

**RULES
OF
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**CHAPTER 40-13-15
TRANSPORTATION AND HOLDING OF LIVE FERAL HOGS**

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40-13-15-.01 Definitions

- (1) “Feral hog” means any hog which has lived any part of its life in a wild, free-ranging state and is currently in such state or has been taken, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 27-2-1.
- (2) “Taking” means killing, capturing, destroying, catching, or seizing, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 27-2-1.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*

40-13-15-.02 Applicability of Rules

These rules shall apply to the transportation and holding of live feral hogs within the State of Georgia.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*

40-13-15-.03 Transportation of Live Feral Hogs

- (1) No person shall transport live feral hogs anywhere in this State unless authorized to do so pursuant to a valid Feral Hog Transport Permit, which shall be carried on the person of the permit holder at all times during transportation of live feral hogs.
- (2) Live feral hogs shall only be transported to an approved slaughter facility, licensed Feral Hog Facility, or other premises for immediate personal consumption unless a special written exemption is obtained from the Georgia State Veterinarian prior to transport. Live feral hogs transported for immediate personal consumption shall be slaughtered within 24 hours from being taken and shall not leave the transport conveyance except for immediate slaughter.

- (3) All feral hogs not being transported to an approved slaughter facility, licensed Feral Hog Facility, or premises for immediate personal consumption shall be destroyed prior to transport.
- (4) Live feral hogs shall not be moved to, or offered for sale in, any Georgia Department of Agriculture approved auction market or collection point.
- (5) Premises registration shall be required for all common carriers, trucks, and other conveyances used for the transportation of live feral hogs. A Premises Identification number evidencing said registration may be obtained by calling the Department's Livestock/Poultry Division in Atlanta, Georgia at (404) 656-3665 during normal business hours, or visiting the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.
- (6) All common carriers, trucks, and other conveyances used for the transportation of live feral hogs shall be maintained in a sanitary condition.
- (7) All common carriers, trucks, and other conveyances used to transport live feral hogs shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each transport and/or use and must meet the cleaning and disinfecting requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture or the Georgia Department of Agriculture before further transportation of live feral hogs or livestock is permitted.
- (8) All live feral hogs shall have a Georgia Department of Agriculture approved ear-tag applied prior to transport in accordance with swine industry standards and an individual USDA Official Identification number.
- (9) Georgia Department of Agriculture approved Identification ear-tags can be obtained by calling the Department's Livestock/Poultry Division in Atlanta, Georgia at (404) 656-3665 during normal business hours, or visiting the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*

40-13-15-.04 Feral Hog Transport Permit

- (1) Upon receipt of the fee and completed application or renewal application, the Department may issue a Feral Hog Transport Permit authorizing the applicant to transport live feral hogs to approved slaughter facilities, licensed Feral Hog Facilities, and/or other premises for immediate personal consumption.
- (2) Application for a Feral Hog Transport Permit shall be made online at the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.
- (3) The Feral Hog Transport Permit shall be valid upon date of issuance and shall expire annually on September 30. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to apply for renewal of such permit prior to the expiration date.

- (4) An annual permit fee of \$15.00 shall be remitted before a Feral Hog Transport Permit is issued or renewed.
- (5) The Feral Hog Transport Permit is valid only for the applicant stated on the permit and is not transferable.
- (6) The Feral Hog Transport Permit shall be carried on the person of the permit holder at all times during transportation of live feral hogs.
- (7) The holder of a Feral Hog Transport Permit shall maintain complete and legible records on all feral hogs transported by said permit holder. All feral hog transport records shall include:
 - a. The date each live feral hog is acquired;
 - b. The county from which each live feral hog is acquired;
 - c. The date each feral hog is transported;
 - d. The gender of each feral hog transported;
 - e. The physical description of each feral hog transported;
 - f. The USDA Official Identification number assigned to each feral hog transported;
 - g. The license number, name and location of the approved slaughter facility, licensed Feral Hog Facility, or other premises for immediate personal consumption to which the feral hog is transported.
- (8) All feral hog transport records shall be maintained for three (3) consecutive years and shall be carried on the permit holder at all times during transportation of live feral hogs. Said records shall be made available to the Department and/or the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for inspection immediately upon request.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*

40-13-15-.05 Feral Hog Facility Requirements

- (1) A license is required for the operation of a Feral Hog Facility which holds live feral hogs.
- (2) Premises registration is required for all physical locations where live feral hogs are held. A Premises Identification number evidencing said registration may be obtained by calling the Department's Livestock/Poultry Division in Atlanta, Georgia at (404) 656-3665 during normal business hours, or visiting the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.
- (3) Any operator of a licensed Feral Hog Facility who intends to personally transport live feral hogs is required to obtain and maintain a Feral Hog Transport Permit.
- (4) Live feral hogs may only be transported by individuals holding a valid Feral Hog Transport Permit.

