MEMORANDUM

TO: Livestock Exhibitors at ND State Fair
FROM: Beth Carlson, DVM
Deputy State Veterinarian
DATE: June 19, 2019
RE: Animal Health Requirements at the State Fair

Once again, the State Veterinarian’s office will be providing livestock inspection services at the North Dakota State Fair in July. All animals must be inspected prior to unloading; please see memo regarding inspection times.

In an effort to minimize the number of animals which are asked to leave the fair, this memo is being distributed. Please share this information with individuals in your area that may be planning to exhibit livestock at the State Fair.

The State Fair is a livestock exhibition which showcases superior animals. Animals which are not in ideal condition do not represent agriculture at its finest and diminish the public’s perception of agriculture. Additionally, it is important to protect all livestock in attendance by minimizing the risk of exposure to contagious disease. As such, animals that appear to be affected by a contagious disease or that are exhibiting any condition affecting their health or comfort, in the professional opinion of the inspecting veterinarian, will not be permitted on the fairgrounds.

- Any animal with evidence of contagious, infectious disease will be dismissed from the fairgrounds immediately. This includes animals showing signs of localized disorders such as club lamb fungus, ringworm, or other dermatophytosis (infectious skin condition), and warts, as well as systemic diseases of the respiratory or gastrointestinal system, such as pneumonia or diarrhea.
- Any animal with an obvious physical defect or deformity, including, but not limited to prolapses, open sores, eye lesions, lameness or other physical injury, shall be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
- Animals who are recovering from localized skin disorders will be permitted if:
  - There are no open sores
  - Hair is beginning to grow back (as determined by the on-site inspecting veterinarian).
Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) must be presented for out of state animals; CVIs are not required for any North Dakota animals. Additionally, all cattle for exhibition which travel across state lines must be officially identified.

Livestock exhibitors at the state fair should present copies of all veterinary prescriptions for medications that have been given to market animals to the species superintendent, and any livestock medications brought to the fair must bear a prescription label.

All sheep and goats, other than wethers <18 months of age, must be identified with a scrapie tag or breed registration tattoo accompanied by registration papers. If not properly identified, they will not be allowed to unload at the fair.

Poultry will be exhibited at the state fair this year. As a reminder, birds for exhibition must have a leg or wing band. As a result of the fact that Pullorum-Typhoid (P-T) Antigen has been unavailable for a significant period of time, the cost of laboratory testing, and the fact that P-T has not recently been identified in North Dakota Poultry, the State Board of Animal Health voted to allow North Dakota birds to be exhibited without being tested for P-T. This waiver will remain in place through the end of the 2019 fair and show season, or until P-T antigen becomes available. Should P-T antigen become available, this waiver will end and all birds must be tested prior to exhibition. If the birds were purchased from a certified flock, they should have a completed poultry statement of origin form (SFN60329). Out-of-state birds must still meet all testing and importation requirements.

This information also appears in the State Fair catalog, but hopefully distributing it through multiple channels will allow more exhibitors to be made aware of it and prevent disappointment and inconvenience, should their animal be affected by one of the conditions above. Thank you for your assistance in getting the word out!