

Poultry Auction Agreement FAQ

Q: Why is Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (ODAFF) asking poultry auctions to sign these forms now?

A: Due to the increasing number of poultry auctions, sales, and swap meets and the increased threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and other poultry diseases, we believe it is important to make sure that places where poultry commingle from multiple sources and disperse to multiple sources follow the law to help keep poultry safe and to be able to trace potentially exposed or infected poultry in case of disease outbreaks.

Q: Is this something new?

A: Asking poultry auctions to sign the agreement forms is new, but the laws have been present for many years. Poultry exhibitions have filled the forms out and submitted them for years. Cattle, horse, sheep, and goat sales are required to fill out and sign similar forms.

Q: Are there laws that require this?

A: Yes

Q: What are they?

A: *Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 35:15-1-1*

(a) This Chapter relates to statutes assigned to the Animal Industry Services with responsibility for Animal Health.

(b) The division is responsible for the detection, eradication, and control of livestock and poultry diseases and parasites. Specific responsibilities include detecting, controlling and eradicating livestock diseases on farms and ranches, in auction markets, feedlots and other concentration points throughout the state; monitoring the interstate and intrastate movement of animals and poultry to verify compliance with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations; controlling the use of vaccines and biologics; and preventing the spread of diseases transmissible to man.

OAC 35:15-19-4

(a) Domesticated fowl including chickens, turkeys, game chickens, game birds, or waterfowl over four (4) months of age and intended for breeding, meat, or egg production purposes shall not be imported into the state unless they:

(1) Have originated from a National Plan source which is U.S. pullorum-typhoid clean or equivalent with a NPIP 9-3, or

(2) Have passed a negative agglutination test for reportable salmonella groups within ninety (90) days prior to import, have received a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection within thirty

(30) days, and individual ID by leg/wing band.

(b) All poultry under four (4) months of age, including baby chicks, started chicks, turkey poults, started poults, other newly hatched domestic poultry, game chickens, game birds, waterfowl, and hatching eggs shipped, brought into, or offered for sale in Oklahoma, except those intended for immediate slaughter, shall:

(1) Have originated from a NPIP Pullorum-Typhoid clean breeder flock and shall be accompanied by a NPIP VS Form 9-3 or an APHIS VS form 17-6;

OAC 35:15-13-6. Movement of livestock through livestock auction markets

(a) All certificates of veterinary inspection, permits, and other documents, including out-of-state documents accompanying livestock into Oklahoma livestock auction markets, that are incomplete or have been altered in any way are void and shall not be accepted. This shall include documents that are incomplete as to official identification numbers and descriptions of the animals they represent. To be accurate and acceptable, the prefix of each official identification number shall be recorded.

(b) All livestock shipped or exported from the State of Oklahoma shall meet the state of destination importation requirements.

OAC 35:15-1-8. Record keeping

All dealers, auction markets, commission firms, and persons required to have official identification at change of ownership shall keep sufficient records for a minimum of five (5) years of all animals sold to enable any authorized agent to trace the animals satisfactorily to their herd of origin and to their disposition at the time of sale. These records shall be made available to any authorized agent for the purpose of inspection or photocopying during normal business hours. Failure to maintain or provide adequate records shall constitute a violation of rules adopted by the Board.

Q: Are poultry considered livestock?

A: Yes

2 O.S. § 1-3 (OSCN 2025) Definitions

"Livestock" or "animals" means any cattle, bison, horses, sheep, goats, asses, mules, swine, domesticated rabbits, chickens, turkeys, and other domesticated fowl, and any animal or bird in captivity.

Q: Do I have to sign the agreement?

A: Yes. If you don't, you may lose your license to hold the sale.

OAC 35:15-13-3. General requirements for a livestock auction market

Each livestock auction market shall sign and have on record with the Department the most current livestock market contract for each of the species sold at the market. Markets shall sell only species approved to be handled, sold, or exchanged pursuant to their livestock auction market license.

OAC 35:15-13-7. Specific approval of livestock auction markets

No livestock auction market shall be specifically approved until proper application is made and a determination is made by the State Veterinarian that Department regulations and standards are met.