



The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is dedicated to safeguarding food, animals and plants to enhance the health and well-being of Canadians, the environment and economy.

Livestock traceability is the ability to follow an animal (or group of animals) during all stages of its life. There are three main pillars to livestock traceability systems:

- Identification of livestock with an approved indicator;
- Identification of premises where livestock are kept, assembled or disposed of; and,
- Reporting events related to livestock such as movement of animals from one premises to another.

The goal of the livestock traceability system is to provide timely, accurate and relevant information to reduce the impacts of a disease outbreak, food safety issue or natural disasters originating from and/or affecting livestock.

The Livestock Identification and Traceability Program (TRACE) has been administered jointly by CFIA and industry since 2001. The program is regulated and enforced under Part XV of the *Health of Animals Regulations*, made under the authority of the *Health of Animals Act*.

Livestock Identification and Traceability Program (TRACE) – Regulatory Update. N° 6

July 1, 2019

Topic: Information accompanying animals

The objective of the TRACE Newsletter is to provide an overview of progress on proposed amendments to Part XV of the Federal *Health of Animals Regulations* (herein after referred to as the “Regulations”) that pertains to livestock identification and traceability. This sixth edition focuses on one of the key elements of the regulatory proposal: information accompanying animals.

Why are amendments to the *Health of Animals Regulations* being proposed?

The CFIA is proposing amendments to the *Regulations* to strengthen Canada’s livestock traceability system. Under the proposed amendments certain information will be required to accompany a load of animals and/or animal carcasses being transported.

Why is it important to require information accompanying animals?

Under the proposed regulations, when ruminants are moved from a departure site to a destination site, the operator of the destination site would be required to report, among other things, the premises identification number of the departure site and the date and time at which the animals were loaded in the vehicle at the departure site. The main objective for information accompanying animals is to support the operator of the destination site being compliant with this requirement.

Secondly, a record of an animal’s movements from one point to another throughout the supply chain would support compliance for the proposed requirement of animal movements being reported to Responsible Administrators (as described in [Regulatory Update No.5](#)). The recording of this information also supports accurate and timely disease investigations.

What information related to the movement of animals and carcasses would be required to accompany them?

For each load of animals transported from one departure site to a destination site, the transporters of the animals would be required to provide the following information to the operators of the destination site:

- 1) the premises identification number of the departure site and of the destination site
- 2) the date and time the animals or carcasses were loaded at the departure site
- 3) the quantity and species of animals loaded, and
- 4) the licence plate (or other identification) of the conveyance.

There is no required template and the information could be provided in an electronic or paper format. The information would need to be in a form that can be read without delay by any inspector and the operator of the destination site.



Definitions

Animals means a bison, cattle, caprine, cervid, pig or sheep

Carcass means a dead animal

Conveyance means any vehicle used for the transportation of animals or carcasses.

Farm means land, and all buildings and other structures on that land, that is used under one management for breeding or raising animals, but does not include an artificial insemination unit.

Ruminant means a bison, cattle, caprine, cervid or sheep

Transporter means any person involved in the transportation of animals or carcasses

Provincial requirements for information accompanying animals

British Columbia (cattle and bison)

(<http://www.ownershipid.ca/livestock-manifest-form-and-instructions>)

Alberta (<http://www.lis-alberta.com/>)

- Alberta Livestock manifest 1-866-509-2088 or [e-manifest](#) (<https://www.emanifests.com/security/Logi.n.aspx>)

- Alberta [Swine manifest](#) (<http://www.albertapork.com/>)

- Cervid Farming System:
Dial 310-0000, then enter 780-422-1472

Saskatchewan (<http://lssc.ca/>)

(306) 546-5086

Manitoba

(<https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/livestock/livestock-manifest.html>)

People that are required to ensure the information accompanies an animal or carcass, will also need to retain a copy of the document containing the information for two years.

There are already similar requirements in some provinces

British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba currently have provincial requirements for information to accompany animals. These existing provincial requirements would continue to be valid and complement the Federal proposal. In fact, the proposed Federal requirements not only align with the existing provincial requirements and documentation requirements, but also with the existing requirement for information to accompany pigs or pig carcasses under Part XV of the *Health of Animals Regulations*; and, with Part XII of the *Health of Animals Regulations* respecting the humane transportation of live animals.

When would this information not be required to accompany animals?

The proposed requirement would not apply to:

- Animals and carcasses of animals transported for import and export (import permits and export certificates already apply)
- Ruminants and their carcasses transported within a farm (as their movements would not be required to be reported)
- Pigs or pig carcasses that are transported between contiguous parts of a farm (an exemption is already in place)

Supporting compliance for proposed requirements

The use of a livestock manifest is required by the four Western provincial governments. However, to support transporters with compliance in provinces that do not currently require any movement documentation, a movement document template will be made available on the CFIA website.

When can I comment on the proposed regulations?

Following the publication of the proposed regulations in Part I of the [Canada Gazette](#), stakeholders will have 75 days to provide comment. CFIA will review and consider all comments received prior to finalizing the regulatory amendments and publishing them in Part II of the Canada Gazette.