Livestock Services Program

When fully staffed the Animal Services Division (ASD) employs 20 Livestock Services field staff throughout the state of Arizona. Of this amount, 9 are full-time AZPOST certified officers, 6 are full-time inspectors, and 5 are part-time inspectors. They are supervised by the Chief Livestock Officer and work with the Office of the State Veterinarian.

The field staff are required to inspect livestock (except equine) for health, marks, and brands before they are slaughtered, sold, purchased, driven, transported, shipped, or conveyed. They also respond to stray and ownership dispute calls. In addition to these duties, the officers investigate theft, welfare, and neglect cases.

In Arizona, “livestock” means cattle, equine, sheep, goats, and swine, except feral pigs.

Self-Inspection
ASD’s self-inspection program allows branded range and feedlot cattle, unbranded dairy cattle, sheep, and goats to move to auction, inspected slaughterhouse, feedlot, arena, and pasture-to-pasture within own ranch using a self-inspection certificate. These certificates cannot be used for changes of ownership in range cattle, removal of range cattle from the state, or custom slaughter because field staff must inspect these occurrences.

Cruelty investigations
Unfortunately, much of the staff’s time is spend addressing animal cruelty calls. Fortunately, the majority of the calls are not cruelty. Much of our job consists of educating the public about livestock production practices.

Livestock Services Contact Information

Associate Director – Chris McCormack, cmccormack@azda.gov, 602-542-7186

State Veterinarian – Dr. Peter Mundschenk, pmundschenk@azda.gov, 602-542-4293

Chief Livestock Officer – Captain Richard Shore, rshore@azda.gov, 623-445-0281

Central/Northern Area Supervisor – Lieutenant Darrel Hale, dhale@azda.gov, 602-463-0552

Eastern/Southern Area Supervisor – Lieutenant Randy Porter, rporter@azda.gov, 928-965-5956

Self-Inspection – selfinspection@azda.gov, 602-542-6407

Dispatch – 623-445-0281

Horse Hauling Permit – 602-542-6406

Brands – 602-542-3578 Option 2, option 2.

www.agriculture.az.gov

274,000 feedlot cattle
203,000 dairy cows
187,000 beef cows
160,000 hogs
125,000 sheep and lambs
105,000 replacement dairy heifers
78,000 horses (2017, Census of Agriculture)
33,000 Angora goats
27,000 meat goats
36,000 replacement heifers
3,000 dairy goats

ASD’s Other Programs

Meat and Poultry Inspection – State meat inspection personnel general plant and equipment sanitation, processing sanitation, good manufacturing practices during production, ante mortem and post mortem inspection at slaughter, multi-ingredient formulation, the use of approved labeling, and laboratory sampling programs.

Rick Mann – Program Manager
Casey Jones – Program Supervisor

Egg Inspection – This program is responsible for the inspection of all shell eggs and egg products sold in the state.

Roland Mader – Program Administrator
Fred Marquez/Jenny Pack – Program Managers

State Veterinarian’s Office – This program protects livestock, poultry, and aquaculture industries directly, and the public indirectly, through the prevention, early detection, containment, and eradication of economically important disease, in many case, are transmissible to people. In addition, welfare of farm animals is ensured by assisting Livestock Services in the investigation and prosecution of livestock cruelty cases.

Dr. Peter Mundschenk – State Veterinarian

Emergency Preparedness – The department plays a role in preparing for an emergency at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. This program also focuses on animal disease related emergencies.

John Danovich – Emergency Planner
Dr. Vann Brass – Assistant State Veterinarian

Surveillance and Identification – The USDA has entered into cooperative agreements with the department to implement animal disease surveillance and establish regulations for improving the traceability of livestock. The main focus areas of these efforts are avian health, cattle health, and zoonotic diseases specifically the monitoring for foreign animal diseases (FAD), and animal disease traceability.

Dr. Cody Egnor – Asst. State Veterinarian
Dr. Ryan Wolker – Asst. State Veterinarian

Inspection Fee Structure

Field Staff Inspections
$10/call + $0.25/head for cattle or $0.05/head for sheep

We can’t charge for goats, pigs, or custom slaughter. Horses are exempt.

Self-Inspection Certificates
All Self-Inspection Certificates cost $1.00 per certificate.

Livestock Entry Requirements

Equine – health certificate, including a negative equine infectious anemia (Coggins) test within the last 12 months

Goats & Sheep – health certificate (no bluetongue or scrapie, negative Brucella Ovis for rams 6+ months), entry permit number, premise ID

Swine – health certificate (no pseudo-rabies vaccine or fed raw garbage), entry permit number, premise ID

Dairy cattle – health certificate (negative TB for cattle 3+ months, *negative brucellosis for cattle 18+), entry permit number, individual ID, Official Calfhood Vaccinate

*Rulemaking is being conducted to remove this testing requirement. Please check with AZDA to confirm this testing requirement.

Beef Cattle – health certificate, entry permit number, individual ID, other specifications depending on age and sex