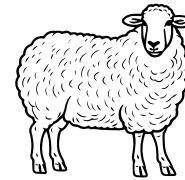


# EVENTS & FAIRS CHECKLIST: SHEEP



## 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.
- All animal ID listed on the CVI matches the animal ID on the animals present.
- Appears to be unaltered.
- Remember, Maine animals traveling in state do not need a CVI!

## SIGNS OF POOR ANIMAL HEALTH

- Must show no evidence of disease: diarrhea, runny nose, cough etc.
- No recent castration evidence.
- No wool/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 USDA official ID.
- Sheep must be identified with appropriate scrapie tags.
- The tag is properly secured in the ear.
- Microchips may be used as *secondary* ID as long as a Scrapie Tag is in the ear.
- Microchip numbers must start 840. Microchips must be implanted.

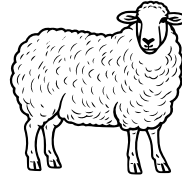
## ANIMAL CONDITION

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

## RECOMMENDED VACCINES

- Rabies all sheep over 12 weeks old, remember it is valid for 3 years!
- Appropriate respiratory vaccines.
- Appropriate tetanus/clostridial vaccines.

# SIGNS OF DISEASE REFERENCE



## BASIC BODY CONDITION SCORING- SHEEP

### How to Condition Score

Score 1



The vertical and horizontal processes are prominent and sharp. The fingers can be pushed easily below the transverse and each process can be felt. The loin is thin with no fat cover.

Score 2



The vertical processes are prominent but smooth; individual processes being felt only as corrugations. The horizontal processes are smooth and rounded, but it is still possible to press fingers under. The loin muscle is a moderate depth but with little fat cover.

Score 3



The vertical processes are smooth and rounded; the bone is only felt with pressure. The horizontal processes are also smooth and well covered; hard pressure is required with the fingers to find the ends. The loin muscle is full and with a moderate fat cover.

Score 4

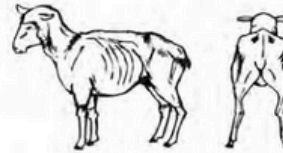


The vertical processes are only detectable as a line. The ends of the horizontal processes cannot be felt. The loin muscles are full and rounded, and have a thick covering of fat.

Score 5

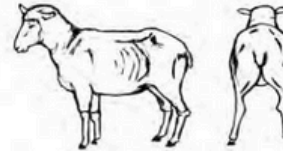


The vertical and transverse processes cannot be detected even with pressure; there is a dimple in the fat layers where the processes should be. The loin muscles are very full and covered with very thick fat.



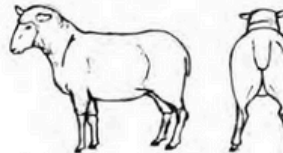
Condition score 1

Appearance angular and narrow  
Backbone raised and sharp  
Hollow behind ribs  
Tail feels bony  
Neck bones prominent



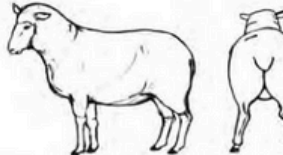
Condition score 2

Backbone raised but smooth  
Ribs are easily felt  
Tail bone easily detectable  
Thin neck



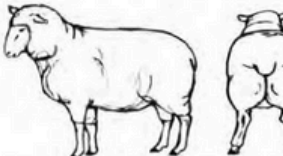
Condition score 3

Backbone slightly raised  
Ribs smooth, can just be felt  
Tail bones barely detectable



Condition score 4

Appearance well rounded  
Backbone can just be felt  
Ribs are covered  
Tail firm and rounded

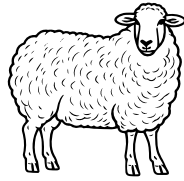


Condition score 5

Appearance very well rounded  
Backbone barely detectable  
Ribs cannot be felt  
Tail fat and broad



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



Scan the QR code  
for more  
information on  
zoonotic sheep  
diseases

SHALL NOT PASS LESIONS



**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. Animals with oral lesions should not be allowed off the trailer and the animal should go home immediately.

**\*Please note scabs can be sources of infection**

**Possible Zoonotic & Infectious Causes: Orf, MRSA, Clinical OHV-2 (MCF), Other Pox Viruses**



**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**

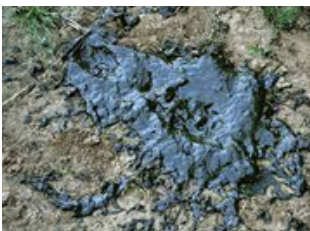
**Possible Zoonotic & Infectious Causes: CL, MRSA, E. coli, Other Bacteria**



**Crusts and wool/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 wool/hair loss as well. DACF recommends these animals be sent home.

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

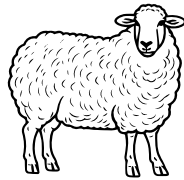
**Possible Zoonotic & Infectious Causes: Lice, Mange, Ringworm, Bacteria**



**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 & Infectious Causes: E. coli, Salmonella, Cryptosporidium, Clostridiums, Giardia, Gastrointestinal parasites, Johnes**

# MAINE ANIMAL HEALTH REFERENCE



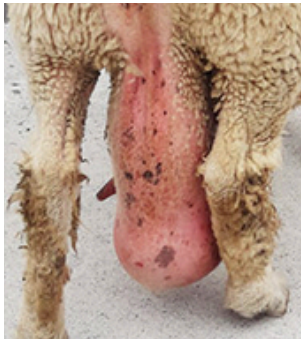
## SHALL NOT PASS LESIONS



**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.

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

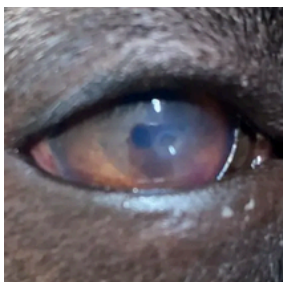
**Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Risks: MRSA, E. coli, CL, Salmonella, Tetanus**



**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: CL, MRSA, E. coli, Staph. aureus, Klebsiella, Pseudomonas, Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, Cryptosporidium, Johnes & Other Bacteria.**



**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**

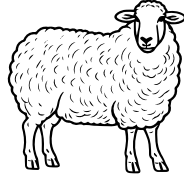
**Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Pink Eye, CL, Chlamydia, E.coli, Salmonella, MRSA, BVD, Clinical OHV-2 (MCF), Atypical Orf**



**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, Brucellosis, Chlamydia**

# MAINE ANIMAL HEALTH REFERENCE



## SHALL NOT PASS LESIONS



**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 or Infectious Causes: Rabies, Listeriosis, Botulism, Tetanus, Arboviruses, Scrapie**



**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.

**\*Please note warts and discharges are a source of infection**

**Possible Zoonotic or Infectious Causes: Hoof-rot, Interdigital Dermatitis**



**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: CL, TB, Influenza, BRSV, Rabies, Shipping Fever 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**