



Wyoming State Fair Youth Market Animal Drug Testing FAQs

7/29/2026 Version

1. **Q:** Why is the Wyoming State Fair drug testing?

A: *The Wyoming State Fair Board and Management are focused on animal welfare, education, food safety, and fostering fair competition. Drug testing helps us to ensure that all animal exhibits at the Wyoming State Fair are being well taken care of.*

2. **Q:** What shows will be tested in 2026?

A: *In 2026 drug testing will take place in the youth market sheep, swine, goat, and beef market shows.*

3. **Q:** How will drug testing take place?

A: *By 5 PM on Tuesday of the 2026 Wyoming State Fair, exhibitors MUST turn in their drug declaration forms to the Exhibitor Office drop box. ONE FORM IS REQUIRED PER MARKET ANIMAL. Drug Declaration forms can be found at wystatefair.com or picked up at the Exhibitor Office. Any exhibitor who does not turn in a declaration form by this time forfeits the right to contest in the case of a positive test. Exhibitors who have animals tested will have the opportunity to provide a secondary declaration at the time of testing to cover anything administered from 5 PM Tuesday and their show time.*

Top 5 Winners: *Sample collection will occur immediately following the judge's selection. The drug testing liaisons or a State Fair representative, along with a parent, guardian, or designated adult witness (age 18 or older), will escort the animal to a secured area. They will remain with the animal until a sample is successfully collected, sealed, and signed by both the testing liaison and the exhibitor's adult representative (or by the exhibitor, if 18 or older). Chain of custody best practices will be observed throughout the process. Once the WSF receives the test results, exhibitors will be notified by letter of the outcome and, if the results are negative or excusable, will receive their premiums.*

Random Tests: *Prior to animals entering the show ring, a class and placement will be announced that will be required to do a random drug test. Sample collection will take place immediately following the judge's selection. The drug testing liaisons or a State Fair Representative, and a parent, guardian, or witness over the age of eighteen for the exhibitor will escort the animal to the secured area and remain with the animal until a sample has been successfully collected, sealed and signed by the testing liaison and the exhibitor's adult representative (or the exhibitor, if 18 or older). Chain of custody best practices shall be followed. Upon WSF receiving the results, exhibitors will receive a letter informing them of the results of the test and, if negative or excusable, their premiums.*

4. **Q:** What is a declaration form?

A: A declaration form is a quality assurance certificate that is a complete history of ALL medication, drug, chemical substance, or medicated feed additives given to animal exhibits after the ownership deadlines. Exhibitors that have animals tested will have the opportunity to submit a secondary declaration at the time of testing that covers the period from 5 PM Tuesday through the beginning of the show the animal is being tested for.

5. **Q:** What substances will the Wyoming State Fair be testing for?

A: Drug testing will focus on substances that have the potential to alter the appearance of or enhance performance in an animal. Examples include (but are not limited to) NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs), Beta-agonists, Steroids, Analgesics, Stimulants, Illicit Drugs, Sedatives/Tranquilizers, Diuretics, and Antibiotics

6. **Q:** What is an approved animal drug?

A: An approved animal drug has gone through FDA's drug approval process. During this process, the agency reviews information submitted by the drug company about the animal drug. If the information meets the requirements for approval, the agency approves the animal drug. FDA's approval means the drug is safe and effective when it's used according to the label. FDA's approval also ensures that the drug's strength, quality, and purity are consistent from batch to batch, and that the drug's label is truthful, complete, and not misleading.

7. **Q:** What is unapproved use of a medication?

A: An unapproved use is any substance given to a species for which it is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This includes animal medications that are not approved for a given species, medications used for humans that are not approved for animals, and medications that are not approved for humans or animals. It is important to note that veterinarians can prescribe many substances, therefore make sure to communicate with your veterinarian that you will be showing at the Wyoming State Fair and that your animal could be drug tested when they prescribe medications.

8. **Q:** What are the common types of drugs that I may be penalized for?

• **Antibacterial Therapeutic Medications** - Used to treat infection, these compounds don't create a competitive advantage but can create food safety concerns if not used according to label directions. Many are only FDA-approved for particular species, meaning that extensive research has been conducted regarding the proper dosage and type of administration to be efficacious in that species as well as the withdrawal time that is necessary for meat products to be safe for human consumption. Please note any exceptions for the use of these compounds in breeding animals below.

• **Non-Antibiotic Therapeutic Medications** - Inclusive of anti-inflammatories, antipyretics, diuretics and anesthetics, these medications can result in a competitive advantage by altering the physical appearance of the animal and/or concerns with food safety. Some are available over the counter and others can only be legally sourced and administered through prescription

by a licensed veterinarian. Many are only FDA-approved for a particular species and use in any other species without a prescription by a veterinarian is illegal

- **Beta-agonists** - Originally developed as bronchodilators in humans, larger dosages have a growth-promoting effect in animals and result in increased muscle and decreased fat. The only beta-agonist that is currently FDA-approved and commercially available for use in livestock production is ractopamine, which is labeled for use in market cattle and market swine with a zero-day withdrawal (i.e. research indicates that meat products are safe for consumption at any time during the feeding period). The use of beta-agonists in species for which they are not FDA-approved or commercially available creates concerns with food safety and/or competitive advantage. Exhibitors who choose to use these products are expected to follow all label directions.

