

2010 ARKANSAS STATE FAIR
SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE FOR DRUG TESTING OF LIVESTOCK

PERSONNEL

Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission (ARLPC) personnel will oversee the collection of samples for drug testing. Please be respectful of their intention to provide a secure and safe environment for sample collection

SELECTION OF ANIMALS

Division winners, alternates, randoms, and any other animals deemed necessary for testing will be tested.

The testing of sheep, steers, and goats will be done at the end of their respective shows.

Testing of hogs will be done following each division. The Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and a minimum of three random hogs will be tested at the end of the hog show (even if these hogs were tested earlier).

LOCATION FOR SAMPLE COLLECTION

As soon as the animals leave their class, the ARLPC personnel will direct them to a separate location for sample collection. The signature of both the exhibitor and an adult will be required on the Security Sign-In Sheet before the animal is allowed to leave the designated area.

Water, feed, and their containers are allowed, but must be provided by the exhibitor. Do not borrow equipment from other exhibitors – use your own.

Each animal must be accompanied at all times by an exhibitor and/or an adult. Only one exhibitor and one adult per animal will be allowed in the sample collection area. Distractions such as loud noises and horseplay must be kept to a minimum so that the animals can relax and urinate.

SAMPLE COLLECTION

Each exhibitor will be given a sealed collection cup as soon as they enter the collection area. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor or accompanying adult to collect the sample when the animal urinates. The animals and the collection cups may not leave the designated area until after a satisfactory sample (at least 60 cc of urine) has been collected.

Take the urine sample to the ARLPC personnel. You will be asked to pour half of the urine sample into each of two sealed urine cups. The ARLPC personnel will write the ID number of the animal on these cups (not on the lids). No other identification (such as name of animal or exhibitor) will be on the sample.

The lid of the cups will be sealed with a strip of tamper-proof security tape. The exhibitor or adult will be asked to verify the animal number on the cups, witness the sealing of the cups, and then initial and date the security tape.

2010 ARKANSAS STATE FAIR

DRUG TESTING OF LIVESTOCK

The purpose of drug testing at the Arkansas State Fair is to ensure that no animal has an unfair advantage because of drug or chemical use.

Some of the ways that drugs can be used to create an unfair advantage are:

1. Masking the signs related to an illness (for example, drugs that decrease fever).
2. Masking the signs of pain (for example, drugs that treat lameness).
3. Altering the behavior of an animal (for example, sedatives).
4. Enhancing weight gain or muscle mass (for example, anabolic steroids).

Because virtually any drug or chemical can be used as an advantage, the Arkansas State Fair has adopted a Zero Tolerance policy regarding the use of drugs and chemicals in livestock.

Keep the following precautions in mind:

- A. Drug testing is not limited to “illegal” drugs. The presence of any drug that could create an unfair advantage is a violation, even if it is specifically marketed for livestock.
- B. The presence of any drug that could create an unfair advantage is a violation even if it is prescribed by a veterinarian. While the use of certain therapeutic drugs may be necessary for the health of the animal prior to arrival at the State Fair, it is the owner’s responsibility to make sure that adequate time is allowed for the drug to clear the animal’s system prior to drug testing. It is important to keep in mind that the length of time a particular drug will be detectable in an animal depends on many factors such as the type of drug, the age and condition of the animal, the drug dose, the number of times the drug is used, etc.
- C. Animals that become sick or injured at the State Fair should be examined by the official State Fair veterinarian. Only the official State Fair veterinarian is allowed to prescribe or dispense medication for exhibition animals during the Fair. Zero tolerance is always in effect, so if the animal is prescribed and administered a drug in violation of the Wholesome Meat Act, it will not be allowed to compete.
- D. The use of antibiotics or feed additives is acceptable only if they are used according to the manufacturer’s label and the proper withdrawal times are observed.
- E. The presence of chemicals that typically may not be considered “drugs” is a violation. For example, some food and drinks intended for human consumption contain caffeine or alcohol.
- F. Beware of administering any herbal or “natural” treatments or any product that is claimed to be “undetectable by drug testing.” The animal owner assumes the risk of any type of product resulting in a positive drug test.