



## Animal tracing *is the final step* *in achieving an effective livestock disease traceability system.*

**A** leader in developing a livestock disease traceability program following national standards, Wisconsin has embraced premises registration as the first step of the process. As Wisconsin livestock producers have demonstrated understanding of the need for an animal disease traceability system, animal identification (ID) has recently been introduced as the second step in a voluntary effort.

The third and final step of voluntary animal tracing will lead to the ultimate goal of animal traceability and 48-hour trace back. Implementation of the three steps will achieve an effective national livestock disease traceability system. With the adoption of the voluntary program to implement animal identification and animal tracing, the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC) is working to develop a comprehensive system to fit the needs of livestock producers, marketers, and processors.

### **Benefits of the program:**

- Producers can take part in managing a potential animal disease outbreak in Wisconsin.
- Protection of the animal industry and consumer confidence.
- Animal health officials will know where an animal has been housed throughout its life, bringing the industry closer to the goal of 48-hour trace back of diseased and exposed animals.

### **The process:**

- Livestock producers who have 1) registered their premises, 2) use official Animal Identification Numbers (AIN), and 3) who wish to participate in the final step of the animal disease traceability system, can begin recording and reporting animal movement.
- No national requirements currently exist for animal identification and movement reporting. Check with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for state requirements.
- Not all animal movements need to be reported to achieve effective disease traceability.
- Voluntary reporting of movement due to sale or death can be reported to DATCP or WLIC.
- Producers using official ID, in conjunction with on-farm software, also can transmit these movements electronically.

**For a list of approved animal ID devices or more animal identification information, please visit us online at [www.wiid.org](http://www.wiid.org), or call WLIC at 1-888-808-1910.**



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