# Federal Animal Disease Traceability Rule Requirements for Cattle (Effective March 11, 2013)

Version: July 2014; Revised September 2017

Title 9, *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 86 (Animal Disease Traceability) applies only to cattle moving interstate. Cattle moving entirely within a single State, even if in slaughter channels, are <u>not</u> covered by the traceability rule.

## Official ID Methods

1. **Official eartag**—Bears the official eartag shield (shaped graphic of the U.S. Route Shield) with "US" or the State postal code (e.g., PA) or Tribal alpha code within the shield; only <u>one</u> type of official eartag per animal unless in accordance with 9 CFR §86.4; must be one of the following:
   - National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) typically metal tags e.g., 23AAC1234
     · The unique identification number will begin with a two-character alphanumeric code representing the State/Tribe of origin (e.g., 23 for PA, 42 for IA)
     · Silver tags (aka: Bright tags)
     · Brucellosis (Bangs) vaccination tags (orange)
   - Animal Identification Number (AIN) visual identification only or with radio frequency e.g., 840 003 123 234567
     · 15-digit tags starting with 840 for U.S.-born cattle
     · Other AIN formats official through a transition period
       - 900 prefix series tags (e.g., 982, 984) when applied before 3/11/2015
       - "USA" prefix tags when applied before 3/11/2015
   - Location-based numbering system tags, e.g., PA1234 0012 tags with a Premises Identification Number (PIN) or Location Identification Number (LID) and a unique within-herd ID number





**Official Eartag Shield**

*Note: Eartags accepted for imported animals are official ID, are used as the animal's official identification number in the United States, and may not be removed. Official eartags for animals imported from Canada typically start with "124" (Canada's country code). Some tags have "484" for Mexico.*



**NUES Metal Tags**

**Location-Based Tags**

**AIN Tags**

2.  **Brands registered with a recognized brand inspection authority** when the animal is accompanied by an official brand certificate and both the sending and receiving State veterinarians agree to accept this as official ID.
3.  **Tattoos acceptable to a breed association for registration** when the animal is accompanied by the breed registration certificate <u>and</u> sending and receiving State veterinarians agree to accept this as official ID.
4.  **Group/lot identification** which uniquely identifies a unit of animals managed as one group throughout the preharvest production chain.
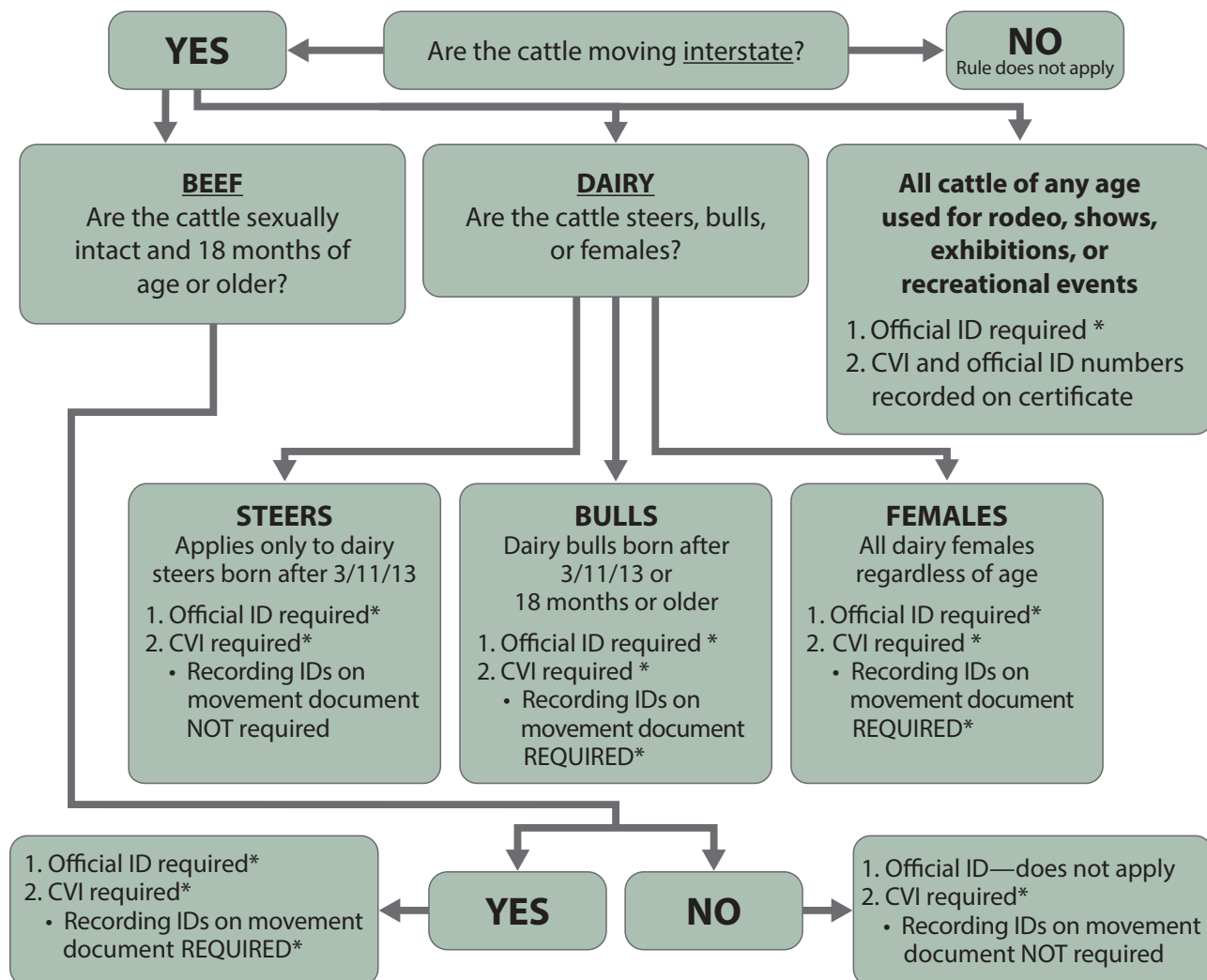


