Cattle Implementation Plan (CIP): Industry's Roadmap
– Abridged Reference

CONTEXT

The Cattle Implementation Plan (CIP):
- The CIP is the industry's roadmap to identify the targets, steps and issues in implementing a sustainable, effective and efficient cattle traceability system for Canada.
- Industry and governments reviewed and provided input on the CIP at the National Cattle Traceability Summit Aug. 31 – Sep. 2/11 in Saskatoon, S.K., where important milestones were attained and consensus was reached to move ahead in the resolution of movement recording and overcoming premises identification issues.
- In 2014, the CIP Committee will continue to refine the plan and provide it to governments as the industry-supported blueprint and timeline for establishing cattle traceability in Canada.
- The CIP is being developed through a collaborative process between industry and governments.

KEY MESSAGES

Traceability is important for:
- Animal health, public health, food safety, emergency management and value chains;
- Addressing natural disasters;
- Market promotion and access – i.e., competing in a competitive world market and addressing changing consumer demands;
- Zoning capabilities that can allow trade to continue (e.g., Avian influenza, contaminated feed supplement).

A fully-functional traceability system is based on three pillars:
1. **Animal identification** – Associating a unique animal identification number to an animal
2. **Premises identification** – The assignment of a unique identification number to a physical land location
3. **Movement** – Associating the animal identification number with a premises and time

The national identification program for cattle is governed by the *Health of Animals Regulations*.
Traceability implementation is guided by National Performance Targets, National Data Standards and Data Dictionary.

The cattle industry is committed to:
- Protecting the integrity, efficiency and confidentiality of the industry-led, national system for animal health and food safety trace back in Canada;
- Supporting domestic and international animal health emergency response capabilities;
- Supporting the principles of traceability – expanding its infrastructure, enhancing technology and full system compliance.

The key principles of traceability for the cattle industry are:

- Traceability will support industry standards for commerce.
- The traceability system for the cattle industry will enhance the competitive position of the industry.
- Traceability will expand as the appropriate technology to support initiatives is available.
- Traceability will maintain market neutrality – no industry sector will be advantaged or disadvantaged by the implementation of traceability.
- Industry standards will drive tolerance ranges for tag readability and retention.
- Producer information must remain confidential.

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION – Issues and Recommendations:

Tag-issuing timelines (retail tag dealer)

- Canadian Cattle Identification Agency has reviewed and enhanced the tag dealer agreement to educate and support tag dealers to issue tags to a producer's Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) account within 24 hours of a producer's tag purchase.
- Industry stakeholders recommend CCIA moves to an alternative tag distribution model with an enhanced call centre to improve data integrity in the CLTS (NB: A primary source of CLTS data sequencing errors is caused by tag dealers not issuing tags to producer accounts within 24 hours of producers' tag purchases).

Tag activation/declaration timelines (primary producer records)

- **Tag activation:** An indication by a producer stating the tags purchased have been applied to an animal within a specific timeframe (e.g., age verification, feedlot move-in, movement from the herd of origin, etc.)
- Canadian Cattle Identification Agency will work with industry and governments to:
  - o Support and educate producers to ensure they have captured all tag numbers being applied for audit purposes,
  - o Develop a system for cross-reference tools, and
  - o Activate tags based on the first animal event recorded (e.g., age verification, feedlot move-in, movement from the herd of origin, etc.).

Tag activation timeline (re-tagging/replacement at auction mart, buying station, assembly yards or feedlots)

- The ability to trace back an animal within the 48-hour target is vital to governments and industry.
- Industry has determined a 24 to 48-hour timeline is impractical and recommends adopting a seven-day data entry timeline for tag activation on re-tagged animals at auction marts, buying stations, assembly yards, electronic sales and feedlots.
- In the event of an animal disease outbreak or otherwise, industry agrees that livestock data/records would be made available immediately upon request.
- Canadian Cattle Identification Agency will work with industry and government to support auction marts, buying stations, assembly yards, electronic sales and feedlots by providing training and education on tag activation requirements.

