



SD ANIMAL INDUSTRY BOARD

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USDA Silver Metal Tag Application for South Dakota Producers

USDA silver metal tags, also known as National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags, are considered official identification. Each South Dakota tag has a 9-digit individual number that starts with "46" - the SD State Code. Official tags can be recognized by the presence of the US shield pictured below:



Producers may apply these tags for official identification purposes in South Dakota only. The tags are to be applied (as shown below) to the right ear in cattle and bison only.



Producers may obtain tags and applicators from their local veterinarian. The tags come in boxes of 100. There are 25 serially numbered tags to a strip. Applicators may be available for distribution - one per producer if available.



If an animal already has an official tag, do not double tag or remove the existing tag. State and Federal law prohibits the removal of official identification from livestock. Record the existing tag number in your records.

Tags assigned to you are for your use only and are not to be redistributed, shared, or traded to other producers.

Please report any lost or stolen tags to the SDAIB at the phone number above.

State and Federal regulations prohibit the removal of official ear tags. If there is a problem with a certain official tag on an animal, please notify the SDAIB.

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