

# OFFICIAL EARTAGS

## NATIONAL UNIFORM EARTAGGING SYSTEM (NUES)

November 26, 2025

The National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) is a numbering system for official eartags historically used in specific animal disease programs. The NUES has been used primarily for metal brucellosis vaccination eartags, "brite" metal identification eartags, and Dairy Herd Information Association (DHIA) eartags.

Per [9 CFR Part 86](#), visual-only NUES tags are no longer acceptable as official identification for cattle and bison when applied on or after November 5, 2024. Visual-only NUES tags for cattle and bison placed in ears prior to this date will be considered official for the life of the animal and need not be replaced. Visual-only NUES tags are official options for other species for which they are approved.

NUES eartags are designed for one-time use (tamper-evident) and are imprinted with the NUES number and the Official Eartag Shield. The NUES number is formatted with 9 characters for large livestock and 8 characters for species with smaller ears requiring smaller eartags. Further explanation of NUES formats is provided in the following examples:



**Official Eartag  
Shield**

**9-Character Format:**

- 23 ELV 4574 or PA ELV 4574
- 2-character State or Tribe code
  - 3 letters
  - 4 numbers

**8-Character Format:**

- 23 DX 4574 or PA DX 4574
- 2-character State or Tribe code
  - 2 alphabetic or alphanumeric characters
  - 4 numbers

### State, Tribal, and Territory Codes

Sort by Name			Sort 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 NORTHERN MARIANAS	MP	98	NEW JERSEY	NJ	22
CONNECTICUT	CT	16	PENNSYLVANIA	PA	23
DELAWARE	DE	50	OHIO	OH	31
EASTERN CHEROKEE NATION	EC	80	INDIANA	IN	32
FLORIDA	FL	58	ILLINOIS	IL	33
GEORGIA	GA	57	MICHIGAN	MI	34
GUAM	GU	97	WISCONSIN	WI	35
HAWAII	HI	95	MINNESOTA	MN	41
HUALAPAI TRIBE	HT	78	IOWA	IA	42
IDAHO	ID	82	MISSOURI	MO	43
ILLINOIS	IL	33	NORTH DAKOTA	ND	45
INDIANA	IN	32	SOUTH DAKOTA	SD	46
IOWA	IA	42	NEBRASKA	NE	47

\*\*For more information on sheep and goat/scrapie tags, please visit <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-disease/sheep-goat/scrapie-tag>.

KANSAS	KS	48	KANSAS	KS	48
KENTUCKY	KY	61	DELAWARE	DE	50
LOUISIANA	LA	72	MARYLAND	MD	51
MAINE	ME	11	VIRGINIA	VA	52
MARYLAND	MD	51	WEST VIRGINIA	WV	54
MASSACHUSETTS	MA	14	NORTH CAROLINA	NC	55
MICHIGAN	MI	34	SOUTH CAROLINA	SC	56
MINNESOTA	MN	41	GEORGIA	GA	57
MISSISSIPPI	MS	65	FLORIDA	FL	58
MISSOURI	MO	43	VIRGIN ISLANDS	VI	59
MONTANA	MT	81	KENTUCKY	KY	61
NAVAJO NATION	NN	77	TENNESSEE	TN	63
NEBRASKA	NE	47	ALABAMA	AL	64
NEVADA	NV	88	MISSISSIPPI	MS	65
NEW HAMPSHIRE	NH	12	ARKANSAS	AR	71
NEW JERSEY	NJ	22	LOUISIANA	LA	72
NEW MEXICO	NM	85	OKLAHOMA	OK	73
NEW YORK	NY	21	TEXAS	TX	74
NORTH CAROLINA	NC	55	NAVAJO NATION	NN	77
NORTH DAKOTA	ND	45	HUALAPAI TRIBE	HT	78
OHIO	OH	31	WESTERN CHEROKEE NATION	CN	79
OKLAHOMA	OK	73	EASTERN CHEROKEE NATION	EC	80
OREGON	OR	92	MONTANA	MT	81
PENNSYLVANIA	PA	23	IDAHO	ID	82
PUERTO RICO	PR	94	WYOMING	WY	83
RHODE ISLAND	RI	15	COLORADO	CO	84
SOUTH CAROLINA	SC	56	NEW MEXICO	NM	85
SOUTH DAKOTA	SD	46	ARIZONA	AZ	86
TENNESSEE	TN	63	UTAH	UT	87
TEXAS	TX	74	NEVADA	NV	88
UTAH	UT	87	WASHINGTON	WA	91
VERMONT	VT	13	OREGON	OR	92
VIRGIN ISLANDS	VI	59	CALIFORNIA	CA	93
VIRGINIA	VA	52	PUERTO RICO	PR	94
WASHINGTON	WA	91	HAWAII	HI	95
WEST VIRGINIA	WV	54	ALASKA	AK	96
WESTERN CHEROKEE NATION	CN	79	GUAM	GU	97
WISCONSIN	WI	35	COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS	MP	98
WYOMING	WY	83	AMERICAN SAMOA	AS	99