Age Verification
- The industry is committed to a market-driven, age verification system for access to foreign markets, and appropriate management of the domestic specified risk material market.
- Some provinces have, or are in the process of making age verification mandatory.
- Industry recommends age verification be an optional value-added element
- Industry agrees the tag must be in the ear when the animal is age verified (to ensure the match between tag and birth records to address issues related to assurance of unique animal identification and birth date).
- Animal health regulatory variances must be standardized for business equity amongst producers.
- CCIA will work with industry and governments to support producers by developing and providing training and education regarding age verification.

Gender
- Industry recommends the inclusion of gender remain an optional value-added element.

Records on Farm
- All on-farm recordkeeping related to animals should be correlated to the unique animal identification number (i.e., borne on the approved tag).
- CCIA will work with industry and governments to source funding to support producers by developing and providing training and education regarding on-farm record management.

Retirement Timelines
- Under the existing *Health of Animals Regulations*, the timeline for retirement and export data entry is 30 days. Industry recommends the timeline be tightened to seven days for tag retirement at the processor, dead-stock operators and provincial abattoirs for animal disease trace back purposes.

Export Timelines
- Under the existing *Health of Animals Regulations*, the timeline for export data entry is 30 days. Industry recommends the timeline be tightened to 14 days for live animal export to accommodate purebred animals' cross-border travel, and feeder animals that may be rejected at the border.

Import Timelines
- Under the existing *Health of Animals Regulations*, the timeline for export data entry is 30 days. Industry recommends the timeline be tightened to 14 days for live animal import to accommodate purebred animals' cross-border travel, and feeder animals that may be rejected at the border.

Tagging Sites
- Auction marts, buying stations and assembly yards have the ability to tag untagged cattle on arrival and the producer is liable for untagged animals.
- The owner of untagged cattle is responsible to notify the tagging site of untagged cattle prior to delivery. The owner of the cattle must indicate if they are sending approved tags to be applied to the untagged cattle or requesting the tagging site to supply and apply the approved tags to the untagged cattle.

- Amended Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulations require tagging facilities to declare they act as tagging sites and meet the requirements of the regulations to Canadian Cattle Identification Agency in writing as of July 1, 2014.
- To ensure cattle and bison producers are aware of and have access to local tagging sites, Canadian Cattle Identification Agency will publish a Tagging Site List online within www.canadaid.ca.

Coloured Replacement Tags for Import/Export

- There is no requirement for separate coloured tags to signify import/export animals if the governments of Canada and United States agree to recognize each other's approved RFID tags as equivalent. In Canada, the Administrator's database must be able to accept 840 tag numbers (official US tag number prefix) as well as 124 tag numbers (official Canadian tag number prefix).

Licence Plate Identification of Conveyances

- A Canadian Cattle Movement Reporting Working Group has been formed to develop options for a simplified, national accompanying document (i.e., create a common manifest across species).
- Industry has agreed to a minimum data set, which includes the licence plate or unit number.

PREMISES IDENTIFICATION – Issues and Recommendations

- **Account ID:** A standard and unique system reference created for individual producers/corporate entities utilized as a common identifier in a nationally or provincially-recognized database system

- **Premises:** A parcel of land defined by a legal land description or, in its absence, by geo-referenced coordinates, on which or on any part of which animals, plants or food are grown, kept, assembled or disposed of

- The implementation and creation of premises identification for producers is primarily based on emergency planning at a provincial level. Premises ID is a prerequisite to animal movement tracking and recording.

- There are **four types of premises**:
  1. **Primary** – the primary location of the agricultural operation and its continuous land base
  2. **Linked** – locations considered to be animal health units because of the regular movement of animals/products between them
  3. **Co-mingling** (intermediate site) – a location where animals from more than one herd of origin are blended due to the physical structure of the site of the nature of the business operations conducted there
     - Category A: Feedlot and backgrounders
     - Category B i): 4-H, exhibitions, fairs, rodeos
     - Category B ii): Veterinary clinics, artificial insemination (AI) units, importers, pathology labs, quarantine facilities, research facilities, test stations
     - Category C: Auction mart, assembly yards, buying stations, electronic sales (includes export centres) and tagging sites

- Category D: Rest, feed or water sites; airports (in transit)
4. **Linked co-mingling** – a location where animals of more than one herd of origin are grazed concurrently (i.e., public or private community pastures, federal and crown grazing land); each of these locations will require a premises identification number (PID) that is linked to the primary producer.

