

## **Animal Drenching Policy – Exhibitor Version**

**Utah State Fair | Effective 2026**

### **1. Purpose**

The Utah State Fair is committed to protecting animal welfare and ensuring ethical, fair livestock exhibitions. This policy establishes a uniform standard across all species and prohibits oral administration practices that pose unnecessary risk, stress, or harm to animals.

### **2. Scope**

This policy applies to all exhibitors, employees, contractors, volunteers, and third parties, and to all animals exhibited at the Utah State Fair. It governs all drenching, supplementation, or oral administration activities conducted on the Fairgrounds.

### **3. Ethical Standard**

All animal care must:

- Minimize stress, pain, and risk of injury
- Use the least invasive method available
- Respect species-specific anatomy and behavior
- Uphold a continuous duty of humane care

Excessive force or invasive oral administration methods are strictly prohibited.

### **4. Approved Equipment**

- An appropriately sized mechanical drench gun designed for the specific species being hydrated

### **5. Approved products**

- Water
- Products Approved by the USDA for use in meat producing animals
- Additional information can be found in the Utah Jr Livestock Association Code of Ethics rule 5A

### **6. Prohibited Practices (Strict Ban)**

- Drenching of sick animals
- Drenching for purposes other than hydration.
- Drenching anywhere other than inside the holding pen that is housing the animal

#### **6.1 Prohibited Equipment**

The following may not be used for oral administration under any circumstances:

- Syringes (with or without needles)

- Motorized drench guns, tubes, hand pumps, mechanical or pressure pumps
- Backpack sprayers or modified or improvised devices

Force-feeding or mechanically administering liquids directly into the esophagus is strictly prohibited.

## **6.2 Prohibited Conduct**

- Forcing an animal's mouth open using tools or excessive pressure
- Administering liquids to animals that are distressed or improperly restrained
- Drenching outside of the exhibitors assigned pen

## **7. Prohibited Products**

- The use of any off-label products as determined by the FDA that are not approved for use in meat producing animals

This prohibition applies regardless of industry practice.

## **8. Monitoring & Enforcement**

The Utah State Fair may conduct inspections, audits, and equipment checks at any time. Prohibited equipment may be confiscated, and violations may result in disciplinary action, animal welfare intervention, or removal from participation.

## **9. Zero Tolerance**

There are no exceptions to this policy. Lack of knowledge, convenience, or common practice are not acceptable justifications. Non-compliance constitutes a serious breach of animal welfare standards. E

## **10. Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary based on veterinary guidance, legislation, or animal welfare incidents.