

## ADT Rule Interpretation

**Changes to begin:** The Final ADT Rule was published on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The rule goes into effect November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Find the new rule published here: [Federal Register:: Use of Electronic Identification Eartags as Official Identification in Cattle and Bison](#)

**Definitions/changes as interpreted by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture on May 15, 2024:**

**Approved Tagging Site (Current):** A premises, authorized by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials, where livestock may be officially identified on behalf of their owner or the person in possession, care, or control of the animals when they are brought to the premises.”

**Approved Tagging Site (New):** “A premises, authorized by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials, where livestock without official identification may be transferred to have official identification applied on behalf of their owner or the person in possession, care, or control of the animals when they are brought to the premises.”

**Dairy Cattle Definition (Current):** “All cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites.”

**Dairy Cattle Definition (New):** “All cattle, regardless of age or sex, breed, or current use, that are born on a dairy farm or are of a breed(s) used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, or cross-bred calves of any breed that are born to dairy cattle including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites.”

**Official ear tag (New):** Beginning November 5, 2024, all official ear tags sold for or applied to cattle and bison must be visually and electronically identifiable. There are no changes to official identification applied to swine and small ruminants. *Animals that do not require official ID currently will not require official ID when the rule goes into effect.*

- Cattle and bison covered by the official identification requirements for interstate movement have not changed and are as follows:
  - o All sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age or over
  - o All female dairy cattle of any age and all dairy males born after March 11, 2013
    - This includes dairy beef cross animals and refers to a new definition of dairy animals
  - o Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events
  - o Cattle and bison of any age used for shows or exhibitions.
- RFID is now required for program disease identification (Brucellosis)

- Animals that have an official ID without an electronic component prior to the November 2024 cutoff date will be grandfathered in and will not require the application of an official RFID.

**Record Keeping (New):**

- If a federally accredited veterinarian applies a tag to a client animal, they are required to record ID information in a readily accessible system of their choosing. The responsible veterinarian must be able to submit to APHIS all reports and notices containing the specified ID information within 48 hours of the receipt of a request for disease investigation and tracing purposes.
- If a federally accredited DVM distributes tags to a producer or other entity, the DVM must immediately enter ID information into a state or federally-designated database.
- Information regarding record keeping for veterinarians:
  1. for recordkeeping of device distribution, APHIS provides training for APHIS databases such as the Animal Identification Management System (AIMS)
  2. for recordkeeping of applying for official ID, accredited veterinarians may use AIMS or various medical record systems and receive training from their vendors
  3. finally, State officials maintain records of ICVIs and tag distributions in the State's regulatory database for which APHIS does not provide training.