Proposed Timetable and Related Information – PID registration and validation

- **Phase 1 (Completed June 2013)**
  - o **Work in conjunction with groups** (producer groups or individual producers and provincial governments) **that** already **have** land-related (geographical) **location data to populate and validate the PID**.
  - o Synchronization of PID between traceability systems to **ensure only a single PID is assigned to a land location** (geographical) and duplications are eliminated.
  - o Ensure all feedlots, backgrounders, packing plants, exporters, dead stock operators and renderers (**key co-mingling sites with infrastructure in place), are assigned a unique, national PID for all recording** of movement upon receipt (i.e., **move-in**).

- **Phase 2 (Target End Date: June 2015)**
  - o **PID validation processes** are defined by the provincial governments and data interchange methodologies **to integrate into the national registry** (CCIA's CLTS database) are developed.
  - o The CLTS database account identification number could be utilized for trace-back reporting as a prerequisite to provincial PID implementation.
  - o **Combine efforts with provinces to ensure all producers have** a unique **PID** assigned, and this land-related (geographical) information is validated for data integrity

- **Phase 3 (Target End Date: September 01, 2015)**
  - o **Ensure all community pastures, crown grazing land, federal lands, auction marts and buying stations** with infrastructure in place **are assigned a** unique national **PID.** All linked co-mingling sites must have a unique PID.
  - o **Ensure other intermediary movement sites** (e.g., 4-H clubs, exhibitions, importers, artificial insemination units, pathology labs, quarantine facilities, research facilities, tagging sites, test stations, conveyance points and veterinary clinics) **have validated PID** reported within the CLTS database.

- **Phase 4 (Target End Date: December 31, 2015)**
  - o **All PIDs are integrated and validated in the national registry** (CCIA's CLTS database).

ANIMAL MOVEMENT – Issues and Recommendations

- The CLTS system functionality is complete and includes move-in and move-out event capabilities.

- CCIA is working together with CFIA and industry towards a practical, phased-in strategy for animal movement to address industry concerns and enhance traceability support services through:
  - o Education
  - o Technical support
  - o Hands-on assistance to individuals
  - o Hands-on support to groups
  - o Communications

- **The nine-phase transitional approach** is based on:
  - o Reporting of animal movement data will include move-in information only
  - o Reporting of animal move-out data will be optional
  - o The requirements are built into the national database structure.

- **Phase 1 Regulatory Input (Target End Date January 01, 2016)**
  - o **Phase 1**: Industry input to national multi-species traceability regulatory package (Complete)
  - o **Phase 2**: Industry to provide comments on proposed regulatory amendments to Part VI of the Health of Animals Regulations (December 2014)
  - o **Phase 3**: Industry to provide comments on proposed regulations in Part 1 of the Canada Gazette (Late 2015)
  - o Proposed regulations come into force (Early 2016)

- **Phase 2 – Tag Retention Research Project (Timeline: March 2011 to March 2016):**
  - o **National Tag Retention Project:** Multi-year project testing eight approved tags on calves, cows and bulls. Calf and bull projects are complete; cow project is ongoing.

- **Phase 3 – Auctions/Buying Stations Research (Complete: February 01, 2012)**
  - o **National Applied Research Project (Auction Mart and Buying Station Research)**
    - Make the business case to define program support based on the real costs and business issues available to all participants to support their business planning and implementation approach.
    - Applied research projects to demonstrate movement reporting technology and tools in auction marts is complete, in conjunction with other pilot projects on a national basis

- **Phase 4 – Cost Analysis (Target End date: December 31, 2015)**
  - o Conduct a thorough **cost analysis of each component in the CIP** and identify who will incur the costs described. Initial costing survey provided preliminary data only (Complete: April 2013)
  - o Additional in-depth costing work is required.
  - o **Define principles for cost sharing** between industry, governments and within the cattle industry.
  - o **Negotiate the cost-sharing** accord between industry, federal and provincial requirements

