



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments



Requirements for Exporters and Importers of Live Animals



Livestock Identification and Traceability Program

The objective of the national Livestock Identification and Traceability program is to provide accurate and up-to-date livestock identity, movement and location information to mitigate the impact of disease outbreaks, food safety issues and natural disasters.

This brochure summarizes the federal livestock identification and traceability requirements. Provincial and territorial requirements may also apply.

EXPORT REQUIREMENTS

Cattle, Bison and Sheep Exporters

Identifying cattle, bison and sheep that you export

You do not need to apply an approved tag to...

Animals that stay on their farm of origin.

You need to apply an approved tag to...

Animals that are moved off of their farm of origin for any reason, including for export outside of Canada.

As an exporter, you may not remove an approved Canadian tag from an animal that is being exported and/or replace an existing approved tag with another tag (such as the *Health of Animals Act* tag).

Reporting requirements for cattle and bison that you export

When you export cattle or bison, you must report identification numbers of the cattle and bison you have exported to the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency within 30 days.

Reporting requirements for sheep that you export

There is no mandatory requirement to report exported sheep.



You must keep all records noted in this document for five years for pigs and two years for cattle, bison and sheep.

Under the federal *Health of Animals Regulations*, custodians of:

Cattle, bison and sheep must report to the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency by visiting the Canadian Livestock Tracking System's website: www.clia.livestockid.ca.

Pigs and farmed wild boars must report to the Canadian Pork Council by visiting the PigTrace website: <https://pigtrace.traceability.ca/login>.

These are the “responsible administrators” for these two groups of livestock.

Pig Exporters

Please note that requirements for pigs will apply as of July 1, 2014 and for farmed wild boars as of July 1, 2015.

Identifying pigs that you export

Pigs that you export need to be identified by a means approved by the importing country (or sub-jurisdiction of a country) before you export them. The indicator—such as an approved tag or slap tattoo—used to identify these pigs must bear an identification number (such as a herd mark) issued by the Canadian Pork Council.

Reporting requirements for pigs that you export

When you export pigs, you must report the following information to the Canadian Pork Council within seven days:

- the location of the last site at which each pig was kept before it was exported;
- the number of pigs that you exported from each site;
- the location(s) to which you exported the pigs;
- the number of pigs that you exported to each location;
- the dates on which the pigs were loaded onto the conveyance they were exported in;
- the number of pigs that were loaded on each of those dates;
- the pig's identification numbers, from the indicators (for example, ear tag, slap tattoo) that have been approved by the importing country;
- the number of pigs bearing each identification number/herd mark; and
- the licence plate number of the conveyance used to export the pigs.

Cattle, Bison, Sheep and Pigs: when to report tags as “Retired” and when to report tags as “Exported”

Report as “EXPORTED”

Approved tags for any animal that you export outside Canada, even if you export animals that will be slaughtered as soon as they arrive at their destination.

Report as “RETIRED”

Approved tags for any animal that dies in Canada for any reason, including slaughter.

Approved tags for any dead stock you receive in Canada, if you are a renderer or dead stock collector.

IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

Cattle, Bison and Sheep Importers

Identifying cattle, bison and sheep that will be imported

You must identify all imported cattle, bison and sheep with an approved Canadian tag either before you import them, or as soon as you receive them in Canada. Cattle, bison and sheep do not need to be identified with an approved tag if they are imported directly to an abattoir.

Reporting requirements for cattle, bison and sheep that will be imported

When you import cattle, bison and sheep, you must report the following information to the responsible administrator:

- the identification number on the animal’s approved tag; and
- enough information about the animal to allow its origin to be traced.

How long do I have to report this information?

After you receive imported animals, you must report the required information to the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency within

- 30 days for cattle • 60 days for bison • 7 days for sheep

Pig Importers

Please note that requirements related to pigs will apply as of July 1, 2014 and for farmed wild boars as of July 1, 2015.

Identifying pigs that you import

What pigs need to be identified?

All pigs that you import into Canada (whether or not they are imported for immediate slaughter) must be identified with

- an approved Canadian indicator, or
- a foreign tag or slap tattoo that has been deemed equivalent to indicators approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

Animals that were previously exported can re-enter Canada. They do not need a new approved tag if they still bear the approved tag they had when they were first exported.

Reporting requirements for pigs that will be imported

When you import pigs, you must report the following information to the Canadian Pork Council within seven days:

- the location of the last site at which the pig was kept before it was imported;
- the location to which the pig was imported;
- the date that you received the pig;
- the identification number on the pig's approved tag; and
- the licence plate number of the conveyance that transported the imported pig.

Cattle, Bison, Sheep and Pigs: foreign indicators that are deemed equivalent

Before being imported, cattle, bison, sheep and pigs may already bear an indicator from a foreign country. If the CFIA has deemed that kind of indicator equivalent to an approved Canadian tag, the animals do not need to be re-identified when they are imported into Canada. Once a foreign indicator has been deemed equivalent, it is considered an approved tag.

This means that an equivalent foreign indicator is treated the same way as an approved Canadian tag. Animals bearing it are subject to the same regulatory requirements and prohibitions as animals that were born in Canada.

For additional information on the regulatory requirements and on Canada's Livestock Identification and Traceability Program, please visit the CFIA website: www.inspection.gc.ca/traceability.

Definitions:

Livestock traceability: The ability to follow an animal or dead stock from one point in the supply chain to another.

Indicator: Any approved tag, slap tattoo that identifies animals.