Federal Animal Disease Traceability Rule Requirements for Cattle

ADT Rule March 2013: Interstate Movement Requirements for Cattle

1. OFFICIAL EARTAGS FOR CATTLE
   - NUES tags
     - “Bright” tags
     - OCV / Bangs tags (orange)
   - AIN Tags
     - “840” prefix
     - “900” series (mfr. codes) and “USA” prefix (official ID only for tags applied before 3/11/2015)
   Questions about official ID methods and devices for cattle? Email Traceability@usda.gov

2. USDA APPROVED BACKTAGS
   - USDA approved backtags may be used in lieu of official ID for “direct to slaughter” cattle.
   - Cattle moved interstate to slaughter on a backtag must be harvested within 3 days of arrival at the plant (otherwise, official ID must be applied)
   Note: Backtags continue to be provided by USDA APHIS VS for use at markets, slaughter plants, etc.

* See exemptions for official ID, ICVIs and recording IDs on movement documents on the following page.
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EXEMPTIONS TO OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Cattle are exempt from official identification when moved:
1. Directly from a location in one State, through another State, to a second location in the original State.
2. Directly to an approved tagging site and are officially identified in accordance with established protocols.
3. Between shipping and receiving States or Tribes with another form of identification, as agreed upon by animal health officials in the shipping and receiving States or Tribes.
4. Directly to a recognized slaughter establishment or directly to no more than one approved livestock facility and then to a recognized slaughter establishment.

EXEMPTIONS TO ICVI REQUIREMENTS

ICVIs are not required for movements:
1. Directly to slaughter or to slaughter through one market.
2. Directly to an approved livestock facility with an owner-shipper statement.
3. To a veterinary clinic for medical examination or treatment.
4. As a commuter herd with a commuter herd agreement.
5. When a movement document other than an ICVI is agreed upon by shipping and receiving State officials.

EXEMPTIONS TO RECORDING OFFICIAL ID NUMBERS ON MOVEMENT DOCUMENTS

Official ID numbers do not need to be recorded on movement documents for:
1. Cattle moving to slaughter.
2. Steers or spayed heifers.
3. Sexually intact beef cattle under 18 months.

These exemptions do not apply to cattle used for rodeo, shows, exhibitions, or recreational events. See ADT regulations (9CFR part 86) for specific requirements.

Questions about Traceability? Please email Traceability@usda.gov