



# Age Verification

## **What is Age Verification?**

Age Verification is the association of animal birth date data with an Animal Identification Number (single tag or tag group). With the ever increasing demand for accurate age determination in Canadian cattle, the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) implemented technological advancements to the national database that provides an effective and internationally recognized Age Verification Process. This voluntary program enables producers to store information and have it readily available should it be required by domestic or export markets. Producers who do not have internet access are able to assign third-party users to submit information on their behalf.

## **What are the benefits of Age Verification?**

With some international trading partners requiring Age Verification information as a pre-requisite for export, producers have increased their access to domestic and foreign markets by submitting birth date data. Age Verification compliments additional initiatives such as Full Animal Movement Tracking and Premise Identification.

## **Do I have to know the exact birth dates?**

No. You can enter exact Birth Dates with corresponding tag numbers, or a Calving Start Date associated with a tag range.

## **What is the difference between a Birth Date and a Calving Start Date?**

A Birth Date is the exact date of an animal's birth while a Calving Start Date is the first day in a set time frame where more than one animal is born and exact dates are not known.

## **How do I prove I have Age Verified?**

After Age Verifying your animals you can print off a Birth Certificate identifying that the animal has been Age Verified.

## **What do I do if I made a mistake entering birth dates?**

If incorrect data is entered, simply re-submit the correct data for the specific animal and the system will update it accordingly.

## **What do I do if one of my Age Verified animals loses a tag?**

If an Age Verified animal loses its tag and the tag number is known, it can be cross-referenced by logging onto your account and the system will merge the information accordingly. If the tag number is not known, the Birth Date Data and new tag number must be resubmitted.

## **Can I Age Verify animals I have purchased?**

No. Animals must be Age Verified by the original Herd of Origin, (where they were born), in order to maintain the accuracy and integrity of the system.

## **How do I know if animals I have purchased are Age Verified?**

Currently industry sectors such as Feedlots, Auction Marts, Producers and Packing Plants can access Birth Date Data by entering the tag number into a search in the CLTS. Herd of Origin information is not shown.

For more information, or questions on Age Verification, visit our website or contact the CCIA by phone, fax or email.



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