

# West Virginia Import Requirements

2026



West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
Animal Health Division  
Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner

## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR CATTLE

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

Cattle may be transported across state lines to a livestock market with an owner-shipper statement in lieu of a CVI.

Official identification is required for all cattle covered under the USDA ADT rule. **(840 RFID tag)**. (9 C.F.R. 86- Animal Disease Traceability, defined by the United States Department of Agriculture/Veterinary Services is incorporated by reference. More information can be found at this website [Traceability](#) .

- All sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age and older.
- All dairy cattle of any age.
- All cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo, exhibition, or recreational events.

Cattle traveling to an approved tagging facility may be tagged upon arrival.

Cattle moving directly to slaughter may move with a USDA-approved backtag.

Cattle from USDA-Classified free states for either Tuberculosis or *Brucella abortus* do not require testing.

All bulls imported for breeding purposes must be PCR negative for trichomoniasis with 60 days of importation. Virgin bulls **18** months and younger are exempt.

Recommend call Animal Health at 304-558-2214 prior to import in case of disease outbreaks that could cause changes for WV import requirements.



## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR SWINE**

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

Permanent identification is required for all swine.

Swine to be used for breeding purposes must:

- Have had a negative pseudorabies test within 30 days unless maintained in a pseudorabies qualified herd (last herd test date must be listed on CVI).

- Have had a negative Brucellosis test within 30 days unless maintained in a Certified Brucellosis Free Herd (last herd test date must be listed on CVI).

Swine to be used for feeder/market purposes must have such stated on the CVI ("Feeder use only", "Club use only", etc.).

Swine to be used as pets that are sexually intact must:

- Have had a negative pseudorabies test within 30 days.

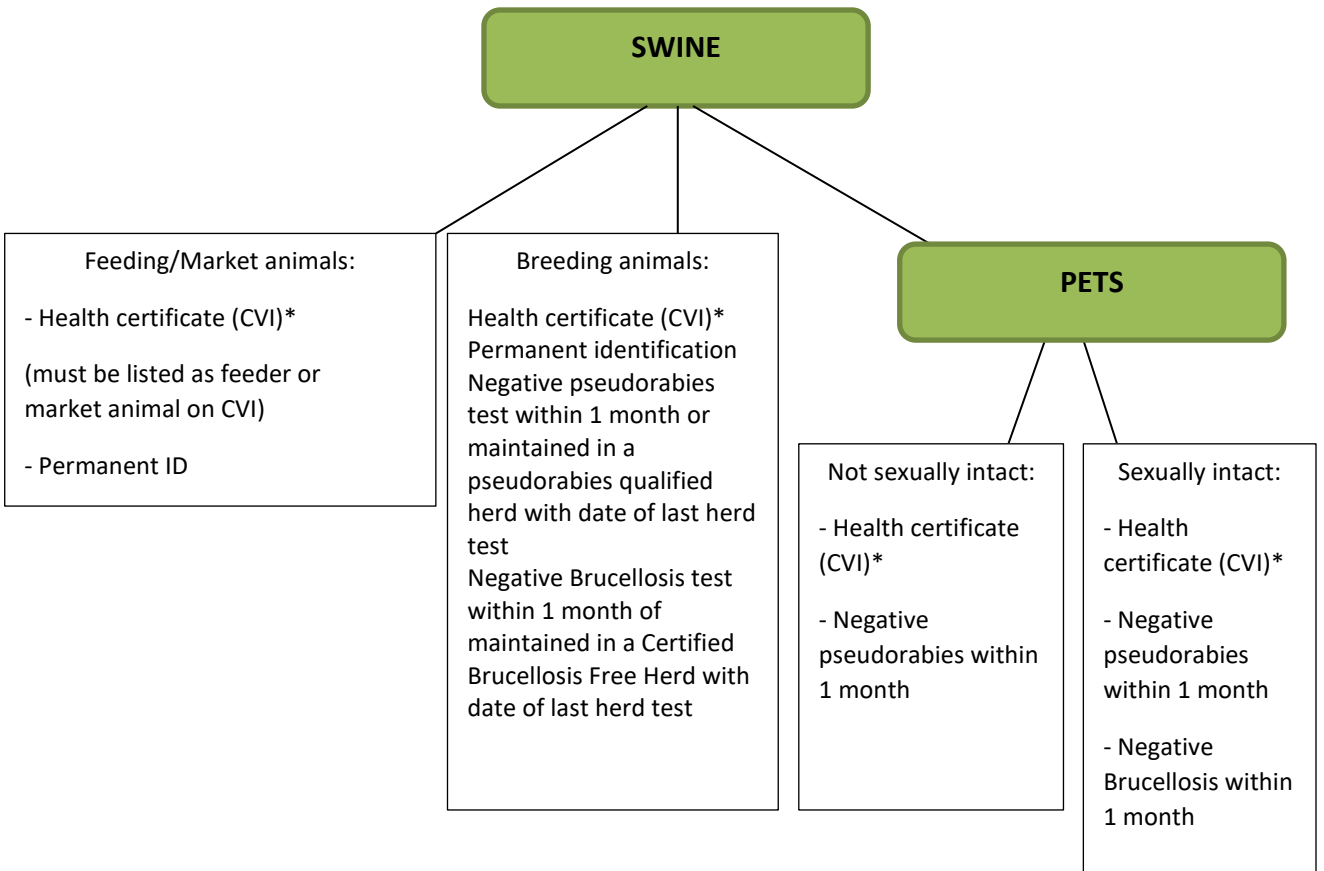
- Have had a negative Brucellosis test within 30 days.

