



DATE: April 16, 2004

TO: Organizers and sponsors of animal swap meets, Local Public Health Agencies, Agriculture Extension Agents, and other interested parties

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SUBJECT: Recommendations for animal swap meets

The potential risks to human and animal health posed by contact with certain animal species became apparent during last year's outbreak of monkeypox.

We have been asked to provide recommendations on what animals are appropriate to have at animal swap meets. The enclosed guidelines address this issue, with consideration given to the potential impact on human health, animal health, and wildlife health.

With the exception of the animal health regulations cited on the second page of the document, these are recommendations, not regulations. However, organizers are urged to follow them, and also to ensure compliance with any local ordinances that might apply.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Please contact one of us if there are questions about these recommendations.

Recommendations for Small Animal Swapmeets

From the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Division of Animal Health, and
the Department of Natural Resources

While at the swapmeet, the vendor is required to provide ample feed appropriate to the species, ample clean drinking water, and a comfortable living space. Young animals need enough warmth to maintain normal body temperature. Excessive handling of animals is discouraged, and the animals should be given adequate time to rest.

Handwashing facilities should be available to vendors and customers. Signage should urge attendees to wash their hands prior to leaving the area and before eating, drinking, or smoking. Communal basins do not constitute adequate hand-washing facilities. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizers can be effective against many common disease agents. However, these products are less effective if hands are grossly soiled, so gross contamination and dirt should be removed to the extent possible before using hand sanitizers. Hand sanitizers are also ineffective against certain organisms (e.g., *Cryptosporidium*), and so should be considered a second choice to hand washing with soap and running water.

Sales and/or exhibitions of animals at swapmeets should be limited to the species listed below. The sales of animal tack (cages, feeders, water bottles, etc.), feed, and eggs for hatching is permissible as mentioned below.

Permissible Animals / Products:

- Dogs¹
- Cats¹
- Domestic Rabbits
- Poultry (excluding waterfowl)¹
- Domestic Ducks¹
- Domestic Geese¹
- Domestic Turkeys (< 6 months)¹
- Non-Native Game Birds (pheasants, quail, partridge)^{1,2}
- Pigeons
- Doves (domesticated)
- Hamsters
- Mice/ Rats (Domesticated)
- Guinea Pigs
- Gerbils
- Goats¹
- Domestic Sheep¹
- Domestic Piglets, Potbelly Pigs^{1,3}
- NonNative Pet Birds (Parakeets, Finches, etc.)⁴
- Ferrets⁵
- Animal Tack (cages, feeders, etc.)
- Animal feed
- Eggs of the avian species listed above

¹For these species, the vendor must provide proof of compliance with animal health regulations as required by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The regulations are listed on Page 2 of these recommendations.

²Native game animals and game birds may not be sold except as authorized by a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources captive wildlife license and rules.

³Wild boars, Russian boars, peccaries, feral swine, and other wild-type swine are not allowed.

⁴“Pet bird” means a bird that is not native, is not identified on the federal list of endangered and threatened species, and is not a migratory bird.

⁵Although not mandated by law, it is strongly recommended that ferrets be current on their rabies vaccination, since this can avoid a costly isolation quarantine in the event the animal bites an attendee.

Animal Health Regulation Summary:

Dogs and Cats:

Wisconsin law mandates that dogs over 5 months of age be vaccinated against rabies, as evidenced a certificate of vaccination signed by a licensed veterinarian.

Cats originating from outside Wisconsin need proof of current rabies vaccination.

Dogs and cats originating from outside Wisconsin must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Poultry:

All poultry (excluding waterfowl) over 4 months of age, or that have reached sexual maturity shall be accompanied by documentation of a negative test for pullorum-typhoid conducted within 90 days prior to arrival at the swap, or proof of origination from a flock designated as U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean.

Poultry originating from outside Wisconsin must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Goats:

Goats exposed to scrapie will not be allowed to be sold or exhibited.

Breeding goats, sexually-intact goats going to exhibitions or that have resided with sheep, and dairy goats must be identified with official scrapie ear tags or other official scrapie identification.

Goats originating from outside Wisconsin must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Sheep:

Sheep exposed to scrapie will not be allowed to be sold or exhibited.

For sheep originating from within Wisconsin, sexually-intact sheep of any age, and all other sheep 18 months of age and older must be identified with official scrapie ear tags or other official scrapie identification. For sheep originating from outside of Wisconsin, sexually-intact sheep of any age, and all other sheep 6 months of age and older must be identified with official scrapie ear tags or other official scrapie identification.

Sheep originating from outside Wisconsin must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Domestic Piglets / Potbelly Pigs:

Swine originating from outside Wisconsin will require proof of negative pseudorabies test within 30 days of the sale, or originate from a qualified pseudorabies negative herd that is qualified by testing 7% of the herd each month, or a state classified as Stage IV or V. The date of the last monthly test must be included on the certificate. Swine entering directly from a Stage II state are not eligible for show or exhibition.

All swine originating from outside Wisconsin must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

Refer to ATCP 10, 11, and 12 for specific information on animal health and import requirements, or contact the Division of Animal Health at 608/ 224-4878.

The ATCP 10, 11, and 12 regulations can be found at:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/atcp/atcp010.pdf>

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/atcp/atcp011.pdf>

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/atcp/atcp012.pdf>