



Minnesota Board of Animal Health

Official Identification for Cattle and Bison

For Import, Exhibition and Movement within Minnesota

The following are current forms of acceptable official identification for cattle moving into and within Minnesota for any purpose:

USDA Metal Tag



Commonly referred to as a "Silver" or "Brite" tag. Begins with '41' (numeric code for Minnesota).

840 RFID and Non-RFID Tags



840-series tags are comprised of 15 digits; '840' are the first three digits (numeric code for USA). Both Radio Frequency ID (RFID) and non-RFID '840' tags are official.

982 and 985 Manufacturer RFID Tags



Manufacturer RFID tags with the first three digits of '982' and '985' are currently being

accepted as official ID; however, these tags will not be accepted in the future. Producers are asked to discontinue use of these tags as soon as possible.

Plastic '41' Tag



A new alternative to USDA metal tags, these easy-to-read tags use the same numbering system.

USDA Brucellosis "Bangs" Tag



Orange metal ear tags are placed in the ears of cattle after they have been vaccinated for brucellosis.

Breed Registry Tattoos

Breed registry tattoos are acceptable if accompanied by a breed registration number or a veterinarian statement such as, "this animal is registered with the [insert breed association here]." Pending registrations are not acceptable.