

## BORDER CROSSING GUIDELINE

Many have asked the question "what do I have to do to get my birds across the Canadian border to show" ? Well, this article should help get you on the right track.

All birds, first, must originate from a pullorum-typhoid free flock. Which is standard for most shows anywhere. You must then contact your local veterinarian to advise him/her that you are planning to attend a show in Canada and that you will be requiring health papers. The form that is required is called a (VS FORM 17-6). Your local Vet will have to do a flock inspection. You must figure out which birds and how many you are taking with you. The leg band numbers (plastic bandettes are ok) must be recorded and listed on the VS FORM 17-6, along with the breed, color and sex of each bird. The vet then will fill out the paperwork and send it to your State's Ag Office for an official State stamp and signature. This is a must! Also make sure you retain the ORIGINALS OF ALL PAPERWORK, as photo or carbon copies are not acceptable at the border. This paperwork takes about two weeks to process and is good for 30 days after it is issued, so please allow for this when you are making your plans.

Once you have this paperwork (check to assure you have originals) you are ready to cross the border. The Canadian border vets are on duty between 8:00am and 4:30pm Monday-Friday, this may vary depending on the crossing point , so plan your trip accordingly. When you line up at the border crossing, report to the officer that you have poultry on board and you need to see the Canadian Vet. They will then instruct you where to go. They might have you pull off to the side for an initial inspection of the birds and the paperwork but will then instruct you on how to get to the vets office. The vet will inspect your paperwork and want to see your birds. There is a fee for this inspection payable in Canadian dollars. They do accept credit cards (which is the easiest payment method & the best exchange rate.) Once you have been processed, you are on your way to the show.

On your return to the US, you may have less birds on your paperwork, but not more, and yes sometimes they count. It is much easier if you can stay over and cross on the Monday, but if you must cross on Saturday night or Sunday, the US vet may have to be called out for an inspection. Appointments are appreciated. . The phone number of the US vet at Detroit, MI is 313-226-4428 and the US vet at Lewiston, NY is 716-297-6203 and the US vet at Alexandria Bay, NY is 315-482-2601.

More info can be found at [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

A complete list of the official regulations from the Canadian government can be obtained by contacting our secretary, Frank Goodfellow 613-375-6234. wildgenebert@kos.net