

New Mexico Environment Department Presents:

Food Safety Tip



Commercial Game



What happens if you are sitting at home on a Friday night when you decide you want to try something out of the ordinary? What options do you have available? No, I am not talking about foreign cuisine but I am referring to the possibility of eating different meat options that are available under the regulations. According to the New Mexico Food Service and Food Processing, Section 7.6.2.9.7.a, p13, "Game animals and other exotic animals such as ratites, which are commercially raised for food, may be received for sale or service if they are slaughtered and processed according to laws governing meat and poultry..."



How does that regulation relate to you? Simply put, if you want to have buffalo, elk, deer, ostrich, and/or emu products in your facility, you can have them but they have to be received from an approved source just like your eggs, milk, and other products. Even a buffalo burger like the one above is possible.



As with other standard meat products, you always need to observe appropriate food safety procedures by reaching an internal temperature of 160°F. Once prepared correctly, you can treat this meat just like the ones you normally eat by applying excessive amounts of catsup or steak sauce.

Not everyone will try this food product but, if you want to try a little adventure without having to be a hunter, this option could be for you.