

## Official Identification for Sheep and Goats

*Official identification may not be removed from an animal once it is applied*

The identification methods and devices shown on this document are approved for interstate movement and movement within Minnesota, including exhibition.

### TAGS

Official ear tags for sheep and goats must display the US shield. Free ear tags are available by calling 1-866-USDA-TAG or by ordering on-line at <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/official-id-tags-sheep-goats>.

#### Flock identification (ID) Tags

- Includes the flock ID number beginning with state abbreviation (maximum nine characters, including state abbreviation) along with a unique herd management number (maximum six characters)
- Available in plastic or metal



#### Sheep/Goat Serial Tags

- For use at livestock markets or by accredited veterinarians
- Begins with state abbreviation; eight characters total, last four or five are numerical
- Available in plastic or metal



#### AIN (Animal identification number) Tags

- Include 15 digits, beginning with '840' prefix
- Visual-only or tags with RFID technology are available
- Includes 4-H tags that have 15 digits, beginning with an '840' prefix

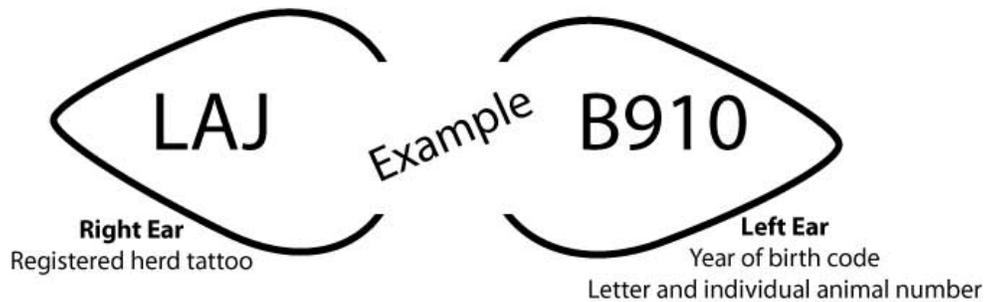


## TATTOOS

For any tattoo to be considered as official identification, it must be legible.

### Registered sheep/goats

- Breed registry tattoos that are recorded with a sheep or goat registry association
- Upon movement, the animal must be accompanied by a copy of the registration certificate or a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection listing tattoo and registration numbers



### Non-registered sheep/goats

- State-approved tattoos that are recorded with state animal health officials
- Tattoo must include the state-approved prefix beginning with the state abbreviation and include a unique animal number
- Upon movement, the animal must be accompanied by either:
  1. A Board-issued document certifying that the tattoo prefix is recorded with the Board or,
  2. For animals originating outside of Minnesota, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection which:
    - a) Certifies that the tattoo prefix is assigned in the National Scrapie Database, and
    - b) Lists the flock ID number and the complete tattoo number (including the state-assigned prefix and the animal number).

Call the Board at 651-201-6809 to record a tattoo or find out if a tattoo is already recorded.

