Ohio Livestock Care Standards

Sheep, Goats, Alpacas, Llamas

Care, Handling and Transportation
- All newborn lambs, kids and crias must be offered colostrum or a colostrum replacement within 24 hours of birth.
- An electric prod can only be used on llamas and alpacas as a diagnostic tool to determine whether an animal can rise on its own.
- All tack and/or harnesses used on goats, llamas and alpacas must fit properly and be well maintained so as to minimize the potential for injuries.
- Halter used on llamas or alpacas must be removed when the animal is not being handled for extended periods of time.
- When transporting, sheep and goats must be able to stand in their natural position without touching the top of the transport conveyance.
- Llamas and alpacas must be able to stand so that their backs do not touch the top of the transport conveyance and the load density must allow all animals to lie down at the same time.

Management and Housing
- When castrating llamas or alpacas, effective analgesia must be used and the animal’s age must be taken into consideration.
- When dehorning goats after the horn has erupted, a pain management practice must be used.
- Sheep and goat breeds that do not naturally shed their hair/wool must be sheared regularly. Anyone raising sheep must minimize the risk of fly strike by shearing or crutching or employing some other acceptable method.
- Co-mingled adult male llamas and alpacas must have their fighting teeth conditioned.
- Llamas and alpacas must also receive toe nail care and, during hot weather, heat stressed must be minimized by shearing.
- Llamas and alpacas must also be provided with a clean, dry area for lying down and must be provided with the opportunity for socialization with a herding animal.

Euthanasia
- The only acceptable methods of euthanasia for sheep and goats weighing more than 12 pounds are the use of a penetrating captive bolt, a gunshot, the use of an inhaled carbon dioxide agent, or the use of injectable barbiturates.
- Non-penetrating captive bolt guns and blunt force may be used on young sheep and goats weighing less than 12 pounds.
- The only acceptable methods of euthanasia for llamas and alpacas are the use of a penetrating captive bolt, a gunshot, or the use of injectable barbiturates.

To download a more comprehensive overview of Ohio’s livestock care standards, please visit www.ohiolivestockcarestandards.gov