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.

If you want your cattle to be considered for showing at Eastern States Exposition, they must have an RFID tag (Radio-frequency identification)!! More information will be available after January 2018.

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.