- **Phase 5 – Cattle Logistics Study (Target End Date: December 31, 2015)**
  - **Industry-driven, third-party** epidemiological evaluation/analysis of co-mingling sites
  - To support effective decisions **regarding the full implementation of traceability and movement recording/reporting requirements** in the cattle industry in support of animal health and food safety objectives
  - **Phase 1** literature review, outline beef supply chain and vulnerabilities **is complete**
  - **Phase 2** third-party risk assessment **to be completed**

- **Phase 6 – Voluntary Farm Reporting (Target: January 2016)**
  - **Farm Definition**: Land and buildings and other structures on that land that are used under one management for breeding or raising animals (e.g., cow-calf and dairy operations), but does not include an artificial insemination unit
  - **Senders of Cattle from Farms (requirements): All cattle leaving the farm of origin must be tagged with an official RFID tag or be accompanied by an official RFID tag for the purpose of being tagged at a declared tagging site.** Consistent with the minimum data set, the following information would be provided by the sender and must accompany the load:
    1. Location of sender (PID)
    2. Species
    3. Number of animals or dead stock transported (per species)
    4. Date the animals or dead stock were loaded on the conveyance
    5. Licence plate or conveyance identification (completed by the transporter)

    NOTE: Information can be in paper or electronic form; it would not necessarily be reported to the administrator's database.
  - **Receivers of Cattle at Farms (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received on a farm:**
    1. Location of sender (PID)
    2. Location of receiver (PID)
    3. Date of unloading from a conveyance
    4. Licence plate or conveyance identification
    5. Number of animals
    6. The identification of the approved tags would be reported via active reading within seven days after reception.

    SUMMARY: Farms would actively read individual tags and report what is read along with the minimum regulated data.

- **Phase 6A – Voluntary Feedlot Reporting (Target End Date: December 31, 2015)**
  - **Feedlot definition**: An operation that feeds livestock and is operated in whole or in part for the purposes of growing or finishing livestock by means other than grazing, but does not include an overwintering site where breeding livestock are fed and sheltered
  - **Backgrounder definition**: A cattle producer who produces young cattle ready for lot feeding
  - **Backgrounding definition**: Growing program for feeder cattle from the time calves are weaned until they enter a feedlot to be finished on a high protein ration

- o **Voluntary Feedlot Reporting**
  - Move-in scanning of individual animals to be done as a progressive, phased-in approach until such time the federal regulation changes come into effect
  - Manitoba east (>500 head per year)
  - Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia (>1,000 head per year)
  - Existing regulations govern Quebec (full traceability in place)
  - Eligible for funding for software/hardware/upgrades/employee training/ongoing costs required to report movement information from the Canadian cattle movement document (or a required provincial document) to the national database
- o **Receivers of Cattle at Feedlots (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received on a farm:**
  1. Location of sender (PID)
  2. Location of receiver (PID)
  3. Date of unloading from a conveyance
  4. Licence plate or conveyance identification
  5. Number of animals
  6. The identification of the approved tags would be reported via active reading within seven days after reception.
- o **Senders of Cattle from Feedlots (requirements):** Consistent with the minimum data set, the following information would be provided by the sender and must accompany the load:
  1. Location of sender (PID)
  2. Species
  3. Number of animals or dead stock transported (per species)
  4. Date the animals or dead stock were loaded on the conveyance
  5. Licence plate or conveyance identification (completed by transporter)
  NOTE: Information can be in paper or electronic form (a form that can be read immediately). It would not necessarily be reported to the administrator's database.

- **Phase 6B – Voluntary Feedlot Reporting (Target End Date: December 31, 2016)**
  - o Backgrounder or feedlot would be required to scan (identify) and report move-in events of individual animals
  - o **Receivers of Cattle at Feedlots and Backgrounders – Category A sites (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received:**
    1. Location of sender (PID)
    2. Location of receiver (PID)
    3. Date of unloading from a conveyance
    4. Licence plate or conveyance identification
    5. Number of animals
    6. The identification of the approved tags would be reported via active reading within seven days after reception.

