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# NVAP Reference Guide: Cattle Identification

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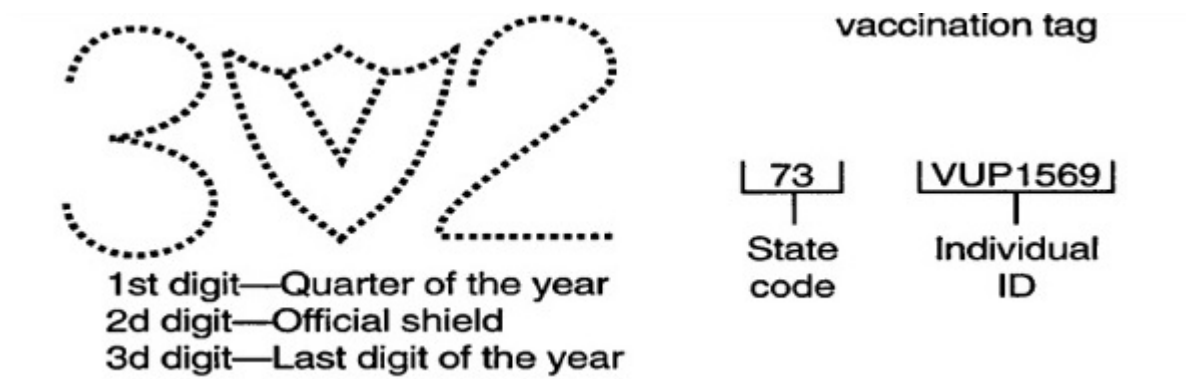
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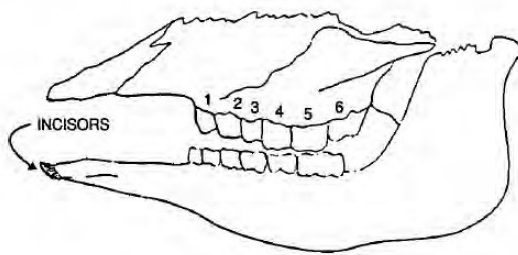
Record all forms of identification if more than one form is present. (See figure 2 for an example of a calfhood vaccination identification, figure 3 for a depiction of cattle dentition to assess age, and table 3 for a list of bovine breeds and abbreviation codes.) In addition to listing the approximate age, gender, and breed of the animal, use one or more of the following identification methods:

- [Official eartag](#) (1.59 MB).
- Individual animal's registration tattoo accompanied by the official registration certificate issued by a recognized breed association.
- Official registration brand accompanied by official brand inspection certificates issued by a recognized brand inspection agency.
- Registration number of a breed association recognized by APHIS -VS in conjunction with an official eartag, tattoo, or brand.
- USDA-approved backtag. Backtags are used mostly in stockyards or slaughterhouses. These cannot be used as the only identification for on farm testing.

**Figure 2—** *Example of a Brucellosis calfhood vaccination identification.*



**Figure 3—** Cattle dental formula. (Adapted from Bovine Practitioner, No. 9-74, and "Incisor Tooth Eruption, Development and Attrition," Texas A&M University)

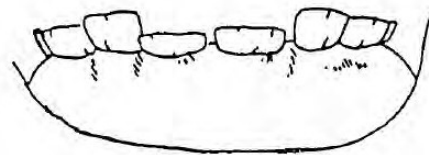


Upper and lower arcs showing  
premolars and molars.

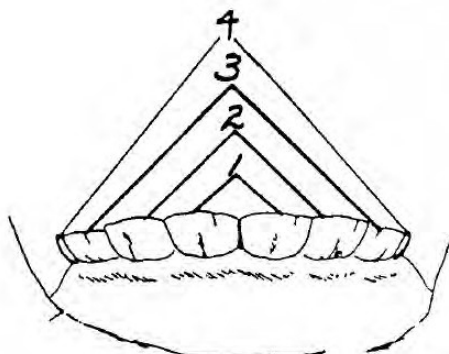
1—1st premolar; 2—2nd premolar;  
3—3rd premolar; 4—1st molar;  
5—2nd molar; and 6—3rd molar.



