



EVENTS & FAIRS CHECKLIST: CATTLE

OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION (CVI)

- Is a current 2026 season NE CVI with the destination listed on it.
-OR-
Is written specifically for the event and is dated within the past 30 days.
- Out of state origin **Lactating Dairy breed** cows have a negative Influenza A test <7 days.
- All animal ID listed on the CVI matches the animal ID on the animals present.
- Remember, Maine animals traveling in state do not need a CVI!

RECOMMENDED VACCINES

- Rabies all cattle over 12 weeks old, remember is valid for 1 year.
- Appropriate respiratory vaccines.
- Appropriate tetanus/clostridial vaccines.
- BVD vaccination is encouraged.

ANIMAL CONDITION

- Body condition score should be within the healthy range.
- Ideal BCS range is 3-4 of 5.

SIGNS OF POOR ANIMAL HEALTH

- Must show no evidence of disease: diarrhea, runny nose, cough etc.
- No recent castration evidence.
- No hair loss, including "healing" ringworm lesions, lice, or mange.
- No scabs, crusts, pimples, blisters, open skin, open wounds/abscesses.
- No pink eye or eye injuries.
- No mastitis
- No retained placentas
- No signs of neurological impairment
- No signs of lameness or pain (teeth grinding/hunched posture/dull/head pressing).

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION

- All animals of any age must have ID.
- Cattle must be identified with appropriate USDA 840 RFID tags.
- The tag is properly secured in the ear.
- Farm tags may be used as *secondary* ID, not primary ID because they don't not have a unique USDA issued number.

SIGNS OF DISEASE REFERENCE



BASIC BODY CONDITION SCORING- CATTLE

Scan the QR code to watch a Youtube video on Body Condition Scoring BEEF Cattle



Scan the QR code to watch a Youtube video on Body Condition Scoring DAIRY Cattle



Note: Pulling & Show Steers should be Body Condition Scored according to their breed. Most are a dairy breed and of athletic, naturally lean, build.

Body condition score	Vertebrae at the middle of the back	Rear view (cross section) of the hook bones	Side view of the line between the hook and pin bones	Cavity between tail head and pin bone Rear view and angled view
1. Severe under-conditioning				
2. Frame obvious				
3. Frame and covering well				
4. Frame not as visible as covering				
5. Severe over-conditioning				



SHALL NOT PASS CHECK-IN FINDINGS



Scan the QR code
for more
information on
zoonotic cattle
diseases

Oral Lesions can be caused by a number of injuries, bacteria and viruses. At an event there is no way to tell for certain the cause which is why DACF doesn't recommend exhibition of animals with oral lesions at public events. Alert the fair veterinarian of this finding. Animals with oral lesions should not be allowed off the transport and the animal should go home immediately.

***Reportable diseases with possible oral lesions: Malignant Catarrhal Fever, Vesicular Stomatitis Virus, Foot and Mouth Disease**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Ring worm, E. coli, MRSA, Pox Viruses, Mixed Bacterial/Fungus/Yeast

Abscesses are caused by bacteria or other foreign objects entering the body, sometimes after the skin is punctured or from internal means. If the abscess is closed it is less risk. Once it is open, the bacteria can be spread rapidly and can cause disease in other animals and people. Without culturing the abscess, which can take weeks for results, DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

***Please note pus is a source of infection**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: MRSA, E. coli & Other Bacteria

Crusts and hair loss not caused by a collar or feeder have a range of possible causes from external parasites to fungus. Lice and mange are considered infectious disease and can be visualized with a microscope or flea comb in most cases. Ring worm is another common cause with a distinct rounded boarder pattern. MRSA and other bacteria can cause skin infections and hair loss as well. DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

***Please note crusts and fallen hair can be a source of infection**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Mange, Ringworm, Lice, Pyoderma

Diarrhea can be from stress or GI infection from viruses or bacteria. Bloody, green, watery, chronic or severe diarrhea cases can be fatal. DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: E. coli, Salmonella, Cryptosporidium, Campylobacter, Clostridiums, Giardia, Johnes, GI Parasites, & Other Bacteria



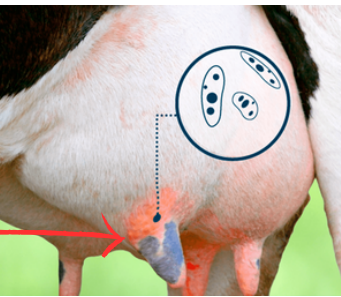
SHALL NOT PASS CHECK-IN FINDINGS



Open wounds are not advisable for public exhibition for the concerns of animal welfare and public perception. Lesions should be promptly treated appropriately and covered with a bandage whenever possible. Oozing discharge from wounds may contain infectious bacteria and viruses.

