

Animal Disease Traceability: A Guide to Identifying Horses and other Equines for Interstate Movement

Q. Are equines required to be officially identified as part of the new traceability rule?

A. Under the new traceability rule, horses and other equines moving interstate must be either officially identified prior to interstate movement or identified as agreed upon by the States or Tribes involved in the movement. Equines commercially transported to slaughter must be identified in accordance with Title 9, Part 88 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

Official identification methods for equine include:

- A description sufficient to identify the individual equine, including name, age, breed, color, gender, distinctive markings, or unique and permanent forms of identification when present (e.g., brands, tattoos, scars, cowlicks, or blemishes);
- Electronic identification that complies with International Organization for Standardization 11784/11785; or
- For equines being commercially transported to slaughter, a device or method authorized by Title 9, Part 88 of the CFR.

Q. Do horses and other equines moving interstate need to be accompanied by movement documentation?

A. Horses and other equines moved interstate must be accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection or other interstate movement document, as agreed to by the States or Tribes involved in the movement. In addition, equines moving commercially to slaughter must be accompanied by documentation in accordance with Title 9, Part 88 of the CFR, and equine infectious anemia reactors moving interstate must be accompanied by documentation as required by Title 9, Part 75 of the CFR.

Q. Where can I find more information on equine identification requirements for interstate movement?

A. More information is available at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/> or from your State animal health official's office.

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