- **Illegal/illicit substances** - The use of any illegal/illicit substance is strictly prohibited. Just because you can purchase a product does not mean it is allowed under law to be administered to a food-producing animal.

- By law, every animal drug must be approved by the FDA for all uses before it is available for producers to buy. Approved substances will have an "Approved by FDA" statement on the label.
- Many "all-natural" products such as supplements and calming agents are not FDA-approved and thus are illegal to use.
- You cannot use vitamin shots not approved for your species of animal.
- Products such as caffeine are illegal to use as they are not labeled for food animals.

9. **Q:** What happens if my animal tests positive?

A: Upon receiving a positive test result from the lab, a review panel will determine whether the result is excusable, and if inexcusable, the consequences for the exhibitor. The determination made by the review panel is final and not eligible for protest.

In the event of a positive test, the Wyoming State Fair will notify the exhibitor of the positive test and of the opportunity to contest the results by (1) requesting a test of the split sample, (2) providing written explanation and supporting documents for why the animal had a positive drug test result, or (3) both. The selection of the laboratory, or choice of laboratories, to be used for the testing of any split samples shall be determined by the Wyoming State Fair. The exhibitor is solely responsible for all costs associated with the testing of their animal's split sample. If an exhibitor elects to contest, the exhibitor must, within 7 days of receiving notice of the positive test result: (1) submit a written request for a test of the split sample along with proof that the exhibitor has paid the selected laboratory all costs associated with the test; (2) submit written explanation and supporting documents, if any, for why the animal had a positive drug test result; or (3) both. If the exhibitor fails to do either of the above, within the time provided, the exhibitor waives any right to contest.

To determine whether the original results are inexcusable and if consequences are warranted, the review panel will review the original drug test results, the split sample test results, if applicable, and any documents submitted by the exhibitor. If the review panel deems the

original positive test inexcusable, the exhibitor will forfeit premiums and awards for the animal that tested positive.

Additionally, consequences for an inexcusable positive test may range from a 1-3 year probation period to a 1-3 year suspension period. During a probation period, the exhibitor's market livestock exhibits must be drug tested upon arrival at the Wyoming State Fairgrounds. The exhibitor will be responsible for drug testing fees during the probation period. During a suspension period, the exhibitor will not be permitted to show during the Wyoming State Fair.

In the case of a positive test resulting in disqualification, placements will not advance up.

10. Q: Where can I find information about a drug my veterinarian prescribed for my animal?

A: *Ask your veterinarian. Your veterinarian is your best resource for information about a drug he or she has prescribed for your animal. Make sure to communicate with your veterinarian that you will be showing at the Wyoming State Fair and that your animal could be drug tested when they prescribe medications.*

11. Q: What is "withdrawal time"?

A: *A withdrawal time is the amount of time after a specific medicine is given that it is acceptable to market the animal. The medicine label or medicated feed label will provide this information. If the withdrawal time has passed, the animal is generally considered safe to enter the food chain.*

12. Q: Since the WSF isn't a terminal show, do withdrawal times matter?

A: *Correct and proper animal husbandry is the top priority of the Wyoming State Fair. Providing an accurate documentation log of any medications, drugs, chemical substances, or medicated feed additives administered to your animal exhibit on the drug declaration form, allows the test result review panel to make an informed determination regarding test results.*

13. Q: Who has ownership title to a vast majority of the market animals that participate in the Wyoming State Fair? If it is the new buyer, who has the liability for additional drug testing?

A: *As a participant in the Wyoming State Fair, exhibitors are expected to follow the policies and procedures outlined in the State Fair Premium Book. These policies apply to the exhibitor. The exhibitor is responsible for their exhibits while at the Wyoming State Fair.*

14. Q: Am I able to use products like Show Ready?

A: *Yes. Show Ready does not contain ingredients that will result in a positive drug test. Be sure to double check ingredient lists of other supplements to ensure they do not include illegal or illicit substances before administering to your animal.*

15. Q: Am I able to use products like Alert?

A: *No. Alert, and similar products, contain caffeine and use of these products will result in a positive drug test. Check the ingredient list before administering any substance to your animal.*

16. **Q:** Will Melatonin be tested for?

A: Melatonin is not something we currently test for, given that it is produced naturally in the animal.

17. **Q:** What resources are available to help me understand the drug testing process at WSF?

A: In addition to this FAQ, there are video(s) available on the WSF website (wystatefair.com) under the Exhibitor section. These videos explain more in-depth why we drug test and how the process works. After you watch these, if you still have questions, please call the fair office at 307-358-2398 or email Sara.doyle1@wyo.gov or Courtney.conkle@wyo.gov.

18. **Q:** Whom should I contact if I have additional questions about drug testing at the Wyoming State Fair?

A: If you have any additional questions regarding Wyoming State Fair drug testing please call the fair office at 307-358-2398 or email Sara.doyle1@wyo.gov or Courtney.conkle@wyo.gov