



Province of Alberta

## ANIMAL HEALTH ACT

# TRACEABILITY CATTLE IDENTIFICATION REGULATION

### **Alberta Regulation 333/2009**

With amendments up to and including Alberta Regulation 141/2018

Current as of July 10, 2018

### Office Consolidation

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Alberta Queen's Printer  
Suite 700, Park Plaza  
10611 - 98 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7  
Phone: 780-427-4952  
Fax: 780-452-0668

E-mail: [qp@gov.ab.ca](mailto:qp@gov.ab.ca)  
Shop on-line at [www.qp.alberta.ca](http://www.qp.alberta.ca)

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(Consolidated up to 141/2018)

**ALBERTA REGULATION 333/2009**

**Animal Health Act**

**TRACEABILITY CATTLE IDENTIFICATION REGULATION**

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**Definitions**

**1** In this Regulation,

- (a) “actual birth date” means the day, month and year of birth of a calf;
- (b) “approved tag” means a tag that meets the requirements of the *Health of Animals Regulations* (Canada);
- (c) “calving start date” means the day, month and year of the birth of the first calf born as part of a herd or as part of a group within a herd;
- (d) “Canadian Livestock Tracking System” means the database operated by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency;
- (e) “cattle identifier” means any one of the following identifiers that uniquely identifies a head of cattle:
  - (i) a production dangle tag;

- (ii) a tattoo;
- (iii) any other identifier acceptable to the Minister;
- (f) “dairy farm” means an operation, including the buildings and land occupied or used in connection with the production of milk, where dairy cattle are kept and part or all of the milk obtained from the dairy cattle is sold, offered for sale or supplied for human consumption;
- (g) “farm of origin” has the meaning set out in the *Health of Animals Regulations* (Canada);
- (h) “feedlot” means an operation that feeds 1000 or more head of cattle annually and is operated in whole or in part for the purposes of growing or finishing cattle by means other than grazing, but does not include
  - (i) an overwintering site where cattle are fed and sheltered,
  - (ii) a dairy farm, or
  - (iii) a site for breeding cattle and their offspring;
- (i) “premises identification number” means a premises identification number as defined in the *Premises Identification Regulation* (AR 200/2008).

AR 333/2009 s1;135/2014

**Application**

**2** This Regulation applies to

- (a) all cattle born in Alberta on or after January 1, 2009, and
- (b) all cattle that enter a feedlot, regardless of age or origin.

**Birth dates**

**3** A cattle owner must record the birth dates of cattle by using the actual birth date or the calving start date.

**Identifying cattle**

**4(1)** If a cattle owner records birth dates by actual birth date, the cattle owner must ensure that calves are identified within 3 months of each calf’s actual birth date using either an approved tag or a cattle identifier.

(2) If a cattle owner chooses to identify a calf with a cattle identifier under subsection (1), the cattle owner must tag the calf with an approved tag within 10 months of the calf's actual birth date, or before each calf leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first.

(3) If a cattle owner records birth dates by calving start date, a cattle owner must ensure that calves are tagged with an approved tag within 10 months of each calf's calving start date, or before each calf leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first.

#### **Exemption**

**5** A cattle owner may move cattle without an approved tag to a site that meets the requirements of the *Health of Animals Regulations* (Canada) for the purposes of having an approved tag applied to each head of cattle at that site and must apply an approved tag within 10 months of the actual birth date or calving start date for that head of cattle.

#### **Records**

**6(1)** If a cattle owner records birth dates by actual birth date, the cattle owner must create on-farm records that include the following:

- (a) each calf's actual birth date;
- (b) either the cattle identifier or approved tag number, whichever is applied to identify each calf under section 4(1).

(2) The records referred to under subsection (1) must be created at the same time each calf is tagged or identified.

(3) In addition to the records referred to under subsection (1), if a cattle owner applies an approved tag to a calf in accordance with section 4(2), the cattle owner must record the approved tag number as part of the on-farm records created under subsection (1).

