



DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

*Serving, promoting and protecting the agricultural producers, processors
and consumers of Missouri's food, fuel and fiber products.*

DR. JON HAGLER
DIRECTOR

June 10, 2011

Re: Rabies Vaccinations

We have recently received inquiries with regard to dog and cat sales, in particular the current regulations regarding rabies vaccinations and eligible ages for entry into commerce. Please be advised that dogs and cats sixteen weeks of age and over are required to have proof of Rabies vaccination prior to entry into sale or commerce, pursuant to regulation 2CSR-30-2.020 (9), reads as follows:

(A) "All dogs and cats exchanged, bartered, leased, relinquished, or sold within Missouri over four (4) months of age must be vaccinated for rabies by one (1) of the methods and within the time period published in the current Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc."

Dogs and cats are not eligible for sale until eight weeks of age, pursuant to regulation 2CSR-30-2.020 (9), reads as follows:

(B) "All dogs and cats must be eight (8) weeks of age to enter into commerce."

Dogs and cats are not eligible for sale through auction unless they meet the standards above prior to sale. In rare circumstances, variances may be granted by the Missouri Department of Agriculture, strictly on a case-by-case basis and must be obtained in writing prior to sale.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Matt Rold at [\(573\) 751-3076](tel:573-751-3076).

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Taylor H. Woods, DVM
State Veterinarian – Director