

## proAction® Traceability 101

The proAction program requirements benefit the dairy industry as they provide on-farm transparency, food safety and security for consumers. In addition to Food Safety requirements (CQM), starting in September 2017, producers will also be required to meet Livestock Traceability and Animal Care requirements. The proAction requirements are primarily the responsibility of the dairy producers across Canada.



## **Dairy Shows**

As it relates to Livestock Traceability, fair, exhibition and/ or show ground organizers can help play an active role in dairy traceability. Currently, the province of Quebec has legislation in place to facilitate the recording and reporting of animal move-ins for shows. In the other provinces, this legislation is not yet in place and therefore it is not mandatory for show organizers to report the move-in of animals onto the grounds, but it is encouraged. However, producers in all provinces **ARE** required to record and report animal move-ins when their animals return back to their farms. As such, show facilities and show organizers are encouraged to have a Premises-Identification number, and to display the facility's Premises-ID where it is easy to access for exhibitors

Some suggestions for where this information might be posted are: at the exhibitor entrance, in the fair office, on the event or facility website, or in emails or communications leading up to the event, to name a few. As the Canadian and Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) reviews their regulations, there may be amendments made that will require all fairgrounds to record and report animal move-ins. For now, the dairy industry, led by DFC, will be requiring this to be done on all Canadian dairy farms in advance of the proposed CFIA regulation changes, which are expected to occur in 2018.

## **Traveling Long Distances for Shows and Sales**

Some producers travel a long distance with animals for a show or sale, and require a stop at someone's farm to milk, water, and/or rest animals. In this case, the producer or owner who is hosting or facilitating the "resting station" is required to record and report the move-in of those animals. Although the animals are not staying on-farm for very long, there is potential for cross contamination and therefore animals must be officially reported and recorded as moved-in.

Producers that show across the border must record and report a temporary export event. This is used to report the identification of an approved tag applied to an animal that is being temporarily shipped outside of Canada. When this animal returns to Canada, an import event must be reported to move the tag numbers back into the farm's animal inventory.

Please remember that dairy animals are required to be dual-tagged, it is the dairy standard. If a dairy animal is missing its secondary tag, it is recommended that you have back up identification (photo or generic tag) to avoid not knowing who the animal is if the other tag is lost. She can still be sold or taken to a show if one of the following is true:

- If the dairy animal still has the official RFID tag set, she is okay to be sold and/or shown.
- If the dairy animal is missing the RFID tag set, and time allows for a replacement tag to be ordered order a re-printed tag.
- If the dairy animal is missing the RFID tag set and there is no time to get a replacement tag, she may be tagged with another RDIF tag set. However, the new unique lifetime number is matched up with the old unique lifetime number. This process is called cross-referencing and must be reported to the tracking database (CLTS/SimpliTrace).

Remember, any time an animal leaves the farm temporarily for a show or any other reason, you MUST report the move-in event when the animal returns to the farm within seven (7) days following the arrival of the animal or before it leaves the farm, whichever comes first.

## Resources

CLTS - http://www.clia.livestockid.ca

ATQ – <u>www.atq.qc.ca</u> (for Quebec farmers)

List of Ontario Agricultural Societies and Fairgrounds with Premises-ID





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