

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

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Commissioner

September 21, 2018

Dear Thoroughbred Horse Owner,

This letter concerns complaints about possible irregularities in the registration of Thoroughbred broodmares and foals with the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. According to Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 128, Section 2(g), foals born in accordance with the sections of the statute, listed below, are to be registered with both the Jockey Club and the Department of Agricultural Resources.

- (1) The foal of a thoroughbred mare that drops said foal in the commonwealth and is bred back to the Massachusetts registered stallion shall be Massachusetts bred; or
- (2) The foal of a thoroughbred mare who resides in the commonwealth from the fifteenth day of October of the year prior to foaling, and continues such residence until foaling and foals in the commonwealth shall be Massachusetts bred.
- (3) In either the case of subparagraph (1) or (2) each thoroughbred foal dropped in the commonwealth shall be registered with the Jockey Club and the department of food and agriculture.

From this date forward, anyone, who imports a thoroughbred broodmare to the Commonwealth for the purpose of registering a foal with the Department, must report the broodmare's arrival to the Department. Mares imported as resident mares must arrive by October 15 and remain in Massachusetts through foaling. The mares must be registered with the Department and owners should expect DAR staff to verify the mare's location. Mares imported **after October 15**, will also need to be registered with the Department and should be done so as soon as the arrival date is known. These mares are also subject to inspection.

**When any broodmare foals in Massachusetts, the birth must be reported to the Department at (617) 626-1795 while mare and foal are still on the MA farm.** Remember that foals of mares entering after October 15 are only eligible to the MA program by the mare being bred back to a MA stallion as in section (1) above. Please be aware that all broodmares and foals may be checked by DAR staff.