

OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION OF SHEEP AND GOATS IN OKLAHOMA

Who may identify sheep and goats?

- Producers
- Licensed livestock dealers
- Approved livestock markets

What animals must be identified?

All sheep and goats of any age being moved for:

- Sale
- Exhibition
- Slaughter
- Change of Ownership
- Interstate Movement

Unidentified animals arriving at livestock auctions and special sales must be identified before sale.

Each of the following qualifies as official identification:

- An official USDA tag (obtained from the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry).
- Legible official dairy goat registry tattoo (**only if the animal is accompanied by a registration certificate**).
- For animals not suitable for eartagging, legible flank or tail-web tattoo containing the premise ID and individual animal number. **Illegible tattoos will be considered as no identification.**
- Scrapie Flock Certification Program tags obtained through the area USDA office.

What is the Scrapie Flock Certification Program?

The Scrapie Flock Certification Program is a **voluntary** 5 year certification program for those producers wanting to certify that their flocks/herds are free of Scrapie. The owner pays for the tags used for this program. You may indicate on the Tag Request form or call the Oklahoma USDA office (405) 427-9413 for information on this program.

Do my animals have to be tested for Scrapie?

No, there is no official live animal test for Scrapie at this time. Many owners are having blood samples collected for genetic testing in their sheep to help them with selective breeding for resistance against Scrapie. This genetic testing is paid for by the owner and is highly recommended for breeding flocks.

How are official USDA eartags obtained?

- Tag request forms can be obtained from the ODAFF (405)522-6131.
- Complete and sign tag request form (incomplete forms will not be processed).
- Return form to ODAFF, Animal Industry Services (address on form).
- Tagging pliers will be provided with the first order; any additional pliers can be purchased from ODAFF.

How is a premise ID obtained?

- Complete, sign and submit a tag request form to ODAFF.
- Forms may be obtained by calling (405) 522-6131.

Should I retag an already identified animal that I purchase?

- No, never remove official identification and do not apply additional official ID.
- Animals that lose their official ID may be retagged. (Record previous ID if known.)

Do I have to identify all the animals I own now, or only before I move them?

You do not have to identify your animals until they are to be exhibited, change ownership, move to a sale, market or slaughter.

The following records are required to be kept for five (5) years:

Animals that are tagged by owners:

- Date the animals were tagged
- Tag numbers applied
- Breed, age, sex

Animals that are tagged by veterinarians, livestock markets or special sales:

- Date the animals were tagged
- Tag numbers applied
- Breed, age, sex
- Owner name, address, phone number

Purchased animals:

- Animal ID, name, address and phone number whom purchased from
- Animal ID, name, address and phone number of person or market animal sold to
- Date of acquisition or sale
- Breed, age, sex