

Premises Identification – What is it all about?

Premises Identification is one part of the USDA Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) program. A **Premises Identification Number (PIN, also commonly called a “Prem ID”)** is a unique code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location. **PIN** registration is administered by each State and plays an important role in an animal disease response event.

The PIN record helps animal health officials quickly and precisely identify the locations of livestock and their potential contacts during an animal disease outbreak.

A PIN permanently corresponds to a physical **location** where livestock are born and housed. If a producer moves their business to a new location, they would register for a new PIN and discontinue using any official ID tags associated with the old PIN and location.


The Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) System:

- Supports a rapid response when animal disease events take place.
- Helps decrease the response time needed to control disease spread, which reduces the number of animals affected in a disease outbreak
- Allows agricultural product tracing and focused live animal quarantines which reduces the economic strain on animal owners and agricultural communities.



PIN – Why do we need one?

A PIN is required to purchase **official** animal identification tags or microchips. Cattle, Swine and Captive Cervid producers will need a PIN. Small Ruminant producers will identify the location of their livestock and order **official** scrapie ID tags using a FLOCK ID.

Note: Official USDA Tags (including Scrapie tags) include the US Shield  and the animal's individual ID number.

Official tags or microchips are needed to:

- Move livestock interstate with an **Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI)**
- ID animals on exhibit when required
- Identify livestock at change of ownership where required

PIN – How do you get a PIN?

It is available at **NO Cost**. Call the Maine Department of Agriculture at (207) 287-3701. To obtain a **FLOCK ID**, call the USDA District 1 office at: (866) 873-2824.

Prior to calling, be ready to provide the following information:

- Owner(s) name(s)
- Farm name (if you have one)
- Physical location as determined by 911 to include town and zip code
- County
- Home phone and cell phone
- Email (if you have one)
- Species of animals you keep
- Approximate number of each species

This information will be entered into a Federal ID database and your address will be verified. An identification number will be assigned by the database and is permanently associated with the verified address. Your PIN will start with the two letters “OO”, which designates the state of Maine. This is followed by a 5 digit alpha numeric code. For example: OOXXX4X. A Maine Department of Agriculture representative will contact you with your PIN via email or phone call and you will be ready to purchase your own official ID tags!

Now that you have your PIN, you must use this number to order your USDA official tags or microchips. Please reference DACF brochure “Livestock Animal Identification” for more helpful tips.

P R E M I S E S

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)

- WHAT IS IT?
- WHY DO WE NEED ONE?
- HOW DO I GET A NUMBER?