

Benefits of Animal ID

*Management Tool

-Improved ability to track performance and carcass data.

-Improved decision-making ability based on performance and carcass data received.

*Marketing Tool

-Can provide producers with ability to market cattle with information which will add value to their cattle-process verification.

Register your farm by

calling the WVDA or by

visiting our website at

www.wvagriculture.com



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT:

WVDA
ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION

MELISSA GARRETT
STATE ANIMAL ID
COORDINATOR
MGARRETT@AG.STATE.WV.US

DR. L. JOE STARCHER
DVM DIRECTOR
JSTARCHER@AG.STATE.WV.US

1900 KANAWHA BLVD, EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0170

OFFICE: 304-558-2214
FAX: 304-558-2231
TOLL FREE: 1-866-844-2214

West Virginia Premise/Farm ID Program

West Virginia
Department of Agriculture
Gus R. Douglass, Commissioner



National Animal
Identification
System

West Virginia Premise/Farm ID Program

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, has adopted the National Animal Identification System. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture will assist in identification of all farms in West Virginia. The intent of the program is to identify cattle first, then all other livestock identification will follow. The goal of the National Identification System is to have the capability to identify and trace back all animals and premises/farms that have had direct contact with a foreign disease or a domestic disease of concern within 48 hours of discovery.

In order for us to achieve this goal in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), we are trying to identify all the farms in West Virginia by asking all producers of livestock to fill out a premise/farm identification form. We are asking for your name, mailing address, physical address, phone number, premise type business type, and operation type. It would be of great assistance to the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) for you to fill out this form so that you can obtain your farm identification number.

National Animal Identification System

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is a national program intended to identify animals and track them as they come into contact with, or commingle with, animals other than herdmates from their premises of origin.

The system is being developed for all animals that will benefit from rapid tracebacks in the event of a disease concern. Currently, working groups comprised of industry and government representatives are developing plans for cattle, swine, sheep, goats, horses, poultry, bison, deer, elk, llamas and alpacas.

The NAIS will enhance U.S. efforts to respond to intentionally or unintentionally introduced animal disease outbreaks more quickly and effectively. USDA's long-term goal is to establish a system that can identify all premises and animals that have had direct contact with a foreign animal disease or a domestic disease of concern within 48 hours of discovery.

The first step in implementing the NAIS is identifying and registering premises that house animals. Such premises would include locations where livestock or poultry are managed, marketed or exhibited. Knowing where animals are located is the key to efficient, accurate and cost-effective epidemiologic investigations and disease-control efforts.

National Animal Identification System Continued.....

USDA is developing the standards for collecting and reporting information, but industry will determine which type of identification method works best for each species.

As premises are registered and animals or groups of animals are identified based on the standard protocols, USDA will begin collecting information about animal movements from one premise to another. With an efficient, effective animal tracking system in place, USDA will be able to perform rapid tracebacks in case of an animal disease outbreak. Only Federal, State and Tribal animal health authorities would have direct access to the national premises and animal identification repositories. They need this information to accomplish their job of safeguarding animal health.

USDA and WVDA have started legal processes to protect the confidentiality of the information. It is important to note that the national repositories will include information only for animal and disease tracking purposes.