20.5 months



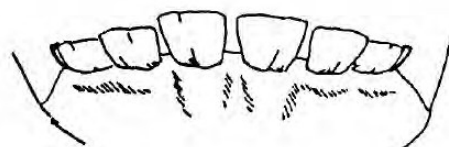
21 months



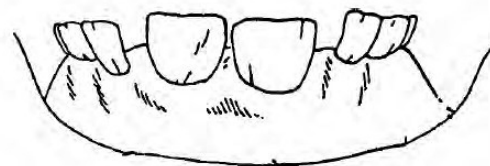
18 months



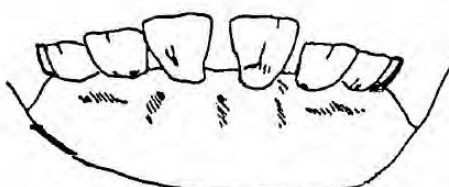
22 months



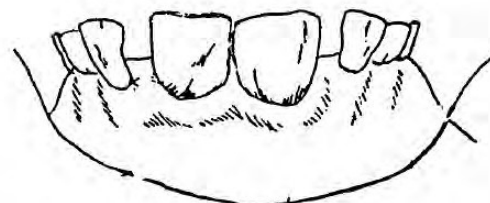
19 months



23.5 months



20 months



25 months

**Figure 3—**Cattle dental formula. (Adapted from Bovine Practitioner, No. 9-74, and "Incisor Tooth Eruption, Development and Attrition," Texas A&M University.)

**Table 4: State, Tribe, and Territory Codes**

Sorted by State Name			Sorted by Numeric Code		
Alabama	AL	64	Maine	ME	11
Alaska	AK	96	New Hampshire	NH	12
American Samoa	AS	99	Vermont	VT	13
Arizona	AZ	86	Massachusetts	MA	14
Arkansas	AR	71	Rhode Island	RI	15
California	CA	93	Connecticut	CT	16
Colorado	CO	84	New York	NY	21
Commonwealth of the N. Marianas	MP	98	New Jersey	NJ	22
Connecticut	CT	16	Pennsylvania	PA	23
Delaware	DE	50	Ohio	OH	31
Florida	FL	58	Indiana	IN	32
Georgia	GA	57	Illinois	IL	33
Guam	GU	97	Michigan	MI	34

Sorted by State Name			Sorted by Numeric Code		
Hawaii	HI	95	Wisconsin	WI	35
Idaho	ID	82	Minnesota	MN	41
Illinois	IL	33	Iowa	IA	42
Indiana	IN	32	Missouri	MO	43
Iowa	IA	42	North Dakota	ND	45
Kansas	KS	48	South Dakota	SD	46
Kentucky	KY	61	Nebraska	NE	47
Louisiana	LA	72	Kansas	KS	48
Maine	ME	11	Delaware	DE	50
Maryland	MD	51	Maryland	MD	51
Massachusetts	MA	14	Virginia	VA	52
Michigan	MI	34	West Virginia	WV	54
Minnesota	MN	41	North Carolina	NC	55
Mississippi	MS	65	South Carolina	SC	56

Sorted by State Name			Sorted by Numeric Code		
Missouri	MO	43	Georgia	GA	57
Montana	MT	81	Florida	FL	58
Navajo Nation	NN	77	Virgin Islands (U.S.)	VI	59
Nebraska	NE	47	Kentucky	KY	61
Nevada	NV	88	Tennessee	TN	63
New Hampshire	NH	12	Alabama	AL	64
New Jersey	NJ	22	Mississippi	MS	65
New Mexico	NM	85	Arkansas	AR	71
New York	NY	21	Louisiana	LA	72
North Carolina	NC	55	Oklahoma	OK	73
North Dakota	ND	45	Texas	TX	74
Ohio	OH	31	Navajo Nation	NN	77
Oklahoma	OK	73	Montana	MT	81
Oregon	OR	92	Idaho	ID	82

Sorted by State Name			Sorted by Numeric Code		
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	PA	23	<b>Wyoming</b>	WY	83
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	PR	94	<b>Colorado</b>	CO	84
<b>Rhode Island</b>	RI	15	<b>New Mexico</b>	NM	85
<b>South Carolina</b>	SC	56	<b>Arizona</b>	AZ	86
<b>South Dakota</b>	SD	46	<b>Utah</b>	UT	87
<b>Tennessee</b>	TN	63	<b>Nevada</b>	NV	88
<b>Texas</b>	TX	74	<b>Washington</b>	WA	91
<b>Utah</b>	UT	87	<b>Oregon</b>	OR	92
<b>Vermont</b>	VT	13	<b>California</b>	CA	93
<b>Virgin Islands (U.S.)</b>	VI	59	<b>Puerto Rico</b>	PR	94
<b>Virginia</b>	VA	52	<b>Hawaii</b>	HI	95
<b>Washington</b>	WA	91	<b>Alaska</b>	AK	96
<b>West Virginia</b>	WV	54	<b>Guam</b>	GU	97

**Sorted by State Name**

**Sorted by Numeric Code**

<b>Wisconsin</b>	WI	35	<b>Commonwealth of the N. Marianas</b>	MP	98
<b>Wyoming</b>	WY	83	<b>American Samoa</b>	AS	99

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