

EID (Electronic Identification) FAQ

- **What is the significance of the 840 prefix?**
 - 840 designate the U.S. as the animal's county of origin, as required by the USDA Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) rules.
- **Where can I purchase EID tags from?**
 - Producers can purchase official 840 EID tags and tag applicators directly from tag distributors or talk to your local veterinarian. *Note: in order to purchase 840 EID tags, you must have a Premises Identification Number (PIN) assigned to the location of the cattle.*
 - Accredited veterinarians can get free 840 tags and applicators from NDA *when available*.
- **What is a Premises Identification Number (PIN) and why is it needed?**
 - A Premises Identification Number PIN is a unique number assigned by a federal or state office to a geographically unique location associated with animal agriculture.
 - Registering your premises and obtaining a PIN will provide NDA and USDA with specific location information that will allow for more accurate and efficient tracing and disease control efforts in the event of an animal disease outbreak.
 - You can obtain a PIN by completing the Premises ID Registration form at <https://nda.nebraska.gov/adt/premises.html> or by calling NDA at 402-471-2351 option 1.
- **Can I order official 840 EID tags without a Premises ID Number?**
 - No. A PIN is required because tags have to be assigned a premises to provide traceability.
 - If an accredited veterinarian is placing the 840 EID tags in your animals, then a Premises ID Number is not required.
- **Is my Premises Identification Number (PIN) information confidential in the database?**
 - Yes – a PIN is only used in the event of a disease outbreak.
- **How much does an official 840 EID electronic tag cost?**
 - EID tag costs are set by the tag manufactures and distributors, but typically range between \$2.25 - \$2.90 per tag.
- **Will a tag applicator need to be purchased to apply 840 EID tags?**
 - Yes, a tag applicator that is compatible with the manufacturer's tags will need to be purchased.
- **Where do I apply the 840 EID tag on cattle?**
 - The tag should be placed in the animal's ear according to the directions supplied with the tags. Proper application is important for tag retention.
- **When using an 840 EID tag, does the producer need to have an EID reader to read the tags?**
 - No special reader is needed since the 840 EID tag has a 15-digit number printed on them. However, an electronic reader would make it easier to read and record numbers in an accurate and efficient manner.
- **What animals require official ID before crossing state lines?**
 - All sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age and older
 - All female and male dairy cattle
 - This includes dairy beef cross animals and refers to the new definition of dairy animals
 - Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events
 - Cattle and bison of any age used for shows and exhibitions

- **What if one of my cattle lose an official 840 EID tag?**
 - Lost official 840 EID tags can be replaced with a new official 840 EID tag. All secondary official identification (i.e.: lost tag, metal tag, farm management tag, etc.) would then need to be paired with the new 840 EID tag number and recorded on all animal health documents.

- **Why should I tag my cattle with an 840 EID tag if they are already branded?**
 - While branding is a useful tool for asset protection, relying on a brand for individual Animal Disease Traceability is not feasible because the brand does not provide individual animal identification.

- **If Cattle or Bison are already tagged with a NUES tag, do I also need to tag them with an official 840 tag?**
 - No, those cattle are grandfathered into the rule. Only animals being tagged on November 5th and after will need the official 840 EID tag applied if moving across state lines or needing official ID for program disease work.