Additional details on the formats of the NUES number and other related information is provided in the Official Animal Identification Devices Standards document that can be found at:  
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/traceability>.

### **Obtaining and Using NUES Eartags**

State, Tribes, and Territories administer the distribution of NUES eartags.\*\* They may elect to restrict their use to Accredited Veterinarians or make them available directly to producers as well as through the veterinarians. Producers should contact their State or Tribal animal health official to find out if NUES eartags are available in their area.

States and Tribes may purchase NUES tags directly from an approved NUES tag manufacturer. The administration of the NUES tags obtained directly from NUES tag manufacturers, including processes to ensure their uniqueness of the NUES number, is the responsibility of the State or Tribe.

The following list includes NUES eartags that have been approved by USDA. Manufacturers that produce approved tags are authorized to imprint the Official Eartag Shield on eartags approved by USDA. Manufacturers are prohibited from producing NUES eartags without the authorization of State, Federal, or Tribal Animal Health Officials.

Tag Manufacturer	NUES Product Code Tag Name Tag Type	Species  Tag Size	
Hasco Tag Co.	NUES 0002 49 BRT Metal clip tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk, Pigs  Height= 1/2 in Width= 3/8 in	
National Band and Tag	NUES 0003 49 Cattle Tag 042 ST Metal clip tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk, Pigs  Height = 1-7/16 in Width = 3/8 in	
Allflex USA, Inc.	NUES 0004 Couple 74 Tag Plastic tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk, Sheep/Goat**, Pigs  Height= 35 mm Width= 38 mm	
Ketchum Manufacturing Company, INC.	NUES 0005 306A-Tamperproof Ear Tags Metal clip tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk, Pigs  Height= .460 in Width= .316 in	

Tag photos are not in proportion to actual size - see chart above for tag dimensions.

Page 2

\*Visual-only NUES tags are not official for cattle and bison if applied after November 5, 2024.

\*\*For more information on sheep and goat/scrapie tags, please visit <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-disease/sheep-goat/scrapie-tag>.

Tag Manufacturer	NUES Product Code Tag Name Tag Type	Species  Tag Size	
Hasco Tag Co.	NUES 0006  505 Tag 505-XE Colored Metal  Metal Clip Tag	Deer/Elk, Pigs  Height= ¼ in Width= 1 1/8 in	
Allflex USA, Inc.	NUES 0007  Allflex Ultra Large  Plastic Tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk  Height= 80mm Width= 58mm	
Allflex USA, Inc.	NUES 0008  Allflex Ultra Maxi  Plastic Tag	Bison*, Cattle*, Deer/Elk  Height= 98mm Width= 74mm	

Tag photos are not in proportion to actual size - see chart above for tag dimensions.

\*Visual-only NUES tags are not official for cattle and bison if applied after November 5, 2024.