



LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION AND TRACEABILITY PROGRAM

Notice to operators of fairgrounds, exhibition halls and rodeos

Reminder of current regulatory requirements and approval of new identification means

11 April 2019

The Canadian Food inspection Agency (CFIA) would like to remind operators of fairgrounds, exhibition halls and rodeos of the current requirements under the *Health of Animals Regulations* under the Livestock identification and traceability program. With the objective to help support compliance, we've worked with the Canadian Association of Fairs & Exhibitions to create the attached summary tables we hope will be useful to efficiently pinpoint situations that apply to your event and clarify regulatory requirements to which you are subject.

One of the requirements is for the operators of fairgrounds, exhibition halls and rodeos in identifying bison, cattle, sheep and pig that are kept at their site with an approved ear tag if they don't already bear one. In order to be compliant with this requirement, operators should keep approved tags issued to their site in inventory. This requirement is applicable to bison and cattle since 2000, to sheep since 2003 and to pigs since 2014.

The CFIA is aware that many events such as fairs, exhibitions, rodeos, etc. rely on the gracious work of volunteers who may not always have the expertise to apply an approved ear tags to animals. The CFIA would like to remind the operators of these sites that the onus is on them to ensure staff are adequately trained and informed of the requirements. Effective communications to farmers who provide animals to your events may be one way to ensure animals brought to the site are adequately tagged in advance of their arrival.

The CFIA would also like to inform you that, as of 1 May 2019, the CFIA will approve the use of ear tattoos on unweaned piglets accompanied with their sow moved for educational purposes to a site, including fairgrounds and exhibition halls as an alternative option to an approved ear tag. The ear tattoo number, referred to a herd mark, is made up of five (5) alpha-numeric characters allocated by the Canadian Pork Council and corresponds to a group of pigs that originate from the same premises.

For more information on livestock traceability requirements, please visit:
www.inspection.gc.ca/traceability

Sincerely,

Eric Aubin

Manager, Livestock Identification and Traceability program