Swine to be used as pets that are not sexually intact must:

- Have had a negative pseudorabies test within 30 days.

Recommend call Animal Health at 304-558-2214 prior to import in case of disease outbreaks that could cause changes for WV import requirements.





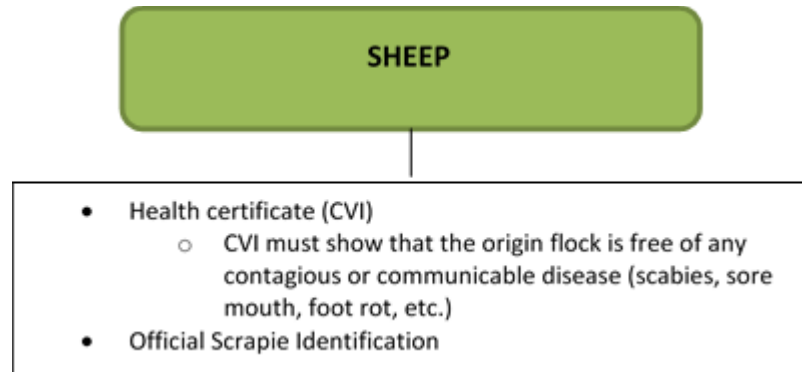
## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR SHEEP

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

CVI must show that the origin flock is free of any contagious or communicable disease (scabies, sore mouth, foot rot, etc.)

Scrapie identification tags are required for all sheep.

These tag numbers must be reflected on the CVI.



## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR GOATS

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

Official scrapie identification is required for all goats.

This official identification must be reflected on the CVI.

If official identification is in the form of a RFID implant (microchip), the owner must provide a reading device.

Goats to be used for milking purposes must have:

A negative Tuberculosis test within 60 days of import unless from a maintained accredited herd.

A negative Brucellosis test within 30 days of import unless from a maintained certified herd.

## GOATS

Requirements for animals used for breeding purposes:

- Health certificate (CVI)
- Official Scrapie Identification

Requirements for animals used for milking purposes:

- Health certificate (CVI)
- Official Scrapie Identification
- Negative Tuberculosis test within 60 days or maintained in an Accredited Tuberculosis Free Herd
- Negative Brucellosis test within 1 month or maintained in a Credited Brucellosis Free Herd

## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUINES (HORSES, DONKEYS, ZEBRAS)

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

All equine must have a negative Coggin's (Equine Infectious Anemia, or EIA) test within 12 months of import.

A nursing foal may move on its dam's Coggin's test if it is less than 6 months of age. Any foal NOT accompanied by its dam must have a negative Coggin's, regardless of its age.

### EQUINE (Horses, Donkeys, Zebras)

NURSING FOAL (LESS THAN 6 MONTHS OF AGE) ON DAM'S COGGINS

General Requirements:

- Health certificate (CVI)
- Negative Coggin's (EIA) within 12 months

## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-RATITE BIRDS (POULTRY)**

Out of state birds intended for importation shall be apparently healthy, shall be tested negative for Avian Influenza (AI) with the results listed and shall not originate from a flock known to be infected with pullorum/typhoid. All birds shall be accompanied by:

- 1) A negative Avian Influenza (AI) test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a form 9-3 indicating that they have originated from a pullorum/typhoid clean flock (NPIP participant); **OR**
- 2) A negative AI test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a form 9-2 indicating that the birds have been pullorum/typhoid tested negative within 90 days of the event (results and ID tags must be listed on 9-2); **OR**
- 3) A negative AI test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a health certificate (CVI) within 30 days of the event (results and ID tags must be listed on CVI) showing negative pullorum/typhoid test within 30 days.

Birds intended for slaughter must:

Test negative for AI within 14 days.

Be from NPIP certified flock or be pullorum/typhoid negative within 90 days.

No importation of any birds infected with pullorum/typhoid or that are from an area under quarantine for Avian Influenza or Velogenic Newcastle Diseases will be permitted.

