

Animal Disease Traceability Framework

Overview and Current Thinking

July 2010

- **The proposed rule to support the new animal disease traceability framework would:**
 - Pertain only to animals that move interstate
 - Be performance and outcome based (measure tracing capability of animals moved interstate)
 - Some measures will become more rigorous over time to reflect expected progress
 - Require animals moved interstate to be officially identified (individual or group/lot) and accompanied by an Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI), unless otherwise exempt
 - Official identification will be defined in the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) by species providing multiple options while establishing national uniformity
 - Regulations will exempt or phase in certain ages and classes of livestock and certain movements
 - Feeder cattle may be phased in to the official identification requirement
 - Cattle moving direct to slaughter may be exempt from official identification through the use of other identification methods such as backtags
 - States and Tribes may move animals between their geographic areas using other identification options if they agree to do so
 - For example, two brand inspection States may elect to use official brands
 - Provide for an evaluation process to measure State and Tribal tracing capability against the traceability performance standards
 - Provide a designation (such as consistent status) with defined consequences when a State or Tribe does not meet the traceability performance standards (to be phased in over time)

- **The overall success of animal disease traceability would be evaluated and documented through:**
 - Traceability performance standards as defined through the CFR (preliminary standards prepared by the Regulation Working Group on page 3) will:
 - Evaluate State and Tribal tracing capability by comparing to interstate traceability standards
 - Provide incentives or advantages for achieving the standards
 - Compliance factors with regulations and policies, including:
 - Proper administration of official identification devices (e.g., completeness of distribution records of official identification tags)
 - Official identification of livestock required to be officially identified per interstate movement regulation
 - Official identification collected at slaughter
 - ICVIs for shipments requiring ICVIs and the completeness of information on the certificates
 - State and Tribe traceability cooperative agreement workplans
 - Each cooperator will have an APHIS-approved animal disease traceability plan that thoroughly describes the cooperator's objectives, including the traceability unit.

- Federal funding will be provided through annual traceability cooperative agreements that detail implementation strategies supporting the cooperator’s traceability plan.
 - Funding levels will be proportionate with the projected costs of the activities defined in the cooperative agreement and align with achieving and maintaining their defined traceability unit.
- **Preliminary Timeline for Rulemaking and Implementation**
- Proposed rule published approximately April 2011
 - Final rule published approximately 12 to 15 months after publication of proposed rule
 - Step I
 - Educational period: Several months following publication of final rule in which producers are informed of regulatory requirements
 - Compliance period for compliance/enforcement: Initiated after the education period
 - Step II: Transition to all cattle 1 year after publication of final rule

Interstate Traceability Performance Standards

The following table lists performance standards being considered to align with the objectives of an “outcome-based” regulation.

Action	Who Performs	Description	Standard
1. Notify the State/Tribe in which reference animals were officially identified	State/Tribe that received the animal	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the receiving State/Tribe to notify the State/Tribe in which the animals were officially identified?	95% notification within 1 business day
2. Identify traceability unit ¹ in which reference animals were identified	State/Tribe where the animal was officially identified	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the State/Tribe in which the animals were officially identified to specify the traceability unit within which the animals were officially identified?	Phase 1: 75% within 5 business days Phase 2: 95% within 2 business days
3. Notify the State/Tribe from which the reference animals were shipped	State/Tribe that received the animal	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the receiving State/Tribe to notify the State/Tribe in which the interstate animal movement was initiated?	Phase 1: 95% within 7 business days Phase 2: 95% within 3 business days
4. Identify the traceability unit from which the reference animals were shipped	State/Tribe that shipped the animal (may be the same State/Tribe in #2)	For animals that are required to be officially identified, how long will it take the State/Tribe from which the interstate animal movement was initiated to specify the traceability unit from which the shipment was initiated?	Phase 1: 75% within 5 business days Phase 2: 95% within 2 business days

¹ The geographical unit to which an animal is required to be identified, as selected by a State or Tribe. The unit may be a State or Tribe, a county, a premises, a site within a premises, or some other unit as determined by the State or Tribe. The unit selected by a State or Tribe could be the smallest unit that the Administrator would initially quarantine in the event of a disease outbreak.

