

# Premises Registration

## NATIONAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Why is the Ohio Department of Agriculture registering premises?**

The Ohio livestock industry, state animal health officials and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are committed to designing a National Animal Identification System (NAIS) to track all animals and premises potentially exposed to a foreign animal disease or other animal disease of concern, within 48 hours. This program will help in rapid containment of the disease thus enhancing current efforts to protect animal health.

#### **What is the purpose for Premises Identification?**

Premises identification provides a unique number assigned to each location involved in livestock production. The number is a seven character alpha-numeric code: example – A234L56. At the state level, the premises number will facilitate a single accurate recording of farm animal health records and associated activities for all species present on the farm. At the producer level, presentation of the premises number will be required to facilitate the purchase of official animal ID and to obtain animal health certificates or movement permits for interstate transport of livestock.

#### **Who can register?**

The Ohio Department of Agriculture is currently registering premises on a voluntary basis. Anyone who produces, manages, or holds livestock are encouraged to register their premises. All premises, regardless of the number of livestock, should be registered.

#### **How do you define “premises”?**

“Premises” includes farms and hobby farms; livestock auctions and concentration yards; veterinary clinics; stables; livestock markets; commercial livestock trucker and dealer facilities where animals are held; harvest and rendering facilities; livestock exhibitions and any other location where livestock are produced managed or held.

#### **Is there a cost to register?**

There is no charge for premises registration.

#### **How do I register?**

There are three ways to register a premises:

1. Go online to our internet connection at [www.ohioanimalid.com](http://www.ohioanimalid.com) and click on the link for ODA Premises Registration.
2. Go online to our internet connection at [www.ohioanimalid.com](http://www.ohioanimalid.com) and click on the link for “premises registration information” and print out a premises registration form; complete the form and mail or fax back to ODA.
3. Call ODA at 614.728.6220 to request a registration form.

### **What if the livestock of two or more owners is kept on the same premises?**

If two or more people keep livestock on the same premises, one premises number will cover all livestock present regardless of the number of owners. The purpose of the premises number is to identify the location where livestock are held. Therefore, a change in property ownership will not change the premises identification (ID) number of that location, only the contact person's information will change for that premises.

### **I have multiple locations. Do I register once for all premises, or separately for each location?**

If a producer has one herd/flock that is rotated through the multiple units as part of the operations management scheme; one premises number will meet the need. In the case of a disease traceback, one premises registration will likely result in quarantine for all locations registered under the premises number.

If a producer has two or more distinctly different herds/flocks (i.e. purebred herd and a commercial herd) that are geographically separated on different locations and are never commingled as part of the operations management scheme; then they may want to consider multiple premises numbers. Multiple premises registration may support site specific quarantine in the case of a traceback.

### **For which species must a premises be registered?**

Species included for premises registration include aquaculture, bovine (bison, cattle), camelids (llamas, alpacas), cervidae (deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer, and the subfamily musk deer), equine (horses, donkeys, mules), goats, pheasants, poultry (chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl), quail, ratites (rheas, ostriches, emu, cassowary, kiwi), sheep and swine.

### **What if I already have a Scrapie or Brucellosis premises ID?**

ODA and USDA have issued premises IDs in the past based on specific disease programs. The new nationally assigned premises ID numbers identify locations where livestock are housed and are independent of species or disease. Eventually, the old numbers will be phased out and replaced with the new premises ID. Until then, producers should keep using the old numbers for their respective disease programs.

### **How does this new registration affect liability?**

Producers are and have always been responsible for the livestock they produce while under their care. Having a premises ID will neither increase nor decrease that liability.

### **Is the registration information confidential?**

The premises ID number itself is not confidential. However, the registration information linked to the premises number provided by the producer is confidential. Producers set up their own computer user name and password and they control their information. State and Federal animal health officials are the only other individuals that can access your data in the event of a disease traceback outbreak involving an animal or public safety emergency.