

Missouri's Official Animal: Missouri Mule

The Missouri Mule was chosen as the official animal of the State of Missouri by the 88th General Assembly in 1995. Known for its strength, hardiness, intelligence, even temper – and healthy stubbornness – the mule has come to symbolize Missouri.

The pride of Missouri breeders, mules have built railroads, logged forests, plowed fields, mined coal and helped win wars. The U.S. exported about 232,000 mules during World War I, many coming from Missouri.

Although still an excellent work animal, the majority of Missouri's mules today are bred for show. Exhibited at the State Fair in Sedalia and at many county fairs, they range from massive draft mules weighing up to 1,200 pounds to beautifully proportioned miniature mules. Whatever their size, they're Missouri mules ... and that means they're the best.