



The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is cooperating with USDA on improving the traceability of US livestock moving interstate when animal disease events take place. Currently, all cattle 18 months or older sold at a Kentucky approved livestock market OR moving interstate must be identified to the farm of origin.

Under the proposed rule, unless specifically exempted, livestock moved interstate would have to be officially identified and accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection or other documentation, such as owner-shipper statements or brand certificates. The ADT rule encourages the use of low-cost technology and specifies approved forms of official identification for each species, such as RFID ear tags for cattle.

USDA proposes that this will become a national requirement by January 1, 2023. The Kentucky State Veterinarian Office is using part of our USDA grant and allotted RFID tags to strengthen the Animal Disease Traceability framework within our state. With this, we are now providing cattle producers with **free RFID tags** for use in replacement/breeding females and bulls.

In order to receive these tags it is required that a producer be assigned a national premise ID number. You can obtain your premise ID number by contacting me directly, or calling the State Veterinarian's Office where one of our staff members will assist you. Once the producer receives their tags it will be the **producer's responsibility** to report back to the OSV office when tags are placed in the animals. Prior to sending more tags, the "Tags Applied" form **MUST** be filled out with the previous tags listed accordingly. Once this is completed and received by the Office of the State Vet additional tags can be issued to the producer.

If you would like any additional information regarding the free RFID tag program please contact **Molly Morrow** or **Dr. Beth Johnson** with your questions or concerns.

Molly Morrow
Animal Disease Traceability
Program Coordinator
Molly.Morrow@ky.gov
(502) 782-5902
(502) 229-0911

Dr. Beth Johnson
Director of Animal Health,
KDA/OSV
Bethc.johnson@ky.gov
(502) 545- 6373

