

RULE ADOPTIONS

AGRICULTURE

(a)

DIVISION OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Disease Control Program

Livestock and Poultry Importation

Adopted New Rule: N.J.A.C. 2:2-9

Adopted Amendment: N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.4

Proposed: July 3, 2023, at 55 N.J.R. 1313(a).

Adopted: September 27, 2023, by the State Board of Agriculture and Joseph Atchison III, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

Filed: September 28, 2023, as R.2023 d.126, **without change**.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 4:1-11.1, 4:1-21.5, 4:1-21.6, and 4:5-1 et seq.

Effective Date: November 6, 2023.

Expiration Date: March 22, 2024.

Summary of Public Comment and Agency Response:

No comments were received.

Federal Standards Statement

N.J.S.A. 52:14B-23 requires State agencies which adopt, readopt, or amend any rules to include a statement as to whether the rule or regulation in question has any standards or requirements that exceed the standards or requirements imposed by Federal law. This rulemaking brings State rules into conformity with Federal regulations, specifically 9 CFR Part 79. As such, a Federal standards analysis is not required here because the adopted amendments and new rule are in accordance with, and do not exceed, applicable Federal requirements or standards.

The Department of Agriculture (Department) notes that 9 CFR 79.6(a)(12)(i), (ii), and (iii) do permit a Scrapie Consistent State to include certain exemptions in its regulations governing the identification of sheep and goats in intrastate commerce upon change of ownership. However, it is the Department's view that incorporating those exemptions into the adopted rulemaking could create public uncertainty as to when identification is required for intrastate change of ownership, and it would create an additional administrative burden on the Department, both of which could undermine the protection of animal health and public health. Therefore, the Department has concluded that the exclusion of those exemptions from the rulemaking both conforms to the Federal requirements that permit New Jersey to remain a Scrapie Consistent State and furthers the goal of protecting animal health and public health in New Jersey.

Full text of the adoption follows:

CHAPTER 2 DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM

SUBCHAPTER 9. IDENTIFICATION OF SHEEP AND GOATS IN NEW JERSEY

2:2-9.1 Official identification of sheep and goats

(a) Definitions. As used in this section, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

1. "Any change of ownership" shall mean the disposition or other transfer of ownership, of any kind, of a sheep or goat, whether by sale, exchange, gift, rescue, or otherwise, that involves movement of the sheep or goats within the State of New Jersey.

2. "Owner/hauler statement" shall have the meaning as set forth at 9 CFR 79.1.

3. "Slaughter channels" shall have the meaning as set forth at 9 CFR 79.1.

(b) Prior to any change of ownership, all sheep and goats, of any age, not in slaughter channels shall be officially identified in the manner prescribed at N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.4(b)5iii, such that the animal may be traced to its flock of birth.

(c) Prior to any change of ownership, all sheep in the State of New Jersey in slaughter channels over 18 months of age, as evidenced by eruption of the second incisor, shall be officially identified in the manner prescribed at N.J.A.C. 2:3-1.4(b)5iii, such that the animal may be traced to its flock of birth. Individual identification will not be required if the sheep are moved as a group with an owner/hauler statement as permitted pursuant to 9 CFR 79.

CHAPTER 3 LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY IMPORTATION

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

2:3-1.4 Contents of Certificate of Veterinary Inspection

(a) (No change.)

(b) The official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection shall include a legible report of the following:

1.-4. (No change.)

5. Description of the livestock which shall include: species, breed, sex, and age of animals. Where applicable, the description shall include the following:

i.-ii. (No change.)

iii. Sheep and goats shall be identified using the identification method for sheep and goats at Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1, Subchapter C, Part 79—Scrapie in Sheep and Goats, which is hereby adopted herein by reference.

6.-8. (No change.)

(b)

DIVISION OF MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Readoption

Charity Racing Day Fund Distribution

Readoption: N.J.A.C. 2:31

Authority: N.J.S.A. 5:5-44.9.

Authorized By: The State Board of Agriculture and Joseph Atchison III, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

Effective Date: October 2, 2023.

New Expiration Date: October 2, 2030.

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c, the rules at N.J.A.C. 2:31 were scheduled to expire on March 22, 2024.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide the application procedure for the award of Charity Racing Day grants to the Horse Park of New Jersey and to organizations that care for retired race horses. The rules also provide the criteria by which the Department of Agriculture shall evaluate applications and award grants. All monies received by the New Jersey Racing Commission on the designated Charity Racing Day are required to be deposited into the Horse Park of New Jersey and the Care of Retired Horses Fund. Fifty percent of the money is used as a grant to the Horse Park of New Jersey and 50 percent is used as grants to organizations that care for retired race horses.

The rules provide that an organization that cares for retired race horses, which is not incorporated in New Jersey, but which has a New Jersey affiliate and provides significant services in New Jersey is also eligible to apply for a grant. Such application includes a certification that any funds awarded to the organization shall be spent solely for the care of retired race horses in New Jersey. All recipients of funds must complete a detailed fund utilization report, which verifies the use of funds and provides receipts for all expenditures, and every applicant for and