



DairyTrace Frequently Asked Questions December 2019

What is livestock traceability in Canada?

Livestock traceability is the ability to follow one animal or a group of animals from one point in the supply chain to another. These systems are based on three basic pillars:

- Premises Identification (the identification of sites where animals are born, kept, assembled or disposed);
- Animal Identification (a unique identification number applied to animals or groups of animals); and,
- Animal Movement (the reporting of animal identification and premises identification to associate animals to locations they came from and/or went to).

Livestock traceability in Canada is largely guided by regulatory requirements at the Federal level, though both provincial/territorial governments and livestock industry partners collaborate and contribute to the system via voluntary and mandatory approaches.

For a more detailed overview of traceability in Canada, please reference the following site:
<https://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/traceability/eng/1300461751002/1300461804752>

What is DairyTrace?

The DairyTrace Program is run by Lactanet Canada (formerly Canadian Dairy Network, CDN) in partnership with the Dairy Farmers of Canada to capture and administer all traceability information for dairy cattle across Canada. The DairyTrace System will be the technical database for collecting and storing this data for emergency management purposes, as well as other industry value-added purposes, and it will also report required regulatory data to the Federal Government for the protection of animal health, public health and food safety.

When will DairyTrace launch and go live?

Lactanet Canada is working towards becoming the official Responsible Administrator for all dairy cattle traceability information in Canada. While there remain several details to be completed, it is expected that the DairyTrace system will coincide with the signing of the Responsible Administrator agreement, which is expected later in 2020.

How does DairyTrace link with proAction requirements?

Through proAction, farmers are encouraged to report their traceability data to the national traceability database. Currently, that database is the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) administered by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency. When DairyTrace is up and running, farmers will report their data to DairyTrace. The DairyTrace system will be your one-stop-shop for all dairy traceability recording and reporting.



Currently, I report my traceability data to the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS), why is the sector switching to DairyTrace and how will the change be managed? What will it mean for my daily reporting?

Lactanet Canada is working towards becoming the Responsible Administrator of dairy cattle traceability information for Canada. At such time as the agreement is signed with the Federal Government, CCIA would cease to be the responsible administrator for dairy cattle (although they will still be the responsible administrator for beef cattle). Through a signed agreement, data will be able to flow from CCIA to DairyTrace and back again as needed. The information that producers currently report will still be able to be sent to CCIA for beef cattle but for dairy cattle it will need to be sent to DairyTrace from that point forward.

How will I report my Traceability events to DairyTrace?

Some on-farm herd management software programs, such as DairyComp or Lac-T, will be capable of reporting to DairyTrace for you automatically. DairyTrace will provide a list of software programs that offer this. Other industry partners, such as Holstein Canada, send tag activation event information to the responsible administrator for dairy cattle traceability in Canada on your behalf, for registered animals. Another option is for you to report directly to the DairyTrace system. Options available will be the DairyTrace website (under development) or by contacting DairyTrace customer service by phone, fax or email (under development). Please note it is your responsibility to ensure you have respected the recording and reporting deadlines (i.e.: tag activations must be recorded within 7 days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first, and then must be reported to the national database within 45 days after birth).

How do traceability requirements differ in Quebec?

Quebec has its own provincial traceability regulations and that data is collected by Agri- Traçabilité Québec (ATQ) in their SimpliTrace database. This will continue to be the case, and once agreements are in place, ATQ will share required data for the national traceability regulations and for proAction with DairyTrace.

How is DairyTrace funded?

As a key partner in the establishment of the DairyTrace Program, Dairy Farmers of Canada has applied for and received Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for the first five years of the DairyTrace Program, which ends in March 2023. During this initial funding period DairyTrace will establish a financial forecast and plan to ensure that DairyTrace becomes a self sustainable program.

Who can I talk to if I have questions?

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