



Obtaining Premises IDs and Official Tags

Official identification is fundamental to traceability and animal disease programs. Cattle, sheep, goats, swine and other livestock are subject to official identification requirements as outlined by the USDA and TAHC regulations.

Before an official identification device can be ordered, authorized veterinarians, applicators, or livestock owners must be assigned a nationally unique number. Once the nationally unique number has been assigned, the requestor will be able to order official identification.

There are three nationally recognized identification number options; Premised Identification Numbers (PINs), Location Identification Numbers (LIDs), and Scrapie Flock Identification Numbers.

Premises Identification Numbers

A national premises identification number (PIN) is a unique number, permanently assigned to a physical address where agricultural animals are located. All owner and premises information collected is stored and maintained in a federal database. Texas utilizes the USDA-APHIS provided Standardized Premises Identification System to obtain a PIN from the federal allocator. A PIN consists of seven alphanumeric characters, beginning with two zeros.

To obtain a PIN, contact the TAHC Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) Department at 1-800-550-8242 ext. 733.

Location Identification Numbers

Texas has a state system and process for issuing a location identification number (LID). A LID is assigned to an owner's contact and operation information, and then stored in a state administered database. The information collected is not shared with the federal system, only the LID number is reported to the federal system as a valid number. All LIDs start with the state postal abbreviation (TX) followed by six random alphanumeric characters, which makes the LIDs nationally unique.

To obtain a LID, contact the TAHC ADT Department at 1-800-550-8242 ext. 733 or contact your local TAHC region office.

Scrapie Flock Identification Numbers

A scrapie flock identification number is a unique number, permanently assigned to a group of animals managed as a unit on one or more premises and under the same ownership. The flock ID number must be recorded in and linked to one or more PINs or LIDs in the National Scrapie Database.

To obtain a scrapie flock identification number, contact the TAHC ADT Department - Scrapie Program at 866-873-2824.

A complete list of acceptable identification devices/methods are available on the TAHC website, <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/adt/#identification>. Producers are encouraged to contact their veterinarian or the TAHC to determine which method of tagging will be best for their operation.

For additional information or questions, contact the TAHC Animal Disease Traceability Department toll free at 1-800-550-8242 ext. 733, or 512-719-0733, or by email at animal_id@tahc.texas.gov.