



Sheep Entry Requirements

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

Exemptions:

- *Lambs less than 18 months of age that have not lambed, have not aborted, or are not pregnant and moving directly to a state or federally approved slaughter facility.*

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)** issued within 30 days before entry with the statement, **“The animals are not scrapie-positive or suspect or from a scrapie non-compliant flock.”**

Exemptions:

- *All sheep going directly to a state or federally approved slaughter facility.*

Ovine Brucellosis - Rams

A negative brucella ovis test is required for all rams 6 months of age and older within 60 days prior to entry.

Exemptions:

- *A California ram that is entered in a show or sale out of state, and then returns to California.*
- *Rams from a certified brucella ovis-free flock.*



California requires all sheep imported into the state to bear **Official Identification (ID)**. Official ID must be an identification mark or device approved by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). 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.

Acceptable forms of official animal ID include:

- Official eartags that provide unique identification for the individual animal. It must bear the U.S. shield, be tamper resistant, have a high retention rate, and conform to one of the following numbering systems:
 - ⇒ Flock ID tags (flock ID with Individual Animal ID on tag),
 - ⇒ Scrapie program tags,
 - ⇒ Serial ID tags (State code with serial numbers and letters), or
 - ⇒ Animal Identification Number (AIN) (RFID or visual).
- USDA compliant microchips
- Official tattoos:
 - ⇒ USDA Flock ID with Individual Animal ID, or
 - ⇒ Registration tattoo, if recorded in a Purebred Registry Association Book with documentation attached to the CVI.

Exemptions:

- *Lambs less than 18 months of age that have not lambed, have not aborted, or are not pregnant, and moving directly to a state or federally approved slaughter facility.*
- *Castrated sheep less than 18 months of age, except those for exhibition.*



Flock ID Tags



Scrapie Tags

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

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

