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.

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

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.

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:
- 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.

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

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

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit: www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah