

Animal Disease Traceability Framework

Update & Current Thinking on the Proposed Rule and Related Issues

Public Meetings
August 2010



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Principles of the New Framework

- Flexible, coordinated approach embraces strengths and expertise of States, Tribes, and producers
- Producer data controlled at discretion of State or Tribe
- Applies only to certain animals moving interstate
 - All farm-raised livestock and poultry with some exemptions
- Priority is cattle
- Build upon what has been successful

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Principles of the New Framework (continued)

- Cattle industry
 - Basic ID methods
 - Use 9-character silver or “brite” tags
 - Must get more cattle officially identified as timely and cost effectively as possible
- Advanced technology may be used when preferred
- Progress over time and as driven by industry

USDA Commitments

- Capitalize on progress of NAIS
- Provide information systems
- Support the development and publication of data standards and guidelines
- Collaborate with States, Tribes, and industry
 - Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Animal Health
- Help fund implementation

VS 2015 Initiative

- Meet needs of national animal health landscape
- Driving forces: Animal agriculture industry, technology, emerging diseases, food safety, expansion of international trade, and budgets
- Meet animal health challenges and become national veterinary authority of United States
- Strengthen partnerships and enhance collaboration

Traceability Rulemaking

- Add animal disease traceability section to CFR
- Will be outcome based
 - Defined as traceability performance standards
 - Achieved through high compliance with regulations
- Apply to certain animals moving interstate
 - Exempt some animals and movements
- Maintain disease program regulations (disease program regulations supersede)
- Maintain import regulations

Regulatory Change Through Public Dialogue

- Traceability Regulation Working Group
- Public meetings with industry
- Conference calls with industry sectors
- Working Group considered feedback as it prepared content of the proposed rule
- Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health

Future Activities and Timelines

- Discuss intended content of the proposed rule in August
 - Three more public meetings
 - NIAA/USAHA traceability forum
- Tribal consultation
- Finalize content of proposed rule
- Prepare formal regulation
- Publish proposed rule, possibly by April 2011
- 60 to 90-day comment period

Report from the Working Group

- Developing the regulation evolved through public dialogue.
- Report summarizes the working group's and USDA's current thinking.
- Input is needed to conclude development of the proposed rule.

Role of the Working Group

- Give input on developing the proposed rule by focusing on key elements:
 - Traceability performance standards
 - Methods of evaluating tracing capability
 - Consequences for noncompliance
- Offer basic requirements for animals moving interstate
 - Which animals must be identified and how
 - ICVI requirements

General Requirements

- With some exceptions, all livestock moved interstate must be officially identified and accompanied by an ICVI.

Official ID Requirements – Cattle

- Identification method – Official eartag
 - Except when group/lot ID is applicable
- Official eartag
 - An identification tag approved by APHIS imprinted with an official identification number
 - National Uniform Eartagging System
 - Animal identification number
 - Premises or flock-based number system

Preliminary Timeline for Regulation

- Proposed rule published approximately April 2011
- Final rule published about 12 to 15 months later

Cattle:

- Step I:
 - Delay the inclusion of feeder cattle
 - An educational period for several months
- Step II:
 - All classes and ages of cattle with exemptions focused on types of interstate movement

Official ID Requirements – Cattle

Step I: Official ID required (unless otherwise exempt)

- Sexually intact cattle greater than 18 months of age and all dairy cattle
- Cattle used for rodeos or recreational events
- Cattle moving to shows or exhibitions

ID Requirements – Cattle (continued)

Step I - Exemptions to official ID:

- Steers or spayed heifers (except rodeo, recreation or exhibitions)
- Moved directly to slaughter (including through one approved market) with a USDA-approved backtag
- Commuter herds
- Cattle moved to a custom slaughter facility
- Cattle may be moved interstate between any two States/Tribes with other identification methods (other than what is defined as official) as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes

Official ID Requirements – Cattle

Other situations:

- Cattle may be moved interstate without official identification during transit if destined to an approved tagging site (may be a market/auction barn) and identified before commingling with cattle from other premises.
- Cattle moved directly from one State through another State and back to the original State.

Official ID Requirements – Cattle

Step II: Exemptions to official ID:

- ~~Steers or spayed heifer under 18 months of age (except rodeo, recreation, exhibition)~~
- ~~Moved direct to slaughter (including, through one approved market) with a USDA-approved backtag~~
- Commuter herds
- Cattle moved to a custom slaughter facility
- Cattle may be moved interstate between any two States/Tribes with other identification methods (other than what is defined as official) as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes

Other Official Identification Issues

- Need standardization
 - Uniformity
 - Based on official numbering system
 - All tags have the U.S. shield 
 - States can use postal abbreviation in lieu of "VS" on "brite" tags they obtain directly from manufacturer
- Prohibit multiple official identification tags
 - Current practice creates problems
 - Restrictions on applying additional official eartags
 - For example, more than one "brite" tags to the same animal



ICVI Requirements – Cattle

- For cattle moving interstate, ICVI would be required unless exempt
- No phase-in for ICVI requirements
- During the period when a class of cattle is exempt from official identification, the animals would be referenced on the ICVI as currently administered
- The recording of official identification numbers for “feeder” cattle on the ICVI would not be required at any time

ICVI Exemptions – Cattle

- Cattle are moved directly to slaughter, or directly to an approved livestock facility that handles “for slaughter only” animals and then moved direct to slaughter, and:
 - An owner-shipper statement is required
 - Individual identification does not need to be recorded for cattle moved from a federally approved livestock facility directly to slaughter

ICVI Exemptions – Cattle (continued)

- Cattle are moved directly to an approved livestock facility with an owner-shipper statement; cattle do not move interstate from the facility unless accompanied by an ICVI
- Cattle are moved from the farm of origin for veterinary medical exam or treatment and returned to the farm of origin without change in ownership

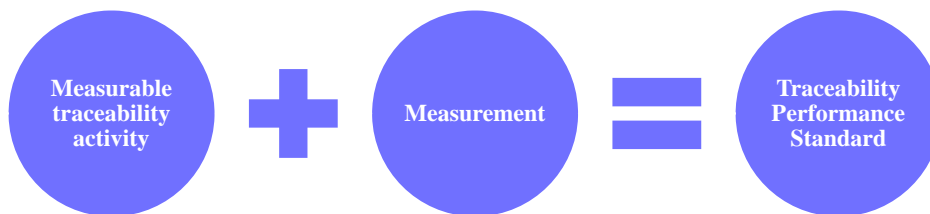
ICVI Exemptions – Cattle (continued)

- Cattle are moved as a commuter herd with a copy of the commuter herd agreement
- Cattle may be moved between any two States/Tribes with documentation other than an ICVI, as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes

Traceability Performance Standards

- Support and align with the basic principle of an “outcome-based regulation”
- Measure a desired outcome, not the methods for achieving it
- Evaluate all traceability solutions of States and Tribes equally
- Focus on tracing animals, not specific disease

Performance Standards (continued)



Measurable activity

Trace animals to the State/Tribe in which they were identified

Measurement

95% of the time within 7 days

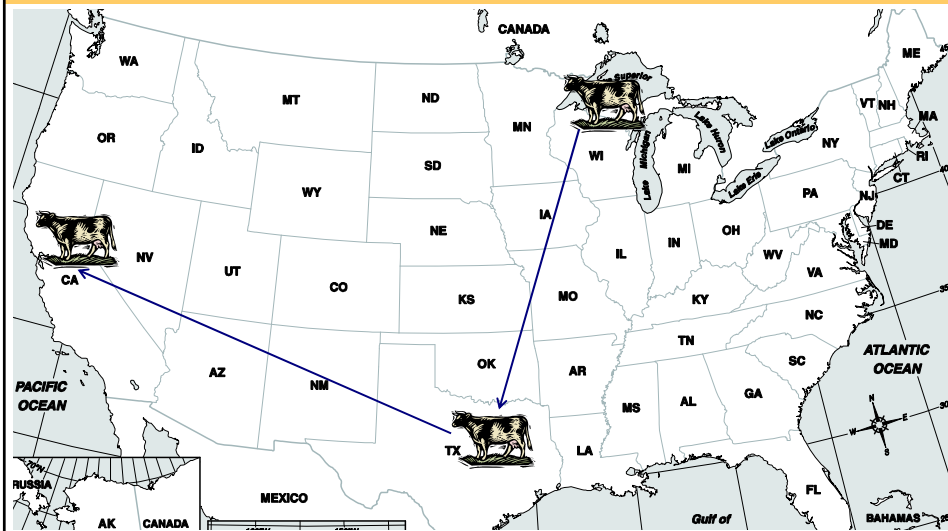
Traceability Unit

- Established in the framework announcement
- Traceability unit is the geographical location a State or Tribe determines will support animal disease responses as supported by local industries
- The size of the traceability unit may vary—it may be a region, a State or Tribal Nation, a county, a livestock operation, or a site within an operation. It is up to the State or Tribe to determine.
- The unit selected by a State or Tribal Nation could be the smallest unit that the Administrator would initially quarantine in the event of a disease outbreak.

