

Official Identification for Cattle and Bison

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

National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)

- Begins with the official state number – ‘41’ for Minnesota
 - In compliance with federal law, metal NUES tags **must display the U.S. shield** if applied to an animal March 11, 2015 or after
 - Purchase plastic tags - Call Leedstone at (877) 608-3877 or the MN Dairy Herd Improvement Association at (800) 827-3442
 - Order metal tags - Call the Board at (651) 201-6836 or visit www.mn.gov/bah



Animal Identification Number (AIN) System

- Consists of 15 digits beginning with the official country code - ‘840’ for the United States
 - In compliance with federal law, AIN tags **must display the U.S. shield** if applied to an animal March 11, 2015 or after
 - 4-H tags available by contacting your county extension office
- 15-digit tags beginning with the letters ‘USA’ or manufacturer-coded tags beginning with any number between 900 – 998 **are only official if applied to the animal prior to March 11, 2015**



American Identification Number System

- These tags are only official if applied to the animal prior to March 11, 2015
- Combines ‘USA’ with 8 or 9 digits
- Includes the National Farm Animal Identification and Records (FAIR)
 - Administered by Holstein Association USA, Inc.



Breed Registry Tattoos and Tags

- Acceptable for **within-state movement** if accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration number. Pending registrations are not acceptable. **Limited use for imports** – see www.mn.gov/bah for more information.

3/2015