

WISCONSIN AND U.S. ANIMAL AND PREMISES IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS

Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium
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This is a document that will aid you in learning about:

- National Animal Identification Needs and Benefits
- United States Animal Identification Plan
- National Animal Identification System
- Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium
- Wisconsin Premises Registration Act
- Premises Registration – How to
- Pilot Projects in the State of Wisconsin
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National Animal Identification Needs and Benefits

National animal identification will protect American animal agriculture by providing producers and animal health officials with the infrastructure to: improve efforts in current disease eradication and control; protect against foreign animal disease outbreaks; and to address threats from deliberate introduction of disease. This will hopefully reduce the financial and social impacts of a potential disease outbreak. Also, it is important to uphold and continue confidence in agricultural and livestock products.

United States Animal Identification Plan

The U.S. Animal Identification Plan (USAIP) defines the standards and framework for implementing and maintaining a phased-in national animal identification system for the United States. The National Animal Identification Development Team made of over 100 animal and livestock industry professionals representing over 70 associations, organizations, and government agencies are working collaboratively to establish an effective national animal identification plan. The goal of the USAIP is:

“To achieve a trace back system that can identify all animals and premises potentially exposed to an animal with a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) within 48 hours after discovery.”

National Animal Identification System

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) consists of three major steps: Premises Registration, Animal Identification, and Animal Tracking. National animal identification is needed to maintain the health of our national herd. A system with proper trace back and trace forward capabilities provides timely response to minimize the economic impact in the event of an animal disease outbreak. USDA’s goal is to create an effective, uniform, consistent, and efficient system by:

- Allowing producers, to the extent possible, the flexibility to use current identification systems or adopt new ones, but not burden them with multiple identification numbers, systems, or requirements;
- Providing data collection standards;
- Remaining technology neutral in order to utilize all existing forms of effective technologies and new forms of technology that may be developed;

- Ensuring that the system does not preclude producers from being able to use it to add value by aligning production management with market incentives.

Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium

The Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC) is working to implement the NAIS in Wisconsin. WLIC is a multi-species effort led by Wisconsin's livestock and industry organizations in cooperation with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the United States Department of Agriculture and the University of Wisconsin Extension.

WLIC's mission is to create a secure, nationally compatible livestock identification system for the purposes of protecting animal health, safeguarding market access, and offering opportunities to enhance the marketability of Wisconsin livestock products.

Wisconsin Premises Registration Act

Premises Registration is the foundation for a national animal ID trace back system. The Wisconsin Premises Registration Act requires anyone who keeps, houses or co-mingles livestock to register their premises no later than November 1, 2005. DATCP is currently writing the rules and there will be public hearings in the fall of 2004.

Registering a premises doesn't obligate the premises to participate in the next steps of the plan (animal ID and animal tracking). USDA currently supports voluntary compliance however states can have other requirements. Within Wisconsin the only mandatory component is premises registration through the Premises Registration Act.

Many individuals have questions about the next two steps which are animal identification and animal tracking. The national plan and the states' efforts are still in the planning stages for the animal identification and animal tracking components of the national plan. For information about the species group recommendations and the framework of the plan please go to the WLIC web site. Our efforts here in Wisconsin are primarily focused on the first step which is premises registration.

Premises Registration – How to

WLIC is registering premises today. One can register a livestock premises at www.wiid.org and clicking on the link for WLIC Premises Registration. If you do not have computer access, call WLIC at 1-888-808-1910 to request a form. You may also register your premises through a WLIC Agent. WLIC is working to offer producers choices to work with service providers to meet regular herd management needs, while passing along key id information to meet regulatory needs through WLIC Agents. A list of WLIC Agents can be found on the WLIC web site.

Each premises registration brings us closer to the day when Wisconsin's livestock industry will be prepared to respond within 48 hours in the event of an animal disease outbreak.

Pilot Projects in the State of Wisconsin

WLIC has approved various pilot projects for WI producers and industry groups that are interested in advancing the NAIS animal identification and animal tracking efforts. WLIC feels strongly that initiating animal identification pilot projects will help address specific questions producers and industry have in implementing a national animal identification program. For additional information about these multi-species pilot projects please go to the WLIC web site.

Conclusion

Premises Registration is the foundation for a national animal ID trace back system. A data base of locations where livestock are produced, raised and kept will aid animal health officials. A system with proper trace back and trace forward capabilities provides timely response to minimize the economic impact in the event of an animal disease outbreak.

The Wisconsin Premises Registration Act requires anyone who keeps, houses or co-mingles livestock to register their premises no later than November 1, 2005. WLIC is registering premises today. Each premises registration brings us closer to the day when Wisconsin's livestock industry will be prepared to respond within 48 hours in the event of an animal disease outbreak.

Our greatest asset is the cooperation of many.

Contact for WLIC

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