



TRACEABILITY RESOURCE

SHEEP



TRACEABILITY

Traceability refers to systems that allow the tracing of an animal or animal product all the way through the supply chain, from birth to slaughter. A fully functional livestock traceability system is based upon three pillars:

Animal Identification

This pillar supports the ability to identify animals as they are moved through the production system.

Premises Identification

Provincial PID programs were established to help plan for, control, and prevent the spread of agricultural diseases. If you own livestock in Canada, contact your provincial government to create a Premises Identification (PID) account and receive a PID. A PID is a unique identifier assigned to a specific piece of property. It is also used as part of an early warning system to notify animal owners of a natural disaster such as a flood or fire or a disease outbreak, that could impact their animals or operations. Completing a PID application and keeping your information up-to-date, are important actions for protecting your animals and those of other Canadian producers.



Animal Movement

This pillar is used to record the movement of uniquely identified animals from one known location to another, along with the date of the move, throughout the animals life span.

In the event of a disease outbreak, knowing the movement history of an animal is very important in supporting efficient trace-back. Full animal/enhanced movement tracking has now been addressed in the proposed changes to traceability programs.

As a whole the traceability system plays a vital role in managing risks such as infectious diseases, food safety issues, and emergencies like natural disasters. Traceability also supports public trust and protects market access for Canadian products.

CCIA

The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) is a non-profit, industry led organization established in 1998 to support Canada's national Livestock Identification and Traceability Program. This program enables efficient traceback and containment of serious animal health and food safety concerns within the livestock industry.



As a Responsible Administrator for the federally mandated Livestock Identification and Traceability Program, CCIA oversees traceability for beef cattle, bison, and sheep, with cervids and goats to be included under the new regulatory updates ([Canada Gazette Part II](#)). In Quebec, CCIA's responsibilities are limited to bison and goats.

CCIA also manages the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS), a national database that records indicator (tag) data and associated information for regulated species. Through the CLTS, users can upload indicator (tag) data and report animal identification, premises details, animal movements, and ownership of lost animals.

CCIA is led by a board of directors representing various livestock industry associations and focuses on security, privacy, improving data capture, auditing, and enhancing data integrity. The agency manages and distributes CFIA-approved and pre-approved livestock indicators (tags) for beef cattle, goats, and cervids, excluding specific exceptions in Quebec.

CCIA works with manufacturers such as Allflex, Destron, Leader, Shearwell, Y-Text, and Z Tags by Datamars, ensuring indicators (tags) meet quality standards and are available through authorized dealers across Canada.

We're here to help.

CCIA WORKS WITH CFIA

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) enforces animal identification regulations under the Health of Animals Regulations. It establishes rules, approves or revokes livestock identification devices, and collaborates with Responsible Administrators. CFIA's mandate includes safeguarding food, animals, and plants to promote the health and well-being of Canada's people, environment, and economy.

As part of its responsibilities, CFIA supports the national Livestock Identification and Traceability Program, which aims to provide accurate and timely information on livestock identity, movements, and locations. This data helps mitigate the impacts of disease outbreaks, food safety issues, and natural disasters. The federal government oversees traceability and has agreements with all Responsible Administrators. CFIA approves or revokes animal identification devices, typically based on recommendations, and is responsible for establishing traceability regulations. For more details, refer to the [Health of Animal Regulations](#).

CCIA is a Responsible Administrator, **NOT** a government agency. Responsible Administrators oversee the delivery of the traceability program as defined by federal regulations. Each species group with traceability requirements must have a Responsible Administrator, either selected or assigned.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) approves Responsible Administrators through contractual agreements based on defined criteria outlining their roles, responsibilities, and obligations.

Responsible Administrators manage species-specific or territorial traceability databases and oversee all aspects of livestock indicators (tags) and applicators. Their duties include testing conformance and performance, as well as ensuring availability, and coordinating distribution. They also promote compliance among regulated species through communication and client support.



CLTS

As a Responsible Administrator, CCIA wholly owns and manages the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS). The CLTS is a national database for regulated species to record indicator (tag) information. Indicator (tag) data is uploaded to the appropriate account, allowing users to report information related to animal identification, premises details, animal movement and owner identification of lost animals. Have you signed up for your CLTS account?

Visit: clts.canadaid.ca.



PREPARING For the New Regulations

1

OBTAIN A PREMISES IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Contact your provincial registry to apply for or update your PID account. Find contact information at canadaid.ca.

2

CREATE OR UPDATE YOUR CLTS ACCOUNT

Contact CCIA to set up your account or update an existing one. Remember to share your PID number with us.

3

IDENTIFY ANIMALS WITH APPROVED INDICATORS

Approved Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) indicators and accessories are available for purchase through an authorized distributor dependant on the province you live in.



We're here to help.