



# Proposed federal livestock identification and traceability regulations

## Second round of consultation

### Executive overview

2015-05-13

#### Context

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is advancing proposed amendments to Part XV (Animal Identification) of the *Health of Animals Regulations* through a second round of stakeholder consultations. The proposed amendments consist mainly of requirements for identifying and reporting the movement of bison, bovine, caprine, cervid, ovine and pigs. The authority for the proposed amendments is provided under the *Health of Animals Act*.

The objectives of the national livestock identification and traceability system are to provide timely, accurate, and relevant information to mitigate the impact of a sanitary issue or a natural disaster; and to support market access, competitiveness and consumer confidence.

#### Consultation period

This second round of consultation is being launched on 13 May 2015 with an anticipated end date of 26 June 2015. Comments on the proposed requirements together with responses to questions raised during the consultation are to be submitted to the following email address: [trace@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:trace@inspection.gc.ca).

#### Documents supporting the consultation

The following documents are provided to support this second round of consultation:

- Overview on a federal livestock identification and traceability regulatory proposal. Second round of consultation: Consultation paper



- The purpose of this document is to solicit feedback on proposed requirements and invites responses to key questions on program design and compliance verification.
- Livestock identification and traceability regulatory proposal. Reference document for second round of consultations:
  - The purpose of this document is to help stakeholders understand the main objectives and anticipated outcomes of the proposed regulations, the international context, and the current state of traceability development in Canada.
- Evaluation of Three Livestock Movement Reporting Options to Support Tracing Investigations Following a Sanitary Issue in Canada.
  - The purpose of this document is to demonstrate the efficacy of three movement reporting options implemented at farms, feedlots, intermediate sites and terminal sites in supporting traceability investigations following the detection of foot-and-mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a bovine.

Copies of the above-mentioned documents will be circulated during the consultation phase and are available upon request at: [trace@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:trace@inspection.gc.ca).

#### Summary of proposed regulatory requirements

*The following is a high-level summary, and stakeholders are invited to review and comment the consultation documents.*

Every person who owns or has the possession, care or control of bison, bovine, caprine, cervid, ovine and pig would be impacted by the proposed regulations. Animals that have been crossed with species subject to Part XV requirements would be subject to part XV requirements. The depth of the proposed regulations covers from the birth or import of animals, to their death or export.

Under the proposed regulations, operators of all sites would be required to report the receipt of individual animals and dead stock, namely the identification number of approved indicators applied to the animals; the date and time at which the animals were unloaded for the vehicle; and the identification number of the site (premises) where the animals were loaded into the vehicle before arriving at destination. There are exceptions to these proposed requirements: cervid producers would be required to report the individual departure and not the receipt of their cervids from their farms; operators of auctions, assembly yards, community pastures and



buying stations would be granted more time to meet those requirements, in the meantime, they would be required to report the receipt of animals as a group.

The requirement to record the departure of ovine 18 months and older from a farm would be repealed. Ovine and caprine 18 months and younger moved directly from the farm of origin to an abattoir would be required to be identified with an approved indicator bearing a number unique to the animal or their herd (site) of origin.

The prohibition to receive animals not bearing an approved indicator would be repealed. However, the requirement to identify an animal received and not bearing an approved indicator would be maintained.

A document, paper or electronic, would be required to accompany all movements of livestock and dead stock, with the exception of movements within a farm. The document would include information on the location of the departure and destination site, the date and time of animal loading and the license plate of the vehicle. A copy of the document would be kept for two years by the operator of the departure site, the operator of the destination site and the carrier. One of the objectives of this requirement is to support compliance for operators of destination sites to report the location of the animals' departure site.

The prohibition to transport animals not bearing approved indicators would be amended to support compliance. Determining that all animals loaded into a vehicle are bearing approved indicators may be difficult to achieve due to factors such as darkness, speed of loading, and visibility of approved indicators.

When reporting the movement of livestock, the operator of a site would be required to provide the identification number of the loading site (premises). *De facto*, through this requirement, the identification of premises where animals are loaded and unloaded from vehicles would become mandatory through federal requirements. Provincial and territorial governments would still be responsible for the identification of premises, and the validation of premises information. Premises already identified by provincial and territorial governments would not need to be re-identified through these proposed regulations. Four type of information would be required to be reported for each identified premises: (a) the physical location of the site (legal land description or, in its absence, geo-referenced coordinates); (b) the type of operation(s) at that site (e.g. abattoir); (c) the animal species kept at that site, and; (d) the contact name and contact coordinates for that site.

All information related to an event (e.g. the receipt of an animal) and required to be reported would be reported to an administrator responsible for the species. It is anticipated that all



responsible administrators will use the services of a single database, Trace-Canada, to receive, store and manage traceability information. With few exceptions, there would be a blanket requirement that all events need to be reported within seven days after the event occurred.

To support compliance verification, all information required to be reported to responsible administrators would need to be kept in records on-site for a period of five years.

The identification of caprine and farmed cervids would be required before the animals leave their farm of birth (of origin). Exceptionally, farmed cervids would be required to bear two approved indicators bearing the same identification number.

The sale of indicators would not only be referenced to the mailing address of the purchaser but also the physical location where the indicator was applied to the animal. The distributors and dealers of approved indicators would not only be required to report the sale of approved indicators but also to record this information.

A confirmation that an approved indicator has been applied to an animal would be required to be reported before the animal leave a site or the farm of origin. The application of an approved indicator to an animal received at a site would be required to be reported, regardless of the reason why the animal is not identified.

The regulations would specify the conditions at which the identification number of an approved indicator shall be unique to an animal or to a site.

Operators of abattoirs would no longer be exempted from reporting the identification number of foreign indicators applied to animals imported for immediate slaughter.

Information on the disposal of dead stock identified with an approved indicator would not only be required to be recorded but also reported. The disposal of dead stock that is not identified with an approved indicator and that has not been transported off-site would still not be required to be recorded or reported.

The foreign location at a sub-national level from where an animal was imported would be reported. The possibility of identifying an animal with a Canadian approved indicator before its importation into Canada would be repealed.

The foreign location at a sub-national level to which an animal was exported would be reported.

#### Next steps



Comments for this second consultation will be reviewed. It is expected that a summary of the comments received and the basis for the proposed regulations will be shared with stakeholders this summer.