

Illinois Entry Permit Information

Effective February 1, 2004, the State of Illinois has a new Entry Permit requirement. All equine entering Illinois for any reason other than slaughter must be accompanied by a negative test for EIA conducted within a year if the animal is more than one year of age, certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days of entry, and an **entry permit number** issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Only the permit number requirement is new, the requirement for the negative EIA (Coggins) test and health certificate has been in effect since January 1, 1990. It should be noted that animals passing through Illinois and not being unloaded in the state are not required to obtain an entry permit number or meet Illinois entry requirements. These animals are required to meet the entry requirements for the state of destination only.

The term "equine" includes horses, asses, jacks, jennies, hinnies, mules, donkeys, burros, ponies, and zebras.

Entry permit numbers are available by calling the Illinois Department of Agriculture, 217-782-4944 and are issued 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is no charge for obtaining an entry permit from the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

The following information will be required for the entry permit number:

- * Name and mailing address of owner of the animal
- * Date of the EIA test
- * Location where the animal is going

Permit numbers are also available online at www.agr.state.il.us. A password to access the permit program is required and will be issued to veterinarians by calling the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Health, 217-782-4944 weekdays, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The entry permit number is good for 30 days (the life of the health certificate). It is requested that if the health certificate is used for multiple entries (i.e. trail rides or shows on several weekends) that all events during the 30 day period be included on the health certificate. If an event is not listed on the health certificate, the owner is asked to call the Department, provide the permit number and provide the location of the additional event(s).

A blanket permit is available for out-of-state equine sales and auctions. For more information, please call the Bureau of Animal Health, 217-782-4944. The blanket number is issued to the sale and the next business day following the sale, the information for the permit is Faxed to the Illinois Department of Agriculture by the sale for all the horses that will be entering Illinois.

Violators of the permit requirement are guilty shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$1000. Violators of the EIA test and certificate of veterinary inspection requirements are subject to a \$300 fine for the first violation, a \$600 fine for the second violation, and a \$1,000 fine for the third and subsequent violations

Illinois equine traveling out of state on an Illinois certificate of veterinary inspection are not required to obtain a permit to return home if out of state less than 30 days (i.e. breeding, training). If, however, Illinois equine are out of the state longer than 30 days, a certificate of veterinary inspection issued by the state where the animal has been residing and an entry permit will be required. Once an animal has been out of the state longer than 30 days, it is no longer recognized as being an Illinois native animal.