**Official Brand and Inspection Certificate**

*American Jersey Cattle Association*

**Breed Registry Ear Tattoo**

## USDA Approved Backtags



*   While USDA-approved backtags are not an official identification method for cattle, USDA continues to provide backtags to markets, dealers, etc. as was practiced before publication of the traceability rule.
*   Backtag numbers start with two numbers representing the State code (e.g., 84 for CO).
*   USDA-approved backtags may be used instead of official ID when cattle are moved directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment (such as a FSIS, State, or USDA Listed Custom Exempt Slaughter Facility) or directly to an approved livestock facility and then directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment, and are accompanied by an owner-shipper statement.
*   "Direct to slaughter cattle" identified with backtags must be slaughtered within 3 days of arrival at the plant. If held longer, the animal must have an official eartag put in at the plant.

*Note: This is a summary of the official identification requirements for cattle. Please see 9 CFR Part 86 for complete Federal requirements.*

## ADT Rule—Interstate Movement Requirements for Cattle

**Are the cattle moving _interstate_?**

**YES** ← → **NO** — Rule does not apply

**BEEF**
Are the cattle sexually intact and 18 months of age or older?

**DAIRY**
Are the cattle steers, bulls, or females?

**All cattle of any age used for rodeo, shows, exhibitions, or recreational events**
1. Official ID required *
2. CVI and official ID numbers recorded on certificate

**STEERS**
Applies only to dairy steers born after 3/11/13
1. Official ID required*
2. CVI required*
   • Recording IDs on movement document NOT required

**BULLS**
Dairy bulls born after 3/11/13 or 18 months or older
1. Official ID required *
2. CVI required *
   • Recording IDs on movement document REQUIRED*

**FEMALES**
All dairy females regardless of age
1. Official ID required*
2. CVI required *
   • Recording IDs on movement document REQUIRED*

**YES** ← → **NO**

1. Official ID required*
2. CVI required*
   • Recording IDs on movement document REQUIRED*

1. Official ID—does not apply
2. CVI required*
   • Recording IDs on movement document NOT required

**\* See exemptions for official ID, CVIs, and recording IDs on movement documents on the following page**

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**OFFICIAL EARTAGS FOR CATTLE**

1. NUES tags
   • "Bright" tags
   • OCV / Bangs tags (orange)
2. AIN Tags
   • "840" prefix
   • "900" series (mfr. codes) and "USA" prefix (official ID only for tags applied before 3/11/2015)

_See ADT materials for description of all official ID methods and devices for cattle_

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**USDA APPROVED BACKTAGS**

• USDA approved backtags may be used in lieu of official ID for "direct to slaughter" cattle.
• Cattle moved interstate to slaughter on a backtag must be harvested within 3 days of arrival at the plant (otherwise, official ID must be applied).

_Note: Backtags continue to be provided by USDA APHIS VS for use at markets, slaughter plants, etc._

# ADT RULE—Effective March 11, 2013

## EXEMPTIONS TO OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION

Cattle are exempt from official identification when moved as follows:
1. Directly from a location in one State through another State to a second location in the original State.
2. Directly to an approved tagging site with official identification in accordance with established protocols.
3. Between shipping and receiving States or Tribes with another form of identification, as agreed upon by animal health officials in the shipping and receiving States or Tribes.
4. Directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment or directly to no more than one approved livestock facility and then to a recognized slaughter establishment.

## EXEMPTIONS TO CVI REQUIREMENTS

CVIs are not required for the following movements:
1. Directly to slaughter or to slaughter through one market
2. Directly to an approved livestock facility with an owner-shipper statement
3. To a veterinary clinic for medical examination or treatment
4. As a commuter herd with commuter herd agreement
5. When a movement document other than a CVI is agreed upon by shipping and receiving State officials

## EXEMPTIONS TO RECORDING OFFICIAL ID NUMBERS ON MOVEMENT DOCUMENTS

Official ID numbers do not need to be recorded on movement documents for the following:
1. Cattle moving to slaughter
2. Steers or spayed heifers
3. Sexually intact beef cattle under 18 months

**These exemptions <u>do not apply</u> to cattle used in rodeos, shows, exhibitions, or recreational events. See ADT documents for full explanation.**