



## Memo

**To: Iowa Licensed and Accredited Veterinarians**

**From: Dr. David Schmitt, State Veterinarian**

**Date: December 11, 2015**

**Re: Animal Disease Traceability - Disposal of Tags**

This memo is to inform you that on January 9, 2013 the final Animal Disease Traceability rule was published. The regulations set forth in the rule (*Code of Federal Regulations* (9 CFR) part 86) establish a system that outlines APHIS' ability to trace animals. Animal traceability is critical in protecting the health of our animal industry, which includes being able to trace animals through interstate movements.

Accredited veterinarians are responsible for ensuring that animals listed on Interstate Certificates of Veterinary Inspection are properly identified in accordance with state and federal interstate movement requirements. All official identification eartags must have the U.S. Route Shield graphic with "U.S." or the State postal abbreviation or Tribal alpha code imprinted within the shield on each tag. **Beginning March 11, 2015 all official eartags applied to animals must bear an official eartag shield.**



Tags applied before the March 11, 2015 deadline will be grandfathered in and should not be removed. Tags that have not been used and do not have the U.S. Route Shield graphic on the eartag will need to be properly disposed of. Accredited Veterinarians are responsible for the disposal of tags. Tags must be disposed of in a manner that will preclude reuse for animal identification. Tags that are disposed of will need to be inventoried and recorded on the form opposite of this page and sent in to our office either by fax (515-281-4282) or mail. Please be sure to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

We do not have funds to replace unused tags, but with help from the USDA we are able to provide **free large silver (bright)** (used for cattle, cervid, etc.) **and small silver** (used for feeder pigs, etc.) tags with the US shield. **Large silver and small silver tags only** can be ordered from our office by calling Dee Clausen at 515/281-8236. They will be ordered out of the Kansas City warehouse and you must have a Premises ID number. If your Clinic does not have a Premises ID number a premises application will need to be completed and submitted to our office to assign a Premises ID number. Your Premises ID number will need to be entered into the Kansas City warehouse database to receive free tags. It may take up to 7 days to get your first order processed once new premises ID is entered in the Kansas database. Orders received by Dee may take a day or two longer than ordering these tags directly from the State office. All other tags (such as Brucellosis - calfhood vaccination and Allflex tags) and supplies will need to be ordered as in the past, by sending a check with the "Request for Veterinary Supplies" form to our office, Attn: Katie Hyde.

Request for Veterinary Supplies form can be found on our website:

<http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalIndustry/pdf/forms/RequestforSuppliesForm101614.pdf>

