



# proAction® Traceability 101

Tagging animals is an important pillar of traceability and herd management. Starting September 1st 2017 it is required that all dairy animals be dual-tagged with Nationally Approved tags within seven (7) days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm of origin, whichever occurs first.

**Dual Tagging** is the standard for dairy cattle traceability and herdbook registration. Tagging young calves at birth provides an efficient way to permanently identify the animal with a unique number.



## Preparing for Identification

Nationally approved tags are provided by Agri-Traçabilité Québec (ATQ) in Quebec or the National Livestock Identification for Dairy (NLID) for remaining provinces. Tags are available directly through ATQ in Quebec or NLID for remaining provinces. Contact NLID / ATQ for dairy cow/calf tags:

NLID: 1-877-771-6543

ATQ: 1-866-270-4319

## Dairy Animals Born on the Farm

Tagging animals at birth is essential to maintain records and is the basis of livestock traceability systems, as animals registered in the herd must be individually identified at birth. Tagging at birth provides a unique number that will follow the animal through its life, from the farm of origin to the abattoir. Livestock traceability requires an animal to be tagged within seven (7) days, or before the animal leaves the farm (whichever comes first) to avoid calf confusion.

Any calves born on the farm and destined for the beef industry may be identified with a single RFID ear tag / approved beef tags (except for provinces that require dual-tagging). Contact CCIA at 1-877-909-2333 or your local tag dealer.

Once the animal is tagged, the tag needs to be activated.

**TAG ACTIVATION = associating a unique identification number and date of birth to an animal on a premises ID number.**

Record animal birth in your herd records and report animal birth to the national traceability database. Reporting to the national traceability database will activate tags and this must be done within 45 days of birth. **As a 3rd party Holstein Canada will continue to send tag activation event information to the tracking data base on your behalf for registered animals.** When animal registrations are completed prior to 45 days you will meet the traceability requirements. Information needed to activate their tags is the animal's identification number – 15 digits, date of birth and the premises identification of where the animal was born.



Both RFID and visual tag sets bear the same unique identification which becomes the animal registration number once herdbook registered.

For more information on proAction Livestock Traceability, please review the below resources or contact your proAction Provincial Coordinator.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

[Identification of animals imported from the USA](#)

[proAction Traceability Provincial Coordinators](#)

**NATIONAL TRACEABILITY DATABASE: CCIA** – [www.clia.livestockid.ca](http://www.clia.livestockid.ca) or **ATQ** – [www.atq.qc.ca](http://www.atq.qc.ca) for Quebec farmers

**DAIRY BREED HERDBOOK:** contact your breed association



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