



## News Release

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### Based on Standard Business Practices

## USDA Issues New Scrapie Recordkeeping Guidelines

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. – Now sheep and goat dealers and market operators will be able to comply with the requirements of the national scrapie eradication program using standard business record-keeping procedures. This change is a result of new compliance guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS).

Requirements for dealers and market operators to record and keep records of individual IDs have been eliminated, unless the dealer or market operator has applied the ID tags. Under the new guidelines, producers will still be responsible for individually identifying and maintaining records for sheep and goats as required when the eradication program was announced in August 2001.

The new guidelines describe standard records as the following:

- A. The number of animals purchased or sold;
- B. The date of purchase or sale;
- C. The name and address of seller or buyers;
- D. The species and breed or class of animal;
- E. For animals officially identified with brands or ear notches, a copy of the Brand Inspection Certificate.

### Owner-Supplied Identification Applied by Dealers or Markets

If the dealer or market operator applies official identification assigned directly to the owner of the flock of origin, then the owner must maintain the following records:

- A. The date the animals were officially identified;
- B. The number of sheep and/or goats identified;
- C. The premises number or serial (tag) number applied;
- D. For animals born after January 1, 2002, in another flock and not already identified as to flock of birth, the name and address of the owner of the flock of birth if known.

The dealer/market should record that owner-provided tags were applied, and the premises number and sequence, as part of their business records.

## Dealer-Supplied Identification

For dealers or market operators who apply official identification that is not assigned to the owner of the premises of origin, the following records must be kept:

- A. Date tagged;
- B. The number of sheep and/or goats tagged;
- C. The serial (tag) numbers applied;
- D. The name and address of the person who currently owns the animals.

## Animals without Official Identification

For those animals without official identification, the following must be recorded:

- A. The date tagged;
- B. The number of sheep and/or goats tagged;
- C. The serial (tag) numbers applied;
- D. The name and address of the owner of the flock of origin;
- E. If the person who currently owns the animals is different from the owner of the flock of origin, the current owner's name and address;
- F. If the owner of the flock of birth is different from the owner of the flock of origin, and if the animals were born after January 1, 2002, the name and the address of the owner of the flock of birth, if known.

These new guidelines are effective immediately. For more information on these changes, call toll-free 866-873-2824. This information, and other topics relating to the scrapie eradication program, is available at [www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie](http://www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie).

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