



# proAction® Traceability 101



To ensure uninterrupted animal identification, facilitate verification by all service agencies and meet Dairy Animal Identification requirements for Livestock Traceability, it is important to promptly replace any lost tags.

If one tag is lost, the remaining tag still enables official identification of the animal. However, as of September 1, 2017, dual-tagging is the requirement and therefore it is your responsibility as the owner to promptly order and apply the replacement tags.

## What do I do if my dairy animal has lost one of its official tags? (NLID or ATQ)

Order a replacement tag from NLID, or ATQ in Quebec, with the same number as the remaining tag. Be sure to indicate which tag you require, panel or RFID button. When the tag arrives, check that the number of the replacement tag matches the original and apply immediately. Select a new tagging site if the previous hole is enlarged or on the outer surface of the ear. \*It is advisable to attach a generic tag, a photo, or sketch for backup until the replacement is attached.

## What do I do if my dairy animal has lost both of its official tags? (NLID or ATQ)

**Scenario #1:** Both tags are broken, pulled out or missing, and you know the animal's unique identification number because you have a sketch, photo or generic tag as back up identification.

Order a replacement tag set, a new visual panel tag and electronic RFID tag, from NLID or ATQ in Quebec with the animal's original unique ID number. When the tags arrive, check that the number of the replacement tags matches the original number and apply the tags immediately. In this scenario, the animal's identification remains the same and its life history is maintained.

**Scenario #2:** The animal has lost both tags and unique animal identification number is not known. In this case, you can re-identify the animal with a new tag set from your inventory or by ordering a set from NLID or ATQ.

## What do I do if I am moving the animal and do not have the time to wait for the replacement tag(s)?

### You will need to re-identify the dairy animal.

You can use a set from your inventory or order a tag set from NLID or ATQ and report both numbers to the national traceability database for cross-referencing. To cross-reference an animal identification number, both numbers and the re-identifying date must be reported to the national traceability database, and the appropriate breed association for registered animals. This allows the animal's history to remain active, even if its unique identification number has changed.



NLID tags if lost through normal wear and tear are replaced free of charge as part of the program. Quebec producers must contact ATQ to acquire replacement ATQ tags. All replacement tags will have the animal's original lifetime number.

## Properly tagged dairy animals can move off-farm at any time.

To order your tag sets or replacement tags:

Quebec producers: ATQ – 1-866-270-4319 or [www.atq.ca](http://www.atq.ca)

Elsewhere in Canada: NLID – 1-877-771-6543; online through your Holstein web account; or [nlidorder@holstein.ca](mailto:nlidorder@holstein.ca)



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