



Dairy Farmers of Canada

Principles for developing a dairy traceability program

1. All dairy cattle will be identified at birth with two ear tag sets, one of which is RFID and the other is a visual tag for management. Calves sold before 14 days of age may be identified with a single RFID ear tag.
2. Dairy producers will have access to a seamless and coordinated approach to dairy traceability. The service provider for dairy cattle traceability will integrate the information available from other industry partners involved in livestock identification, premises identification, movement tracking, milk recording and dairy breed organizations. The delivery agent will accord appropriate access to industry partners.
3. The service provider for dairy will contract with a single ear tag manufacturer to ensure the best available technology meeting the needs for dairy traceability at the lowest acceptable cost *while meeting national standards*.
4. Dairy producers will have the option to order ear tags through an authorized tag distribution process approved by the delivery agent: *Dairy Farmers of Canada*.
5. Dairy producers will tag the animal at birth; enter all relevant information within a time frame established by the delivery agent.
6. Within a time frame determined by the delivery agent, all movements of dairy animals will be recorded and reported upon arrival to any premises where animals are commingled. The responsibility for recording and reporting of movement onto premises will be that of the receiver.
7. A premise is a dairy barn, a pasture, a community pasture, an auction market, a sorting centre, an agricultural fair, a meat salvager, a rendering plant, a livestock carrier, a veterinary hospital, an artificial insemination centre, a calf collection centre, an animal test station, a slaughter house, a feedlot or where ever animals comingle. *The premises should be attached to a land descriptor.*
8. The delivery agents for cattle will determine the minimal information required for animal transportation.
9. Dairy producers will be responsible for reporting removal / retirement of animals from the herd due to death or direct export.

10. The information transferred to the service provider will be kept confidential as determined by regulations.
11. Until Premises Identifiers delivered by the relevant provincial authorities are available, the delivery agent will use Global Positioning System (GPS) information recognized for milk collection of each dairy producer in Canada along with relevant information associated with the milk permit. A Premises Identification Number is a unique identifying number assigned to a parcel of land that is associated with agri-food activities.
12. Along with other livestock and poultry commodities, DFC will develop a long-term funding model for traceability, where traceability costs are shared by the beneficiaries of improved food safety, market access and animal disease surveillance.
13. DFC will collaborate with the beef cattle sector in establishing a legal framework and appropriate regulations for the implementation and enforcement of a national dairy and beef cattle traceability system.
14. Regulations on traceability will specify zoning as an element of the traceability program.