

## Official Identification for Cattle and Bison

*Official identification may not be removed from an animal once it is applied.*

**Tags applied on or after November 5, 2024, must be visually AND electronically readable.**

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) using the **Animal Identification Number (AIN) System** meets this requirement.

- Consists of 15 digits beginning with the official country code - '840' for the United States.
  - In compliance with federal law, AIN tags must display the U.S. shield if applied to an animal March 11, 2015 or after.
  - 4-H tags available by contacting your county extension office.
- You can purchase tags from a USDA-approved tag manufacturer.
  - As of this publication: Allflex, Datamars, Destron, Leader, Shearwell, Wuxi, and Y-Text sell approved RFID.

15-digit tags beginning with the letters 'USA' or manufacturer-coded tags beginning with any number between 900 – 998 **are only official if applied to the animal prior to March 11, 2015**



**Identification below is only official if applied prior to November 5, 2024:**

### National Uniform Ear Tagging System (NUES)

- Begins with the official state number – '41' for Minnesota
  - In compliance with federal law, metal NUES tags must display the U.S. shield if applied to an animal March 11, 2015 or after
  - Purchase plastic tags - Call Leedstone at (877) 608-3877



### American Identification Number System

- These tags are only official if applied to the animal prior to **March 11, 2015**
- Combines 'USA' with 8 or 9 digits
- Includes the National Farm Animal Identification and Records (FAIR)
  - Administered by Holstein Association USA, Inc.



**Official ID Number**

### Breed Registry Tattoos and Tags

- Acceptable for within-state movement if accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration number. Pending registrations are not acceptable. Limited use for imports – see [www.mn.gov/bah](http://www.mn.gov/bah) for more information.