

Traceability in Alberta



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Traceability and Transporting Alberta Sheep

Traceability is a crucial component of an effective animal health and food safety system that enables precise and rapid emergency response to protect livestock, producers and consumers. Determining where livestock are, where they have been and what other livestock they have come into contact with allows for efficient emergency planning and response. Traceability in Alberta relies on the three fundamental pillars of premises identification, animal identification and animal movement.

Livestock Traceability – Protecting an Industry

Livestock traceability is the process of tracking individual or groups of livestock and poultry throughout their lifetime. Tracking this information is important when responding to emergencies such as disease outbreaks, floods or fires because traceability systems help determine where animals are, where they have been and what other animals they could have potentially come into contact with.

With accurate movement records, industry and government are able to identify and contain disease-exposed animals more quickly, which reduces the risk of the disease spreading to other animals. Healthy animals not affected by the disease outbreak can be moved through the production chain, and commerce can continue for unaffected producers.

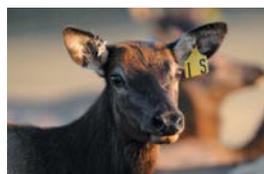
Traceability is part of responsible animal management that helps protect your investment and the operations of other Alberta and Canadian producers. Traceability in Alberta is authorized under Alberta's *Animal Health Act*. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) works with industry and all levels of government to advance traceability in Alberta and Canada.

Transportation Regulations

In Canada, sheep must be transported in accordance with the federal *Health of Animals Act*, which requires all sheep be identified by an approved tag applied to the animal before it is moved from its farm of origin. Under Alberta's *Livestock Identification and Commerce Act* (LICA), Alberta sheep transported or driven within the province or to a destination outside the province must have an Alberta Livestock Manifest accompanying the animals. Alberta's delegated authority, Livestock Identification Services Ltd. (LIS), is responsible for the transportation documentation under LICA, which is the Alberta Livestock Manifest.



Photo credit: T. Hagedorn



Transporting Out-of-province Sheep in Alberta

The Alberta Livestock Manifest requirements of LICA do not apply to persons who transport sheep into or through Alberta from an originating point outside Alberta so long as:

- the originating jurisdiction requires the sheep to be accompanied with documentation to be transported out of that jurisdiction; and
- the sheep are accompanied with that documentation.

The exemption that allows sheep to move into or through Alberta on out-of-province documentation expires when the sheep stop in Alberta for a purpose other than rest.

If out-of-province sheep stop in Alberta for a purpose other than rest, the location where the sheep stop should be considered the originating point when completing an Alberta Livestock Manifest.

For More Information

To contact a local LIS Livestock Inspector:

LIS Livestock Inspectors are available at LIS Field Offices across Alberta. To obtain a complete listing of the field offices, visit www.lis-alberta.com or call 1-866-509-2088.

For additional information on this factsheet:

Livestock Identification Services Ltd. (LIS)
109, 264 Midpark Way S.E.
Calgary, AB T2X 1J6
1-866-509-2088
www.lis-alberta.com



For general traceability inquiries:

Alberta Ag-Info Centre
Toll free in Alberta: 310-FARM (3276)
www.agriculture.alberta.ca/traceability

For more publications and information:

- Traceability in Alberta Overview
- Traceability and the Sheep Industry
- Traceability and Transporting Alberta Cattle (Agdex 420/843-2)
- Traceability and Transporting Alberta Horses (Agdex 460/843-1)
- Alberta legislation at www.qp.alberta.ca

