DOMESTIC ANIMAL HEALTH PERMITS

GENERAL INFORMATION
Any person who buys or sells livestock (cattle, swine, horses, deer, camelids, sheep, goats or poultry) as a business practice, not as part of a breeding, feeding or dairy operation, is a dealer. (Agriculture and Markets Law, Section 90). By law, anyone who is a dealer, or who conducts an auction where livestock or sold, or who transports poultry must hold a Domestic Animal Health Permit (DAHP) granted by the commissioner. All permits are issued for a two year period and expire two years from the date of issue. A person who represents a buyer or seller in a transaction is also considered a dealer and complete records must be kept.

LIVESTOCK DEALER REGULATIONS
The information below provides a brief description of the agencies involved in the process, their responsibilities and the procedures followed for Domestic Animal Health Permit applicants.

- NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & MARKETS
  - Division of Animal Industry-Domestic Animal Health Permit (DAHP)
    The Division of Animal Industry is concerned with disease control and animal disease traceability. Infectious and communicable diseases affecting domestic animals continue to exist in this State and the existence endangers the health and welfare of the people. Therefore, to provide adequate control, permits are issued to those who, as a business, deal in, handle and transport domestic animals.
  - Division of Marketing (Bureau of Licensing & Bonding)
    The emphasis is to license and bond buyers as a means of safeguarding the financial stability in the agricultural industry and to suppress unfair and fraudulent practices in the marketing of farm products sold and/or bought in New York State. Livestock dealers are licensed and bonded if dealing is only within the State and primarily among farmers.

- UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
  - Packers and Stockyards Administration
    Under the Packers and Stockyards Act the USDA regulates interstate and foreign commerce in livestock, livestock products, dairy products, poultry, poultry products, eggs and for other purposes. Livestock dealers are registered and bonded if dealing is interstate and/or at "posted" markets (Livestock auctions).
PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING A DAHP

- Division of Animal Industry
  1. A DAHP application and supplement are completed by the applicant and returned along with a $50 fee to the Division of Animal Industry.
  2. The Division of Animal Industry reviews and verifies whether the applicant is registered and bonded with USDA, Packers & Stockyards or Licensed and Bonded with the N.Y.S. Department of Agriculture and Markets.
     a. If the applicant is registered or licensed as stipulated above, the DAHP is issued.
     b. If the applicant is not registered or licensed, the DAHP supplement is sent to the Division of Marketing to obtain the necessary license or registration.

- Division of Marketing
  1. The Division of Marketing pursues the applicant to obtain Registration and Bonding with USDA, Packers & Stockyards or Licensing and Bonding with New York State under Article 20.
  2. Once the applicant obtains Registration or Licensing, the DAHP supplement is approved and sent back to the Div. of Animal Industry to issue the DAHP.

OTHER KEY POINTS

1. In most cases, livestock dealers, whether they are Registered with USDA, Packers & Stockyards or Licensed with New York State under Article 20, are required to have the Domestic Animal Health Permit.
2. Since most livestock dealers conduct some business at livestock auctions, it is preferable and more economical to pursue Registration with Packers and Stockyards.
3. Livestock dealers cannot act as a slaughterhouse buyer (packer-buyer).

DAHP INSPECTION PROCEDURES

After the application is received at the Department, a DAI field inspector will contact the applicant to schedule an initial meeting within 30 days. The inspector will deliver record book(s) and explain the requirements for record keeping.

The records of each DAHP holder will be reviewed on a regular basis. Under 1 NYCRR Part 61, DAHP holders must present records at all reasonable times to a representative of the Department of Agriculture and Markets and/or a duly authorized representative of USDA immediately upon request.

DAHP holders must keep a record of all livestock purchased, sold or otherwise handled. The records shall contain:
a) Ear tags and sales tag numbers. (Sales tag numbers are to be included in addition to ear tag numbers; they are not to be used in place of ear tag numbers). **An official ear tag must be applied if no other official ID is present.** An official backtag is sufficient for animals moving directly to slaughter. The Division of Animal Industry distributes official tags to DAHP holders at no charge.

b) All other identification if present, including herd management tags, tattoos, and brands.

c) Breed of animal

d) Sex of animal

e) Approximate age or symbols (examples: Calf-C, Heifer-Hfr, Adult-A)

f) Color

g) Name and address of person from whom purchased

h) Month, day and year of purchase

i) Name and address of person to whom the animal was sold

j) Month, day and year of sale

The records must be legible and there can be no erasures. If a mistake is made, it should be indicated as such and the correct information written in the next space.