



# Sheep Entry Requirements

## Entry Documentation

Pursuant to [3 CCR §760.5](#)

California requires an **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** for **all** sheep moving into the state.

### Exemptions:

- Sheep that are less than 18 months of age and have not lambed, have not aborted, or are not pregnant, and are moving within an approved slaughter channel

To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please contact the **Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052** before moving sheep into the state. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

California requires a **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)** for sexually intact sheep issued within 30 days before movement into the state with the statement, **"The animals are not scrapie-positive or suspect or from a scrapie non-compliant flock."**

### Exemptions:

- Sheep moving within an approved slaughter channel
- Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership

## Ovine Brucellosis - Rams

Pursuant to [3 CCR §760.4](#)

A negative *Brucella ovis* test is required for all rams **6 months of age and older** within 60 days prior to entry. The **CVI** must include the test date, test result, and lab name.

### Exemptions:

- A California ram that is entered in a show or sale out of state, and then returns to California.
- Rams moving for grazing without change of ownership.
- Rams from a certified *Brucella ovis*-free flock with flock number on the CVI.



If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station. This will prevent future follow up by CDFA personnel to verify the authenticity and accuracy of the document.

For information on Scrapie, please click on the following:  
[Animal Health Branch Scrapie Information](#)  
[Eradicate Scrapie!](#)  
[USDA Scrapie Disease Information](#)

For California entry requirements of other livestock and animals, please visit the following:  
[Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](#) or  
[Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](#)

## Official Identification (ID)

Pursuant to [3 CCR §760.5](#)

California requires all sheep imported into the state to bear Official Identification (ID). The ID must be written on, or included on a list attached to the CVI. Official ID may be listed as a range of numbers.

### Exemptions:

- Sheep that are less than 18 months of age and have not lambed, have not aborted, or are not pregnant, and are moving within an approved slaughter channel
- Non-exhibition castrated sheep less than 18 months of age
- Sheep moving for grazing without change of ownership

Acceptable forms of official ID for sheep include:

- Eartags that conform to one of the following numbering systems:
  - \* Flock ID tags (flock ID with individual animal ID),
  - \* Serial ID tags (state code with serial numbers and letters), or
  - \* Animal Identification Number (AIN, 840) tags.
- Official tattoos:
  - \* USDA flock ID with individual animal ID, or
  - \* Registration tattoo (***registration certificate must be attached to each copy of the CVI and accompany animals when traveling or sold.***)
- USDA (ISO) compliant microchip:
  - \* If registered with a national registry association.
  - \* Animals at exhibition, transported, or sold must be accompanied by the registration certificate and a microchip reader.



Flock ID



Scrapie

**Animal Health Branch Permit Line:**  
**(916) 900-5052**

### Animal Health and Food Safety Services Animal Health Branch

Headquarters - (916) 900-5002  
 Redding District - (530) 225-2140  
 Modesto District - (209) 491-9350  
 Tulare District - (559) 685-3500  
 Ontario District - (909) 947-4462

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)

