

Enforcement

Ohio Livestock Care Standards



Ohio's livestock care standards will be enforced by the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Divisions of Animal Health and Enforcement. ODA staff will investigate credible complaints to determine if a violation has occurred. If a violation is found, the person who owns or has immediate custody of the animal(s) will be informed in person, or by telephone, fax, or email.

If the violation can be corrected, ODA staff will include the corrective measures which must be taken to achieve compliance with the rules, including the amount of time allowed to take any necessary corrective measures, in the written notice. If the responsible party fails to remedy the violation within the time specified in the written notice, they may be assessed a subsequent violation for each day the violation remains uncured.

Minor Violations

Minor violations of Ohio's livestock care standards are generally due to neglect or unintentional acts of substandard practices. Minor violations are finable up to \$500 for the first minor offense and up to \$1,000 for each subsequent minor offense that is committed within 60 months of the previous minor violation.

Major Violations

Major violations of Ohio's livestock care standards are reckless or intentional acts which result in the unjustified infliction of pain. Major violations can be any action which:

- places an animal's life in imminent peril
- causes protracted disfigurement
- causes protracted impairment of health
- causes protracted loss or impairment of the function of a limb or bodily organ

Major violations of Ohio's livestock care standards are finable offenses with penalties ranging between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for the first major violation and \$5,000 to \$10,000 for each subsequent major violation that is committed within 60 months of the previous major violation.

Anyone who has been issued a fine for violation of these rules will have 30 days to request a hearing to appeal the Department's decision.

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

Ohio Department of Agriculture
Division of Animal Health
8995 E. Main St.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

614-728-6220
animal@agri.ohio.gov

www.agri.ohio.gov

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
James Zehringer, Director

The logo for the Ohio Department of Agriculture, featuring the word "Ohio" in a stylized font with a circle around the "o", followed by a vertical line and the words "Department of Agriculture".