

ANIMAL HEALTH CHECKS: SHEEP



Quality health checks are the first line of defense for protecting humans and animals from contagious diseases at fairs and other animal events. Use this checklist to confirm that animals participating in an agricultural fair or event are visibly healthy. Health checks should be completed inside the trailer or right outside; do not permit the animal to walk through the fairgrounds, barns or event before confirming its health status. Use gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE) as appropriate. Disinfect footwear between assessments on animals not housed together. Change your clothes after completing the animal assessments. Wipe down any equipment like flashlights or radios between groups of animals. Certain conditions and observations noted within this checklist may not pose a significant public or animal health risk. In such cases, decisions regarding an animal's eligibility for exhibition should be made in consultation with event leadership and/or the on-call veterinarian. Follow any additional policies provided by event leadership and your state's Department of Agriculture.

Identification

- ☐ Valid health certificate
- ☐ Scrapie tag

General Body

- ☐ Overall thriftiness, including an appropriate body condition for its age, sex, and physiological state
- ☐ Bright, alert, and responsive
- ☐ No indication of broken bones or injuries
- ☐ No obvious wounds
- ☐ Normal gait and mental activity

Nose, Eyes, and Mouth

- ☐ No signs of respiratory distress or coughing
- ☐ No nasal discharge
- ☐ No excessive salivation
- ☐ Bright clear eyes without discharge, squinting or signs of injury
- ☐ Free of sores or scabs on the lips and/or nose

Skin and Wool

- ☐ No bare or crusty spots
- ☐ No open wounds
- ☐ No wool loss

Rear End

- ☐ Free of diarrhea
- ☐ No prolapsing rectal or vaginal tissue
- ☐ No signs of injury or infection in udders, teats, and testes

Feet

- ☐ Well-maintained hooves
- ☐ No sign of lameness or injury to hooves
- ☐ No odor from between the toes



Identification:

Valid health certificate and scrapie tag.

Skin:

Clean and free from infections, parasites, wounds, & wool loss.

Rear:

No presence of scours/diarrhea; no signs of vaginal or rectal prolapse; lactating ewe does not exhibit signs of mastitis; wethered animal lacks testes and has no open wounds.

Nose, Eyes, and Mouth:

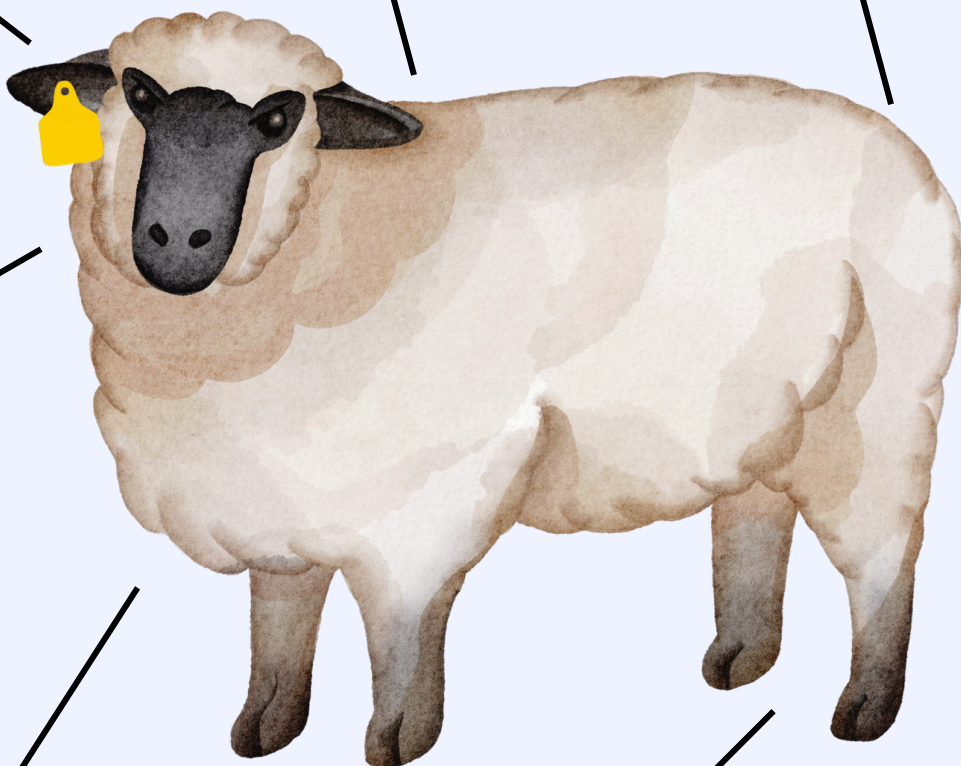
Free of respiratory infection (no breathing irregularities, coughing, nasal discharge); no panting, tooth grinding, and excessive salivation; absence of scabs or lesions in/around the mouth (Orf).

General Body:

Walking straight with a normal gait; absence of head tilt; no hunching, lethargy, bloat, abscesses, broken bones, or other injuries present.

Feet:

Well maintained hooves, standing/walking on all four feet, no signs of lameness or abscesses (swelling, odor, fluid, redness).



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