**Individual exotic pet birds, non-gallinaceous bird held in collection by accredited private zoos, and other birds not defined as poultry are exempt from the Avian influenza and pullorum typhoid testing IF originating from a state that is not currently experiencing Avian Influenza or Virulent Newcastle Disease (VND).**





## BIRDS OTHER THAN RATITES (POULTRY)

### Birds intended for slaughter:

- Negative AI within 14 days
- Must be from NPIP certified flock or pullorum/typhoid negative within 90 days of import

Out of state birds intended for importation or exhibited at fairs, festivals, or shows shall be apparently healthy, shall be tested negative for Avian Influenza (AI) with the results listed and shall not originate from a flock known to be infected with pullorum/typhoid. For any event, all out of state birds shall be accompanied by:

- 1) A negative Avian Influenza (AI) test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a form 9-3 indicating that they have originated from a pullorum/typhoid clean flock (NPIP participant); OR
- 2) A negative AI test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a form 9-2 indicating that the birds have been pullorum/typhoid tested negative within 90 days of the event (results and ID tags must be listed on 9-2); OR
- 3) A negative AI test within 14 days of import/exhibition/swap/trade and a health certificate (CVI) within 30 days of the event (results and ID tags must be listed on CVI) showing negative pullorum/typhoid test within 30 days

No importation of any birds infected with pullorum/typhoid or that are from an area under quarantine for Avian Influenza or Velogenic Newcastle Diseases will be permitted.



## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR RATITES (OSTRICHES, EMUS)

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

A negative test for Avian Influenza within 14 days prior to shipment with the test date and results listed on the CVI is required for all ratites.

Permanent identification is required for all ratites.

If permanent ID is in the form of a microchip, owner must provide a microchip reader.

A permit issued by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture with the permit number listed on the health certificate is required for all ratites.

### RATITES (OSTRICHES, EMUS)

#### Requirements for importation:

- Health certificate (CVI)
- Negative test for Avian Influenza within 10 days prior to shipment with test date and results listed on the health certificate
- Permanent identification
  - If permanent ID is in the form of a microchip, owner must provide a microchip reader.
- A permit issued by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture with the permit number listed on the health certificate

## IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR CERVIDS

A valid Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is required for all cervids being imported into West Virginia, except for animals that are consigned directly to slaughter. Prior approval must be obtained from the West Virginia Department of Agriculture before any cervid may be imported. The import permit must be in place before transportation into the state is allowed.

Only cervids from a herd that has had no tuberculosis reactors found during a complete herd test for tuberculosis on all animals 6 months of age and older within the 12 months prior to the importation; and, is an animal that has had a negative tuberculosis test within 2 months prior to the importation of the animal; and has had a negative brucellosis test within 1 month prior to the importation of the animal.

Only cervids from TB and Brucellosis accredited herds that meet the CWD monitoring and surveillance program requirements will be accepted.

## **State Rules for Cervidae and Elk**

### **7.17.b. Cervidae and Elk.**

7.17.b.1. A person shall not import any animal of the Cervidae genus, except for animals that are consigned directly to slaughter, without a valid CVI issued by an accredited veterinarian and a special permit from the Commissioner. The CVI shall indicate that the animal:

7.17.b.1.A. is from a herd that has had no tuberculosis reactors found during a complete herd test for tuberculosis on all animals 6 months of age and older within the 12 months prior to the importation; and,

7.17.b.1.B. is an animal that has had a negative tuberculosis test within 2 months prior to the importation of the animal; and

7.17.b.1.C. has had a negative brucellosis test within 1 month prior to the importation of the animal.

7.17.b.2. For purposes of this section, the complete herd test for tuberculosis shall use the single cervical test as prescribed by the United States Department of Agriculture on December 31, 1990-or equivalent approved test (DPP Test Dual Path Platform Test April 2014), approved by USDA APHIS Veterinary Services.

7.17.b.3. A person shall not import any animal of the Cervidae genus consigned directly to slaughter without an CVI and may only import an animal that has been exposed to tuberculosis or brucellosis with a VS FORM 1-27 issued by APHIS accompanying the animal.

7.17.c. No person may import any animal into West Virginia that is to be placed in a zoo, or is of a species likely to be found in a zoo, without a valid CVI issued by an accredited veterinarian. The CVI shall state that the animal has been examined within 1 month prior to entry and found to be free of any communicable disease not known to have been exposed to any communicable disease.



## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR DOGS AND CATS**

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

CVI must state that inspecting veterinarian has observed no signs of any infectious disease.

CVI must state that animal has not been exposed to any infectious disease.

Dogs and cats over 6 months of age must have been vaccinated for rabies within the previous 12 months from the date of importation.

## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR ZOO ANIMALS**

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

CVI must state that the animal has been examined within 1 month prior to entry and found to be free of any communicable disease and is not known to have been exposed to any communicable disease.

## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR CAMELIDS (LLAMAS, ALPACAS)**

A valid CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, i.e. health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance.

Permanent identification is required for all camelids.

If permanent ID is in the form of a microchip, the owner must provide a microchip reader.

Animals with known communicable disease will not be permitted importation.

## **IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR NATIVE WILDLIFE FOR EXHIBITION, OTHER WILDLIFE, & UPLAND GAME BIRDS**

- A valid Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, (health certificate) is required for all animals being imported into West Virginia. CVIs expire after 30 days of issuance. DNR CVIs are available for some species.
  - A valid 9-3 form may be used for Upland Game Birds in lieu of a CVI.
- A Valid importation permit from the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) – 304-558-2771

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT**

**Contact the USDA Area Office**

**717-540-2777**

**Exotics: USDA/Animal Care 919-855-7701**

**Endangered: USDA Fish & Wildlife 413-253-8200**

**For Scrapie Tags**

**866-873-2824**