

UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2005

RESOLUTION: 6 & 47 Combined APPROVED AS AMENDED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION
COMMITTEE ON SCRAPIE

SUBJECT MATTER: TIMELY PREMISES REGISTRATION – STATE AND
FEDERAL

DATES: Hershey, Pennsylvania – November 3-9, 2005

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), in cooperation with the states, administers disease control and eradication programs. These programs require the identification of animals for testing, monitoring, or surveillance purposes. Registration of premises in the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is currently voluntary, and it will take significant time to register all locations. It is important to utilize the NAIS premises identification number (PIN) in all herds when APHIS-VS and/or the state are carrying out program disease activities. When conducting disease program activities in herds not yet assigned an NAIS PIN, we need to ensure that a PIN is provided in the most timely manner possible. Additionally, the process for the distribution of Animal Identification Number (AIN) tags in the NAIS requires the PIN to be assigned to the premises before the AIN tags can be assigned to the premises.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) encourages state animal health officials to register premises in a timely manner and to allow the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to register premises and to assign premises identification numbers (PINs) to premises on which official USDA disease program work is being conducted or for which official program tags have been requested from APHIS by the owner of the animals residing on the premises utilizing standard operating procedures approved by the state animal health official. USAHA also urges the adoption of this resolution as a National Animal Identification System NAIS program standard.

RESPONSE:

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE, VETERINARY SERVICES (APHIS-VS)

Premises registration is the fundamental building block of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). It is preferred that all producers have premises numbers before conducting program disease tests in the herd or flock or processing disease program tag orders. However, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) realizes that this may not be the case for some time, especially when premises registration is voluntary. It is important that our animal disease databases utilize the new premises numbers for all future disease surveillance, monitoring, and eradication activities. USDA believes premises registration is best handled by the individual States and will continue to support their practices for premises registration. In the past, when USDA animal health officials needed a premises identification number for official disease control programs, and when they did not have access to the state premises registration system, they used the Emergency Management Response System (EMRS) to assign a number to the premises. The problem is that this premises information did not go into the State premises registration system, and the State didn't consider the premise registered. A single premises registration system at the State level will ensure that all the State premises data is available to State and Federal animal health officials. Therefore, it's important for USDA animal health officials to have State database access privileges that would allow them to register premises that are involved in official disease program activities.