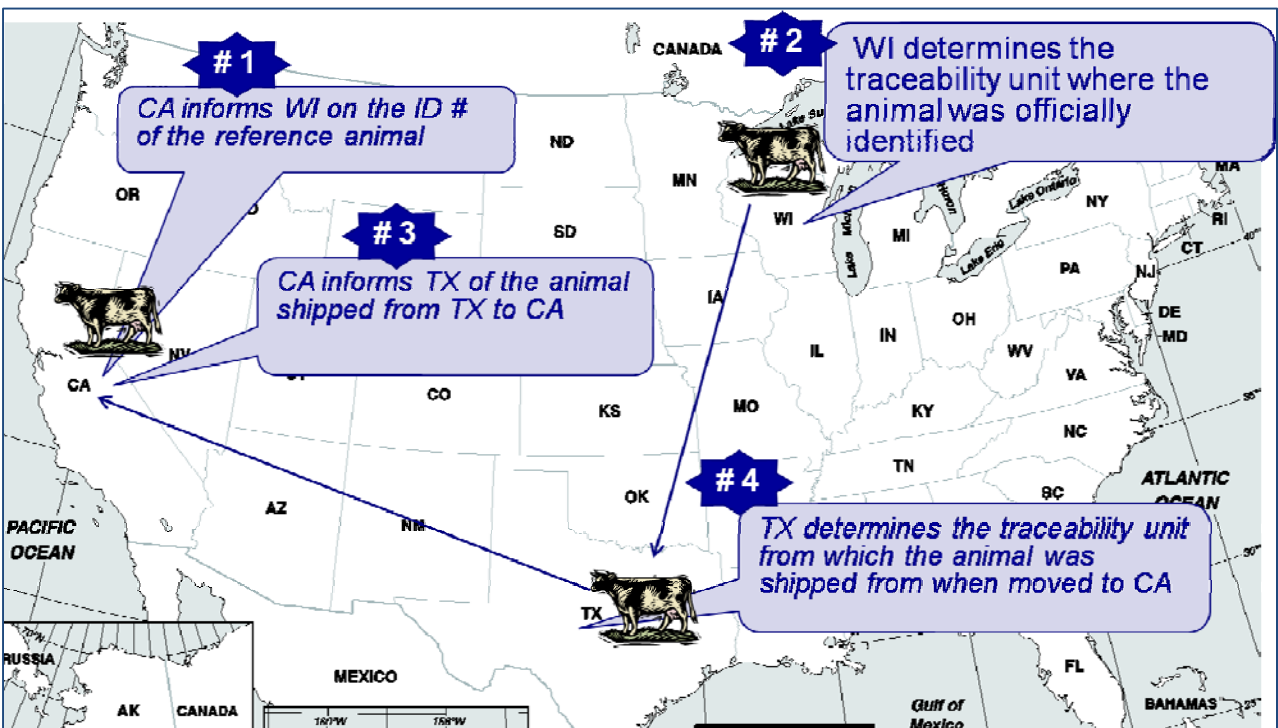
How would these traceability performance activities be conducted?

For illustrative purposes, let's consider the interstate movement scenario where a dairy cow was shipped from Wisconsin to Texas. The animal had been identified through the Dairy Herd Improvement Association with an 840 tag. Therefore, that identification was used to meet the official identification requirement for interstate movement. The cow was then sold and moved from Texas to California.

The diagram below illustrates the actions these States would take to fulfill the traceability performance standards. In this exercise, California identifies the animal as a reference animal for performance standard measurement purposes.

Applying the traceability performance standards, the following actions would take place:

- 1 – Using the Animal Identification Management System, California determines the 840 tag was distributed to Wisconsin. California then informs Wisconsin of the official identification number of the reference animal.
- 2 – Wisconsin determines the traceability unit where the reference animal was officially identified.
- 3 – California informs Texas of the official identification number of the animal shipped from Texas to California.
- 4 – Texas determines the traceability unit that the reference animal moved from when shipped to California.



Animal Disease Traceability – Implementation for Cattle

Interstate Movement Requirements – Cattle

Official Identification		Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection
Step I	Step II	
<p><i>Unless exempt as provided below, official identification required for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All dairy cattle • Other sexually intact cattle over 18 months of age • Cattle involved in rodeos, recreation, and exhibitions 	<p><i>Unless exempt as provided below, official identification required for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cattle 	<p><i>Unless exempt as provided below, ICVIs required for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cattle
Exemptions to the Official Identification Requirements		Exemptions to the ICVI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steers or spayed heifers (except if involved in rodeo, exhibition, or recreation events) • Cattle moved direct to slaughter (including through one approved livestock facility, e.g., auction/market) with a USDA-approved backtag • Cattle moved as a commuter herd with a copy of the commuter herd agreement • Cattle may be moved interstate between any two States/Tribes with other identification methods (other than what is defined as official) as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle moved as a commuter herd with a copy of the commuter herd agreement • Cattle may be moved interstate between any two States/Tribes with other identification methods (other than what is defined as official), as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle moved direct to slaughter (including through one approved market) and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An owner-shipper statement is required, but individual identification does not need to be recorded for cattle moved from a federally approved livestock facility directly to slaughter. • Cattle moved directly to an approved livestock facility with an owner-shipper statement that do not move interstate from the facility unless accompanied by an ICVI. • Cattle moved from the farm of origin for veterinary medical examination or treatment and returned to the farm of origin without change in ownership. • Cattle moved as a commuter herd with a copy of the commuter herd agreement. • Additionally, cattle may be moved between any two States/Tribes with documentation other than an ICVI, as agreed upon by animal health officials in those two States/Tribes.
Other Circumstances when Official Identification Requirements are Waived		Recording Official Identification on ICVIs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cattle may be moved interstate without official identification during transit if destined to an approved tagging site (may be a market/auction barn) and identified before commingling with cattle from other premises - Cattle moved directly from one State through another State and back to the original State (considered an intrastate movement) 		<p>The recording of official identification numbers would be required for all cattle on the ICVI that require official individual ID other than “feeder” cattle.</p>

Traceability Regulation Working Group

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