purposes of 901-19) and if used the livestock are ineligible to be shown (Rule 901-19-13).
- Any co-mingling of birds voids the NPIP status from the original flock or hatchery; NPIP is only valid for one year.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is ‘Calf Calm’, ‘FerAppeases’, ‘melatonin’, etc. allowed?

These products are not allowed as they ‘conceal, enhance, transform, and/or change the natural conformation, physiological status, or condition of livestock.’

Can Feeder calves be vaccinated?

They must be vaccinated either early enough that the withdrawal period has elapsed prior to the show, or they can be vaccinated after the show prior to sale. At the sale it should be disclosed that these animals were vaccinated.

Can frozen water bottles be used in rabbit pens?

Yes (this is not considered a cold compress as it is not forced and held onto the animal).



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