- o **Senders of Cattle from Feedlots and Backgrounders (requirements):** Consistent with the minimum data set, the following information would be provided by the sender and must accompany the load:
    1. Location of sender (PID)
    2. Species
    3. Number of animals or dead stock transported (per species)
    4. Date the animals or dead stock were loaded on the conveyance
    5. Licence plate or conveyance identification (completed by transporter)
  NOTE: Information can be in paper or electronic form (a form that can be read immediately). It would not necessarily be reported to the administrator's database.

- **Phase 7 – Voluntary Site Reporting (Target End Date: January 01, 2015)**
    - o **Receivers of Cattle at Category B i) 4-H clubs, exhibitions, fairs, rodeo sites (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received:**
        1. Location of receiver (PID)
        2. Date received and date returned (if returned to sender)
        3. The identification numbers of the approved tags via sighting
    - o **Receivers of Cattle at Category B ii) Veterinary clinics, artificial insemination units, importers, pathology labs, quarantine facilities, research facilities, test stations (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received:**
        1. Location of sender (PID)
        2. Location of receiver (PID)
        3. Date of unloading from a conveyance and date returned (if returned to sender)
        4. Licence plate of conveyance identification
        5. Number of animals
        6. The identification numbers of the approved tags would be reported via active reading within seven days after reception.

- **Phase 8 – Group Movement Reporting (Target End Date: December 31, 2015)**
    - o **Category C: Auction mart, assembly yards, buying stations, electronic sales (includes export centres) and tagging sites**
    - o **Receipt of livestock at and departure from Category C sites would be reported**, **excluding** the individual CCIA number, by means of a mandatory document, paper or electronic, such as the Canadian cattle movement document (or a required provincial document) that captures the necessary data.
    - o **Category C sites would be required to report the group movement information** acquired from the Canadian cattle movement document (or a required provincial document) to the national database. The reportable information would include a PID from the premises where the livestock originated.
    - o **Category C sites would be required to provide their PID to all purchasers of livestock at their venue**. It would be the responsibility of the purchaser of the livestock at an auction mart to

fill out the Canadian cattle movement document (or a required provincial document), and report the information to the national database.

- o **Category C sites would not be required to scan livestock on arrival or departure**; however, they would retain the option to provide this service.
- o **Receivers of Cattle at Category C sites (requirements): The following information would be reported within seven days when cattle are received:**
    - Location of sender (PID)
    - Location of receiver (PID)
    - Date of unloading from a conveyance
    - Licence plate or conveyance identification
    - Number of animals
- o **Senders of Cattle at Category C sites (requirements): Consistent with the minimum data set the following information would be provided by the sender and must accompany the load:**
    - Location of sender (PID)
    - Species
    - Number of animals or dead stock transported (per species)
    - Date the animals or dead stock were loaded on the conveyance
    - Licence plate of conveyance identification (completed by transporter)

    NOTE: Information can be in paper or electronic form (a form that can be read immediately). It would not necessarily be reported to the administrator's database.
- o **Category C sites would work with industry-specific software developers to have minimum data set fields incorporated into the software programs** so that data could be automatically sent to a national database. Funding would be available for software enhancements/software/hardware/upgrades/employee training/ongoing costs required to report movement information from the Canadian cattle movement document (or a required provincial document) to the national database.

- **Phase 9 – All Cattle Movements Reported (Target Start Date: December 31, 2016)**
    - o Animal movement at required sites will be reported with the exemption of linked premises and linked co-mingling premises
    - o Required sites: Farms, feedlots, backgrounders, 4-H clubs, exhibitions, fairs, rodeos, veterinary clinics, artificial insemination units, importers, pathology labs, quarantine facilities, research facilities, test stations

Pending Issues:
- Process for tag activation of transient animals exported from Canada to the United States and then returned to Canada

NOTE: The unabridged and most recent version of the Cattle Implementation Plan is posted online within Canadian Cattle Identification Agency's homepage at http://www.canadaid.ca/ and http://www.canadaid.ca/fr/index.html, respectively.