



## Sheep & Goat Exhibitor Scrapie Information

To make sure everyone has the correct information and tools for success, we teamed up with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry – Animal Health Division to provide a list of options and answers to your USDA Scrapie Eradication Program questions. We want to make sure everyone is in compliance so we can have a great Fair!

Sheep and goat exhibitors can comply with the USDA Scrapie Eradication Program by:

Step 1: Registering your flock with the USDA and receiving your Scrapie Flock ID. To do this, you can call (866) USDA TAGS or (866) 873-2824

Step 2: Tagging, tattooing or chipping all your exhibit sheep and goats with your Scrapie Flock ID.

Options:

- Scrapie Ear Tag – Order official Scrapie ear tags with your Scrapie Flock ID and tag each individual.
- Tattoo with Scrapie Flock ID – Tattoo the individual's ear or tail with the state abbreviation followed by your Scrapie Flock ID to comply with requirements.
  - For example: if your Scrapie Flock ID is HGF and the herd resides in Maine, the tattoo would be MEHGF and be followed by any additional farm management codes you use in record keeping.
- Breed Registry – Register your animals with their breed registry. Have each exhibition animal's registration papers with you and available for inspection. The registration papers must match the individual's breed registry tag or tattoo to confirm identity and be compliant.
- Microchip – You will need a Premises ID (call the Maine Department of Agriculture at (207) 287-3701 or go online ([https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal\\_health/adt/index.shtml](https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_health/adt/index.shtml)) to complete this. You will also need your scrapie flock ID to order microchips. The microchip will have a fifteen-digit number. If you decide to use microchips, you will have to have a reader at the ready. This will need to accompany the animals while in transport to the show, as well as having the reader available at the show. This will enable show or state officials to verify the animal listed on a certificate of veterinary inspection (for out of state animals) as well as the show registration.

Step 3: Bring supporting paperwork and/or equipment as determined by your identification method above to the exhibition and have available for officials.

If coming from out of the State of Maine, you will need a certificate of veterinary inspection ("health papers") as well as an import permit (have your vet call 207-287-3701 to obtain an import permit number).

All sheep and goats exhibited at agricultural fairs are required to have a Scrapie Flock Identification of some sort. Please explore the options above and pick the best method for you. If you have questions, please contact the Fair Office 207-568-4142 or [commonground@mofga.org](mailto:commonground@mofga.org).



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## Common Questions about the Scrapie Tagging Rules

### How do I get scrapie tags?

You can obtain discounted tags and a tagger by calling the toll-free USDA Scrapie Program number, and following the directions on the phone tree carefully: 1-866-USDA-TAG (866-873-2824). Your call will be routed to USDA personnel who can register you for the program, issue a Flock ID number, and assist you with ordering tags for your sheep/goats.

### Can I get scrapie tags from somewhere else?

There are other suppliers like Allflex, Premier, and Hasco. They all charge for their tags and taggers and the taggers are not interchangeable. This is where you'll need to source tags from when the discounted USDA supplies run out.

### I am not a part of the scrapie free program; do I have to use scrapie tags?

**YES, all** sheep and goats in the US are a part of the National Scrapie Eradication Program. This is a mandatory program that began in 2001. **This program requires sheep and goats to be officially identified before leaving the owner's property, even if just for a brief show or exhibition. There are very few exceptions to this requirement.**

### Can I opt out of the Nation Scrapie Eradication Program?

No, all sheep and goats in the US are required by law to be a part of the National Scrapie Eradication Program.

### What is the difference between scrapie tags and normal animal ID tags?

All official scrapie tags must have the US route shield on them, and many include your Flock ID. Normal ID tags you can buy will not have this shield on them.


### Can my friend and I share scrapie tags?

No, each tag is registered to a single flock and owner. This helps us track down the owners of an animal if there is a problem with scrapie down the road.

### Which of my sheep or goats need a scrapie tag?

In general, most all sheep and goats in Maine need a scrapie tag. There is a flow chart attached to this document that can help you decide if any of your animals fall under the exceptions to needing a tag. If you are in doubt, tag them.

