

CH 10.3-AC-Resolution-1

2023/Amended to combine CH 10.3 with CH 10.4

Support for Enhanced Animal Disease Traceability Systems

WHEREAS, NCBA continues to be an industry-leading organization on animal identification (ID) issues, and

WHEREAS, intrastate and interstate animal ID plans are being developed for the purpose of establishing a means to ensure animal disease traceability, and

WHEREAS, a goal should be to enable the cattle industry and state/federal animal health officials to respond rapidly and effectively to animal health emergencies, and

WHEREAS, the industry is placing renewed emphasis on preventing the introduction of foreign animal diseases of concern, and

WHEREAS, the proposed USDA, APHIS animal disease traceability (ADT) framework does not eliminate the need for continued brand inspection programs, and

WHEREAS, most major beef-exporting countries have implemented animal ID and traceability systems and are using their systems to differentiate themselves from the U.S. with customers in global markets, and

WHEREAS, the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) has adopted guidelines on animal ID and traceability that establish basic principles which any traceability system should satisfy, and

WHEREAS, the 2021-2025 beef industry Long Range Plan emphasizes that the cattle industry should secure the broad adoption of individual animal ID disease traceability system(s) to equip the industry to effectively manage a disease outbreak while enhancing both domestic and global trust in U.S. beef,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, NCBA supports the development and implementation of a nationally significant ADT system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, an effective, nationally significant ADT program should:

- Be compatible with private sector animal ID and verification programs backed by the USDA.
- Be compatible with the general traceability principles of WOAH.
- Recognize existing USDA programs for beef exports.
- Be built using infrastructure that supports other potential uses of ID.
- Utilize low-cost electronic official tagging devices paid for by federal and/or state funds, when possible.

- Require that cattle ID information for disease traceability be kept confidential and strongly protected from disclosure.
- Protect ownership information from disclosure to future owners.
- Protect producers from liability for acts of others, after the cattle have left the producer's control.
- Operate at the speed of commerce.
- Maintain existing state brand inspection activities without replacement or impediment.
- Work within a framework to accommodate all classes of cattle.
- Allow for separate rule making process for cattle under 18 months of age.
- Allow cattle movement between adjoining states on pasture-to-pasture permits at the discretion of the involved state animal health officials.
- Maintain data integrity throughout the system, including retagging and retirement of tags at harvest.
- Provide adequate resources to the states to facilitate the objectives of ADT and include the transition to any electronic identification.