*** Please note discharges can be sources of infection**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: MRSA, E. coli, Salmonella, Blood Borne pathogens, Tetanus

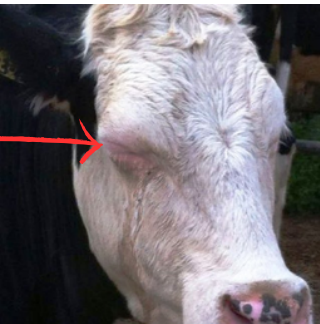


Mastitis can be painful and sometimes fatal even with treatment. Mastitis can be an animal welfare and public perception issue. Animals with active mastitis are not fit for exhibition and can pose a public health risk. DACF recommends these animals be sent home for appropriate treatment.

*** Please note milk is a source of infection**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: MRSA, E. coli, Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Cryptosporidium, Johnes, Opportunistic Bacteria

<https://actualidadganadera.com/como-afecta-la-mastitis-en-la-glandula-mamaria-durante-la-practica-veterinaria/>



Eye lesions may be a symptom of concern for public and animal health.

Trauma lesions and ulcerative diseases of the eye can look similar, advanced diagnostics are needed to make a diagnosis. Injuries and disease of the eye can impair the animal's vision and can cause the animal to become less predictable to handle. DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

*** Please note pus/discharge can be a source of infection**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Pink-eye, Chlamydia, E.coli, Salmonella, Listeriosis, BVD, IBR



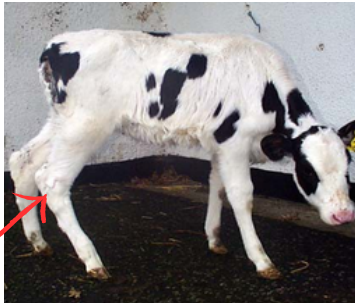
Fetal membranes and birthing fluids can be vectors for animal and human health diseases. Animals due to give birth at the event or with retained fetal membranes- DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: E. coli, Salmonella, Cache Valley Fever, Q Fever, Toxoplasmosis, Leptosiprosis (urine)

MAINE ANIMAL HEALTH REFERENCE



SHALL NOT PASS CHECK-IN FINDINGS



Neurological symptoms are usually easy to spot. Circling, teeth grinding, staggering, star gazing, head pressing, drooling, tongue hanging out of mouth, ear drooped on one side, muscular or facial asymmetry are some common symptoms. Neurological animals should be handled with caution and a veterinarian should be contacted immediately.

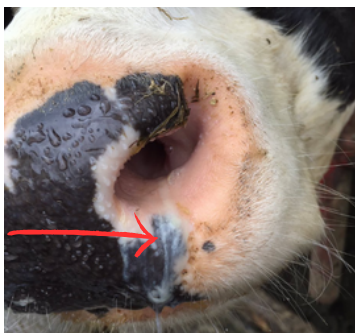
***Please note discharges can be sources of infection.**

Possible Zoonotic Infectious Causes: Rabies, Listeriosis, Botulism, Tetanus, Arboviruses, Mad Cow (BSE)



Lameness can have many causes but is an animal health and wellness concern. It is recommended a veterinarian be consulted once a lame animal is identified. Fractured limbs, hoof rot lesions, severe arthritis, Lentivirus infection are of concern. Note that some hoof rot pathogens are contagious to other animals. DACF recommends sending "down" or event veterinary determined lame animals home.

Lameness is an animal welfare concern as well as a contagious/infectious disease concern given Hairy Heel warts are considered a contagious cause of lameness.



Respiratory signs can be serious illness. Rapid breathing, coughing, teeth grinding, sneezing, wheezing, open mouth breathing, foam around the mouth, watery eyes, panting are all respiratory signs. A veterinarian should be consulted if these symptoms are observed and determine if the cause is stress related or could be due to illness. DACF recommends ill or severely stressed animals be sent home. ***Please note pus/discharge can be a source of infection.**

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Brucellosis, Influenza, TB, BRSV, Coronaviruses (cow specific), IBR, BVD, MCF, Mycoplasma, BRD Complex



Bloat can occur from changes in feed/environment as well as from infectious agents like Clostridium Type C. This condition can be an emergency, a veterinarian should be consulted. DACF recommends sending chronic cases of bloat home.

Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Cause: Clostridial bacteria