If you have more questions about Scrapie tagging or any other animal ID rules, ask your veterinarian or feel free to contact me or other members of the Maine Animal Health team at any time.



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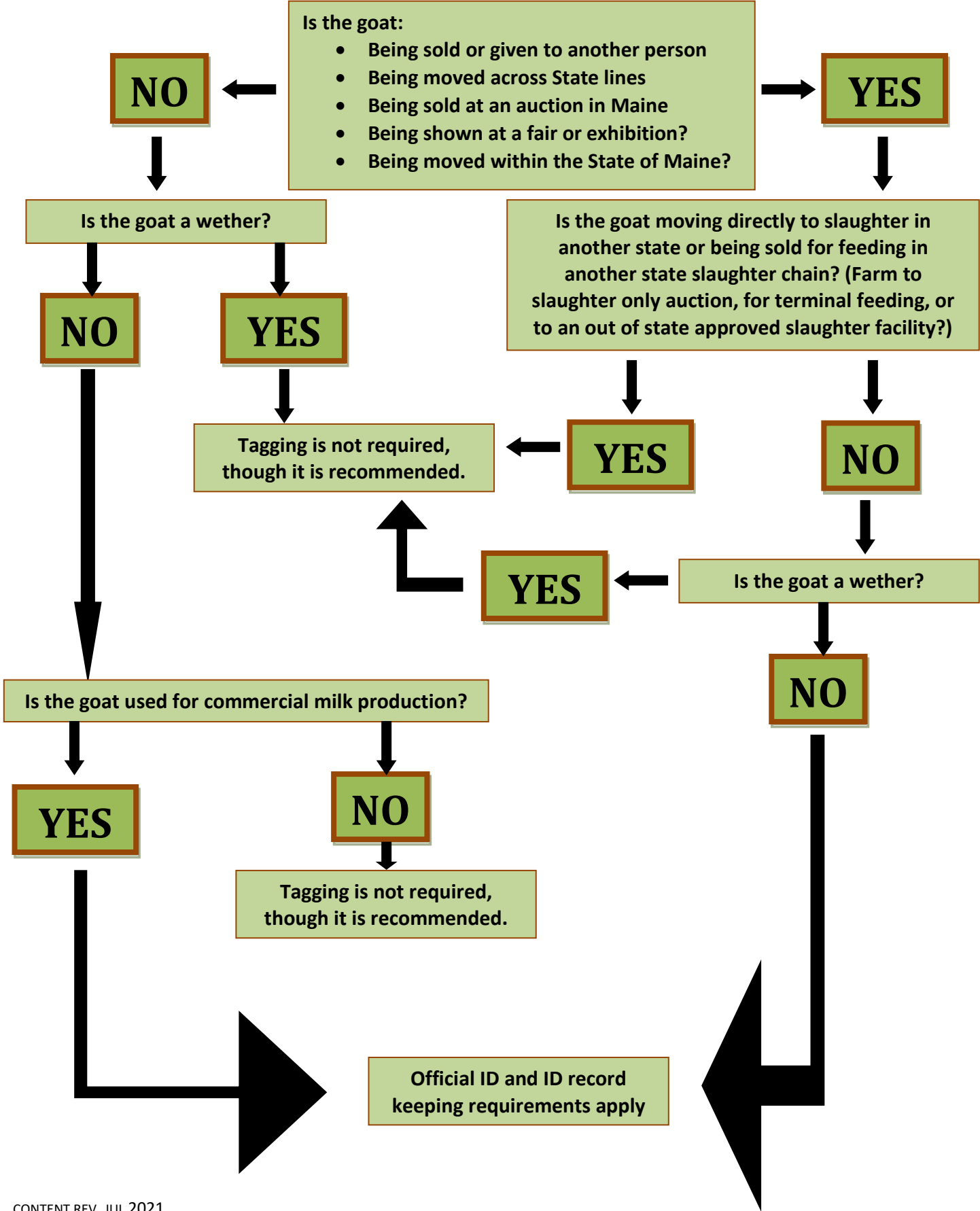
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# Combined Maine and Federal Scrapie Tagging Requirements for Goats



# Combined Maine and Federal Scrapie Tagging Requirements for Sheep

