Identification Requirements for moving cattle In-State/Out of State!

Act 30 requires all livestock being transported within the State to satisfy the requirements for official identification for interstate movement under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Disease Traceability rule, 9 C.F.R. part 86 prior to leaving the property of origin, regardless of the reason for movement or duration of absence from the property.

All animals must have one of the following:

National Uniform Ear-tagging System (NUES)

- NUES ear tags begin with an official state number followed by three letters and then four numbers. The official state number for Vermont is ‘13’.
- Metal NUES tags are provided at no cost to veterinarians, livestock dealers, and producers.
- In compliance with federal law, NUES tags must display the U.S. shield if applied to the animal after March, 2015

Animal Identification Number (AIN) - '840 Tags'

- AIN ear tags begin with an official country code followed by an additional 12 digits; 15 digits in total. The official U.S. country code is ‘840’.
- In compliance with federal law, AIN tags must display the U.S. shield if applied to the animal after March, 2015.
- May be purchased from most ear tag distributors.
- 15-character tags beginning with the letters ‘USA’ or manufacturer-coded tags beginning with any number between 900 – 998 are only official if applied to the animal prior to March, 2015.

Animal Identification for Eastern States Exposition 2019

1. For 2019 it is required that cattle be identified with a 15 digit AIN tag. Forms of that tag that will be accepted:

   A Canadian Cattle identification Agency Radio Frequency Identification Device Tag
   A USDA AIN RFID Tag - Preferred
   A USDA AIN Visual Tag

Animal identification number (AIN) “840” Tags
- Provided directly to producers from manufacturers [or their distributors], or to producers through accredited veterinarians or animal health officials. Various sizes, shapes, colors. Visual only or with variable frequency RFID technology. The visual imprinting of the AIN on the tag is the official identifier for AIN tags with radio frequency technology. AIN tags may be imprinted with additional information for program identity, e.g., age, source programs.
Note: 840 AINs are available in microchip implants for equine and other species.
Cattle with these tags must be identified using these 15 digits on the Certificates of Vet. Inspection paperwork.

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2. Moving in this direction will allow a speedier health check in using new technology.
3. Exhibitors are reminded there is still a show check in utilizing Registration numbers, tattoos and American ID tags. ESE does not recommend tags of any kind be removed. Exhibitors that have used American ID tags for registration purposes should not remove these tags. For show check in these tags tie the animal to their registration paper.
4. All cattle, including those from Massachusetts must meet the same ESE health check-in identification standard.

If your animal is already identified with a visual tag, please contact your breed association to receive the best recommendation for applying an RFID.

To obtain RFID tags here are some suggested links:
http://www.holsteinusa.com/
www.cattletags.com
http://www.eartagcentral.com/home.php

Any other questions that you have about the new tagging rules, please contact your veterinarian or the Vermont State Veterinarian Office.

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