- (5) Live feral hogs held at a licensed Feral Hog Facility may only be transported to approved slaughter facilities, other licensed Feral Hog Facilities, or for immediate personal consumption unless a special written exemption is obtained from the State Veterinarian prior to transport.
- (6) All feral hogs not being transported to an approved slaughter facility, licensed Feral Hog Facility, or for immediate personal consumption shall be destroyed prior to leaving the licensed Feral Hog Facility.
- (7) All live feral hogs held in a Feral Hog Facility must test negative to an official brucellosis test and an official pseudorabies test within 14 days of arrival at the facility and retested 30 days thereafter. Following the second test all live feral hogs at the facility must be tested every 180 days thereafter.
- (8) Each new feral hog added to a licensed Feral Hog Facility must be tested for Brucellosis and Pseudorabies prior to introduction into the existing facility population.
- (9) Upon notification of positive test results for Brucellosis or Pseudorabies, feral swine shall be immediately depopulated within 24 hours or officially permitted by the Department to be transported directly to an approved slaughter facility within 48 hours.
- (10) Licensed Feral Hog Facilities shall be fenced with heavy duty woven wire at not less than forty-seven inches (47") minimum height from ground level, with a high tensile electric wire at the top and bottom of the fence, inside of the woven wire, on six inch (6") stand-offs. A separate charger must be used for each electric wire. Said fence shall be clear of obstructions at all times in order to allow inspection on a regular basis.
- (11) All live feral hogs shall be maintained in secure escape-proof pens. Feral hog holding pens shall be designed to ensure complete segregation of the existing population and new additions undergoing testing requirements.
- (12) It shall be unlawful for any person to release or cause to be released from captivity any live feral hog, or possess a live feral hog in such manner so as to cause, accidentally or intentionally, its release or escape from captivity.
- (13) All live feral hogs shall have a Georgia Department of Agriculture approved ear-tag applied in accordance with swine industry standards, and an individual USDA Official Identification number.
- (14) Georgia Department of Agriculture approved Identification ear-tags can be obtained from the Department's Livestock/Poultry Division in Atlanta, Georgia by calling (404) 656-3665 during normal business hours, or visiting the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.
- (15) Feral hogs held at a licensed Feral Hog Facility shall not be permitted to breed. All boars shall be castrated or maintained in separate confinement from female hogs until castration.

- (16) All progeny of female swine bred prior to introduction to the facility shall be held and treated in accordance with these rules.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*

40-13-15-.06 Feral Hog Facility License

- (1) Application for a Feral Hog Facility license shall be made online at the Georgia Department of Agriculture's website at agr.georgia.gov.
- (2) Prior to issuance of a Feral Hog Facility license, the facility to be licensed must pass a pre-license compliance inspection administered by the Department. A licensed facility will thereafter be subjected to random compliance inspections by the Department and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
- (3) The Feral Hog Facility license shall be valid upon date of issuance and shall expire annually on September 30. It is the responsibility of the license holder to apply for renewal of such license prior to the expiration date.
- (4) An annual license fee of \$100.00 shall be remitted before a Feral Hog Facility license is issued or renewed.
- (5) The Feral Hog Facility license is valid only for the applicant and location stated on the license and is not transferable.
- (6) The Feral Hog Facility license shall be prominently displayed in a visible location at the facility at all times.
- (7) The holder of a Feral Hog Facility license shall maintain complete and legible records on all feral hogs held at such facility. Said records shall include:
 - a. Inventory of all feral hogs;
 - b. Transport Permit number of the person who transported live feral hogs to the facility;
 - c. Dates of all deliveries of live feral hogs;
 - d. The gender of each feral hog;
 - e. The physical description of each feral hog;
 - f. The official identification number assigned to each feral hog;
 - g. Official Brucellosis and Pseudorabies testing records correlating test results with official Identification number;
 - h. The date each feral hog is removed from the facility;
 - i. The disposition of each feral hog removed from the facility; and
 - j. The license number, name and location of the approved slaughter facility, licensed Feral Hog Facility, or premises for immediate personal consumption to which each feral hog is transported.

- (8) All records shall be maintained for three (3) consecutive years and shall be made available to the Department and/or the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for inspection immediately upon request.

Authority O.C.G.A. 2-7-200 *et. seq.*