

PREMISES REGISTRATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC) registering premises?

The Wisconsin livestock industry, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) are committed to the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). The first step of the NAIS is premises registration mandated by state law.

Who has to register?

The Wisconsin Premises Registration Act, effective November 1, 2005, requires anyone who keeps, houses, or co-mingles livestock to register their premises. There is a *compliance window* for registrations. Premises that are not currently licensed by the DATCP are required to register by January 1, 2006. Those premises currently licensed by the Department must register by their annual license renewal date.

How do you define “premises?”

“Premises” include: farms and hobby farms; veterinary clinics; stables; livestock markets; livestock trucker and dealer premises where animals are kept; slaughter and rendering facilities; livestock exhibitions; and any other location where livestock are kept.

Is there a cost to register?

There is no charge for premises registration.

How do I register?

There are four ways to register a premises:

1. Register online at www.datcp.state.wi.us/premises/index.jsp and click on the link for Premises Registration System.
2. Registrants without computer access may call WLIC at 1-888-808-1910 to request a form.
3. A premises may also be registered through a WLIC agent who, with permission, registers on a producer’s behalf. For a list of WLIC agents visit www.wiid.org.
4. Visit your county Farm Service Agency (FSA) office to pick up information and a premises registration form. Or, use a computer located at your FSA office to register.

What if I already registered my premises with WLIC?

Your premises identification number and card are still valid. Since the law has gone into effect all registrations, confirmations and communications will be maintained and administered by WLIC on behalf of DATCP. If your card has either a WLIC or DATCP logo, it is valid through 2006.

Do I have to renew this each year?

Yes. Renewals for non-licensed entities will begin the fall of 2006. WLIC will contact you on behalf of DATCP for renewals. The information you provided in your registration will be sent to you to verify its accuracy.

What if the premises house the livestock of two or more owners?

Any person who keeps one or more livestock animals at a location in Wisconsin is required to register that location. To “keep livestock” means to own, feed, house, confine or care for livestock, or to exercise legal or physical control over livestock. However, if two or more persons have a role in keeping livestock at the same location, any one of those persons may register that location – one registration will suffice for all.

I have multiple locations. Do I register once for all premises, or separately for each location?

In addition to the primary premises location, one or more secondary locations at which you keep livestock from time to time must be registered. For example, a dairy farm “premises” may include a *primary* location (that includes the milking barn or parlor) and one or more *secondary* locations (such as a non-contiguous pasture or heifer facility).

If livestock is kept at multiple locations but never moved or co-mingled with livestock among those locations, register those locations as separate premises (separate primary locations, each with its own livestock premises code).

If a secondary location has no street address, general directions from the primary premises to the secondary location and any other information that would help determine the location must be provided. No more than three (3) secondary locations can be added under a single livestock premises code without approval. DATCP will determine whether the secondary locations are part of the same premises for registration purposes or whether they should be registered as separate premises under separate livestock premises codes. *Additional premises* must be registered separately. Additional premises registration forms may be obtained by calling (888) 808-1910.

For which species must a premises be registered?

“Livestock,” as defined by the Wisconsin Premises Registration Act rules, includes aquaculture, bovine (bison, cattle), camelids (llamas, alpacas), cervidea (deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the subfamily musk deer), equine (horses, donkeys, mules), goats, captive game birds (pheasants, quail, wild turkeys, migratory wildfowl, pigeons, and exotic birds), poultry (chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl), ratites (rheas, ostriches, emu, cassowary, kiwi), sheep, and swine.

What if I already have a scrapies or brucellosis premises ID numbers?

DATCP and USDA have issued premises ID numbers in the past based on specific disease programs. The new nationally assigned premises ID’s are independent of species or disease. Eventually, the old numbers will be phased out and replaced with the new premises numbers. Until then, registrants should keep using the old numbers for their respective disease programs.

Is the registration information confidential?

Information provided by the registrant is confidential. The premises number itself is not confidential. Registrants set up their own computer user name and password and control their information. Other individuals can access the data only with permission. DATCP may access the data in the event of a disease outbreak or a public safety emergency. DATCP may use specific types of information to create maps or statistics, although the individual registrant identity or address will not be revealed.

How will DATCP enforce compliance with registering livestock premises?

Penalties for violations are set by statute. Penalties are equivalent to other animal health and food safety laws, generally \$200 to \$5,000. There may not be compensation through indemnification without premises registration. Further, if and when the USDA mandates premises registration or all surrounding states impose the same mandate, exhibiting, selling or slaughtering livestock from unregistered premises will be prohibited.

With premises registration, do I also have to participate in animal ID and tracking?

The foundation of individual animal ID and tracking is premises registration. Premises registration is the vital first phase in developing a trace back system. Registering premises does not obligate the registrant to participate in the next steps of a national plan which involve animal ID and animal tracking. USDA encourages voluntary compliance; however, individual states may have other requirements.

What is the next step?

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) and the states are collaborating on the total program. Wisconsin’s efforts are primarily focused on premises registration. DATCP and WLIC are working with species and industry groups to advance animal ID and animal tracking through pilot projects.

Each premises registration brings us closer to the day when Wisconsin’s livestock industry will be prepared to respond within 48 hours to an animal disease outbreak.

www.WIID.org

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Our greatest asset is the cooperation of many.



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