

# Equine

## Ohio Livestock Care Standards



## Horses, Ponies, Mules, Donkeys

### Care, Handling and Transportation

- All newborn foals **must** be offered colostrum or a colostrum replacement within 24 hours of birth.
- An electric prod can **only** be used as a diagnostic tool to determine whether an animal can rise on its own. Prods **must** be used humanely and cannot be used in sensitive areas.
- All tack and/or harnesses **must** fit properly and be well maintained so as to minimize the potential for injuries.
- When castrating equine animals, chemical restraint and effective analgesia **must** be used.
- Tail docking of horses can be performed as a proactive measure to prevent injury, or if medically necessary such as in the case of accident, malformation or disease and **must** be performed by a licensed veterinarian.
- When transporting, the animals **must** be able to stand in their natural position without their heads (except ears) touching the top of the transport conveyance.
- Equine animals **cannot** be transported in two-tiered or double deck semi-trailers.

### Housing

- Housing areas **must** be designed to control parasite infestation and to minimize insect infestations.
- If open lots are used, they **must** be maintained to promote proper drainage away from resting areas and from feed and water.
- If stalls are used, they **must** be cleaned and replenished regularly with clean, good quality and absorbent bedding.
- Equine animals **must** be provided with the opportunity for exercise unless medically prohibited.

### Euthanasia

The only acceptable methods of euthanasia for equine animals are the use of a penetrating captive bolt, a gunshot, or the use of injectable barbiturates.

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*To download a more comprehensive overview of Ohio's livestock care standards, please visit [www.ohiolivestockcarestandards.gov](http://www.ohiolivestockcarestandards.gov)*