Traceability Performance Standards

Action	Who Performs	Description	Standard
1. Notify the State/Tribe in which reference animals were officially identified	State/Tribe that received the animal	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the receiving State/Tribe to notify the State/Tribe in which the animals were officially identified?	95% notification within 1 business day
2. Identify traceability unit in which reference animals were identified	State/Tribe where the animal was officially identified	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the State/Tribe in which the animals were officially identified to specify the traceability unit within which the animals were officially identified?	Phase 1: 75% within 5 business days Phase 2: 95% within 2 business days
3. Notify the State/Tribe from which the reference animals were shipped	State/Tribe that received the animal	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the receiving State/Tribe to notify the State/Tribe in which the interstate animal movement was initiated?	Phase 1: 95% within 7 business days Phase 2: 95% within 3 business days
4. Identify the traceability unit from which the reference animals were shipped	State/Tribe that shipped the animal (may be the same State/Tribe in #2)	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the State/Tribe from which the interstate animal movement was initiated to specify the traceability unit from which the shipment was initiated?	Phase 1: 75% within 5 business days Phase 2: 95% within 2 business days

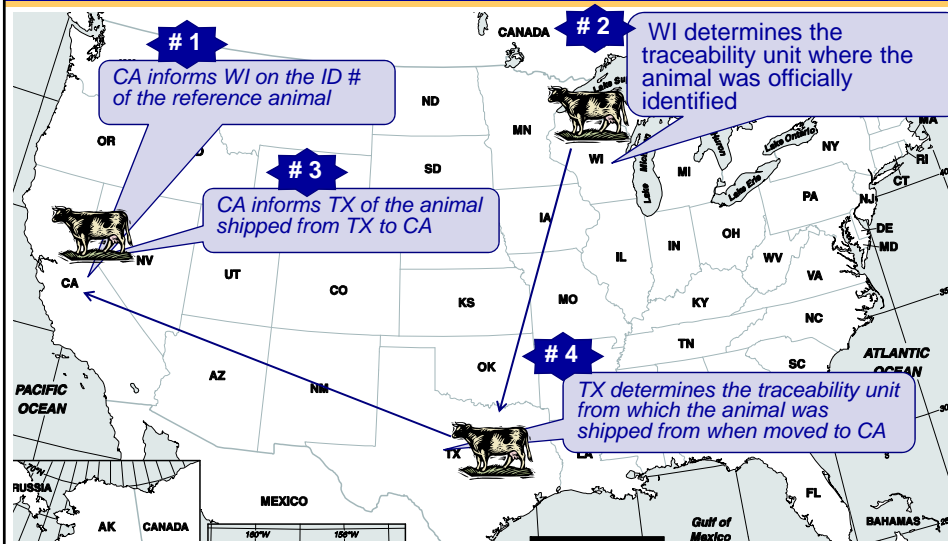
Interstate Movement Scenario



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Interstate Movement Scenario (continued)



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Evaluation of Performance Standards

- Must be efficiently administered while achieving accurate and reliable results
- Achieved when conducting an actual investigation or random test exercises
- First, establish national values
- Then, articulate how they can be evaluated on a State and Tribal basis

Traceability Status or Designations

- Three levels:
 - Traceability Status I, II, and III
 - Each species is separate

Traceability Status I

- The State and Tribe met all traceability performance standards for the species

Traceability Status II

- Traceability performance standards for the species are not all met, but performance is within the defined acceptable range
- No additional traceability requirements are imposed for interstate movement
- State or Tribe implements corrective actions and will be reevaluated within 1 year
- After 3 years, if Level I not achieved, the State or Tribe will be assigned Traceability Status III for that species

Traceability Status III

- Performance measures not met for species
- Additional requirements will apply:
 - Could include removal of exemptions from requirements for official identification or ICVI.
 - The additional requirements for the movement of livestock from that State or Tribe will be made public
- APHIS will reevaluate upon request

Traceability Performance Standards

- Simple approach to measuring and documenting basic tracing capabilities
- Outcome based
- Achieved with:
 - High compliance with official identification regulations
 - Complete and accurate ICVIs

Factors for Success

- Making good progress in developing strategies that solidify the animal disease traceability framework
- Combining factors to achieve success:
 - Effective and realistic performance standards
 - High compliance to the regulation
 - Adherence to related policies
- Working collectively

Compliance

- Properly administer official ID devices (e.g., completeness of distribution records of official identification tags)
- Document percentage of livestock officially identified that require official ID when moving interstate
- Ensure official identification collected at slaughter
- Oversee ICVI for shipments requiring ICVIs and the completeness of information on the certificates

Traceability Plans & Cooperative Agreements

- Each cooperator will have an APHIS-approved animal disease traceability plan
- Federal funding will be provided through annual cooperative agreements that detail implementation strategies
- Funding levels will be proportionate with the projected costs of the activities defined in the cooperative agreement and align with achieving and maintaining the defined traceability unit

Additional CFR Issues

Revisions

- Animal identification number
 - Sunset date for manufacturer code and USA prefix
- Add APHIS requirement for the collection of identification tags at slaughter
- Remove 840 requirement for U.S. born only animals

Maintain

- Unlawful to remove official ID

Animal Disease Traceability Framework

*Update & Current Thinking on the Proposed Rule and
Related Issues*

Thank You!



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