



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

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Dear Florida Producer:

Thank you for your interest in obtaining Official Identification Devices (tags) for your adult cattle. Official tags are available from private manufacturers as well as from USDA. Private manufacturers offer several different types of Official Tags including metal tags, plastic panel tags and radio frequency identification device (RFID) tags. The USDA is making metal tags, known as National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) or “Brite” tags, available to producers at no charge. These tags are distributed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry (DAI).

Producers who are interested in purchasing tags should contact their animal health product supplier. A listing of manufacturers of Official Identification devices can be viewed on the USDA website at: [www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability) Specific links are:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT\\_device\\_ain.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT_device_ain.pdf) and  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT\\_device\\_nues.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT_device_nues.pdf)

Producers who are interested receiving Official NUES tags must provide a Premises Identification Number (PIN). The tags will be assigned to a specific premises for use on animals originating on that premises. Producers who do not have a PIN can either print the application from the Divisions’ website, <http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Animal-Industry>, or contact our office to have a form sent to them. Producers who may have a PIN, but do not know the number, can contact our office and we will look the number up.

Producers can contact the Division of Animal Industry District Supervisor to request NUES tags. The tags must be picked up at the district office or another location within the district. District staff will provide a tag request form for the producers to fill out and sign indicating that they agree to use the tags on their cattle only. District staff will complete the tag request form, by recording the numbers of the tags assigned, and forward the form to Ocala for data entry.

Page two describes the various types of Official Identification tags that are available. Page three is a listing of the Division of Animal Industry district offices and contact information. Please contact the district office for your particular county if you chose to request NUES tags.

Thanks, in advance, for registering your premises and identifying your cattle!

Sincerely,

Stephen Monroe  
Division of Animal Industry

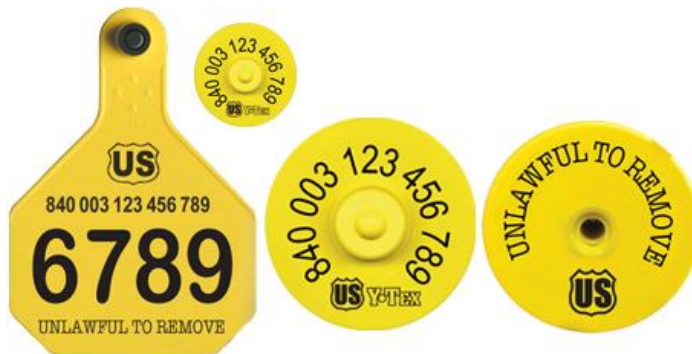
## INFORMATION ABOUT OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION DEVICES “TAGS” AND OTHER APPROVED OFFICIAL ID

The USDA rule, which became effective March 11, 2013, specifies types of identification which meet the federal requirements. This includes metal tags which are provided at no charge by USDA as well as tags which are available for purchase from tag manufacturers.

Many producers are familiar with the small metal tags known as National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags. These tags have been commonly used as official identification for cattle that have been vaccinated or tested for Brucellosis. These NUES (metal) tags are now being made available through USDA at no charge to cattle owners. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry can assign a supply of these tags to your premises for use on your cattle. For information about these tags you may contact the Division of Animal Industry staff listed on page three. Additional information is available at the Division of Animal Industry’s webpage: <http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Animal-Industry/Florida-Cattle-Identification>.



Other types of Official Identification Tags are available from tag manufacturers who have been approved by USDA. These tags include panel (visual) tags and radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. These companies are assigned “official numbers” which they then reallocate to the purchaser of the tags. Consult your local farm/ranch supplier to ask about official ID tags. The USDA website: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/> has a listing of the types of acceptable identification which meets the federal requirements.



Breed registration brands and tattoos, which provide individual identification, may be accepted as Official Identification if the registration certificate accompanies the animal.

## **Official Identification Tags provided by USDA & FDACS**

National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags are now being made available through USDA at no charge to cattle owners. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry can assign a supply of these tags to your premises for use on your cattle. To order these tags, contact Stephen Monroe at (850) 410-0944 or the District Supervisor listed below for your area. Official tags are also available for purchase from your animal health products supplier.

NUES tag distribution will be direct from USDA for large shipments. Orders of less than 1,000 tags will be available from the Division of Animal Industry District Offices. Tag applicator pliers will also be on loan from these offices, pending availability. Pliers can be purchased from animal health supply companies. These tags are manufactured by Hasco and the specific applicators to fit them are Hasco Style # 7S and Hasco Style #49/56SA.

### **Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry District Offices**

**District 1** (Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Bay, Jackson, Calhoun, Gulf, Gadsden, Liberty, Franklin, Leon and Wakulla counties)

Contact: Mr. Manny Egusquiza Office Telephone: 850-718-0459  
Mobile Telephone: 850-573-0299 or [Manuel.Egusquiza@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Manuel.Egusquiza@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
2794 Levy Street, Suite B, Cottondale, Florida 32431

**District 2** (Jefferson, Taylor, Madison, Hamilton, Suwannee, Lafayette, Columbia, Baker, Union, Bradford, Alachua, Nassau, Duval, Clay and St. Johns counties)

Contact: Mr. Dana DeJarnatt Office Telephone: 386-362-1775  
Mobile Telephone: 386-867-0610 or [Dana.DeJarnatt@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Dana.DeJarnatt@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
912 Nobles Ferry Road, Live Oak, Florida 32024

**District 3** (Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, Citrus, Sumter, Marion, Putnam, Flagler, Volusia, Lake and Seminole counties)

Contact: Mr. Robert Capote Office Telephone: 352-620-3441  
Mobile Telephone: 352-427-2134 or [Robert.Capote@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Robert.Capote@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
2232 N.E. Jacksonville Road, Ocala, Florida 34470

**District 4** (Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Orange, Polk, Osceola, Brevard and Indian River counties)

Contact: Mr. Chris Sapp Office Telephone: 863-578-1863  
Mobile Telephone: 813-363-4820 or [Christopher.Sapp@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Christopher.Sapp@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
170 Century Blvd., Bartow, Florida 33830

**District 5** (Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Lee, Hendry, Collier, and Charlotte counties)

Contact: Mr. John Court Office Telephone: 863-993-4732  
Mobile Telephone: 863-990-0568 or [John.Court@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:John.Court@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
2150 N.E. Roan Street, Suite 200, Arcadia, Florida 34266

**District 6** (Highlands, Glades, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Dade and Monroe counties)

Contact: Mr. Victor Crews Office Telephone: 863-462-5171  
Mobile Telephone: 561-723-0755 or [Barney.Crews@FreshFromFlorida.com](mailto:Barney.Crews@FreshFromFlorida.com)  
7558 N.W. 96<sup>th</sup> Court, Okeechobee, Florida 34972