(4) If a cattle owner records birth dates by calving start date, the cattle owner must create on-farm records that include the following:

- (a) each calf's calving start date;
- (b) the approved tag number applied to each calf under section 4(3);
- (c) the method by which the calving start date was determined.

(5) The records referred to under subsection (4) must be created at the same time each calf is identified.

### Reporting

**7(1)** If a cattle owner records birth dates by actual birth date, the cattle owner must report the following information to the Minister within 10 months of each calf's actual birth date, or before each calf leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first:

- (a) the premises identification number of the premises where the calf was born;
- (b) the approved tag number applied to the calf;
- (c) the actual birth date of the calf.

**(2)** If a cattle owner records birth dates by calving start date, the cattle owner must report the following information to the Minister within 10 months of each calf's calving start date, or before each calf leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first:

- (a) the premises identification number of the premises where the calf was born;
- (b) the approved tag number applied to the calf;
- (c) the calving start date for the calf.

### Feedlots

**8** A feedlot owner must identify each head of cattle by recording and reporting all of the following information to the Minister within 7 days of the date each head of cattle moves into the feedlot:

- (a) the premises identification number for the feedlot;
- (b) the approved tag number and move-in date for each head of cattle that moved into the feedlot.

### Retagging

**9** A person who owns, possesses or has the care or control of a head of cattle that does not bear an approved tag or has lost its approved tag must

- (a) apply a new approved tag in accordance with the *Health of Animals Regulations* (Canada),
- (b) create a record that includes

- (i) the date the new approved tag is applied to the head of cattle,
- (ii) the new approved tag number, and
- (iii) the number of the previously applied approved tag, if available,

and

- (c) report the information referred to in clause (b) to the Minister within 30 days of the date the new approved tag is applied, or before the date each head of cattle leaves the premises, whichever is earlier, and within 7 days of the date the new approved tag is applied by the feedlot owner, or before each head of cattle leaves the feedlot, whichever is earlier.

#### **Re-reporting birth dates**

**10(1)** If a head of cattle that is less than 18 months of age and still on the farm of origin is retagged in accordance with section 9, the cattle owner must report that head of cattle's birth date to the Minister as

- (a) the actual birth date, if that head of cattle still has the cattle identifier and the cattle owner has the records required under section 6(1) that associates the actual birth date with the cattle identifier, or
- (b) the calving start date, if that head of cattle does not have a cattle identifier.

**(2)** If a head of cattle that is 18 months of age or older and still on the farm of origin is retagged in accordance with section 9, the cattle owner must report the birth date of that head of cattle to the Minister if that head of cattle has a cattle identifier and the cattle owner has the records required under section 6(1) or (4) that associate the actual birth date or the calving start date with the cattle identifier.

#### **Records**

**11** Any person who is required to identify cattle under this Regulation must

- (a) retain records containing each head of cattle's approved tag number and cattle identifier,

- (b) correlate records required by section 6, 8 or 9, as applicable, with records retained in clause (a) for each head of cattle, and
- (c) provide a copy of the records referred to in this section to the Minister on request.

#### **Reporting into the Canadian Livestock Tracking System**

**12** Cattle owners and feedlot owners must comply with the reporting requirements of this Regulation, except the requirements of section 11(c), by reporting the required information into the Canadian Livestock Tracking System.

#### **Offence**

**13(1)** No person shall create false records or provide false information to the Minister or to the Canadian Livestock Tracking System for the purposes of this Regulation.

**(2)** Any person who contravenes section 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 is guilty of an offence.

**14** Repealed AR 135/2014 s3.

#### **Expiry**

**15** For the purpose of ensuring that this Regulation is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or an amended form following a review, this Regulation expires on January 31, 2022.

AR 333/2009 s15;135/2014;3/2017;141/2018

**16** Repealed AR 135/2014 s5.









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