

Electronic Identification of Animals

Kyle Riggs, Lance Strange, Adam Schmeltz

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Objective:

- Develop a checklist to assist in preparation for the EID system.
- Design a plan for M & M Farms to implement EID into their herd.
- Implement the EID system into M & M Farms herd.
- Evaluate the EID system



What is Electronic Identification?

- The future standard of identifying cattle in the United States
- It is an ear tag consisting of a microchip with the capability of being read using a reading device.
- Each tag consists of its own 12 digit number.



What is Electronic Identification?

- Information can be recorded in a database by each individual EID tag number.
- Each farm location will have a Premise ID number that will be recorded with each animal.
- The premise ID will be used for traceability of animals.

Why do we need EID?

- To have traceability of all animals in the United States.
- To reduce the spread of diseases when outbreaks occur using the animal's EID number and farm premise ID number to trace them back to the origin of the problem.
- To make records of buying, selling, and herd management more simplistic and more accurate.



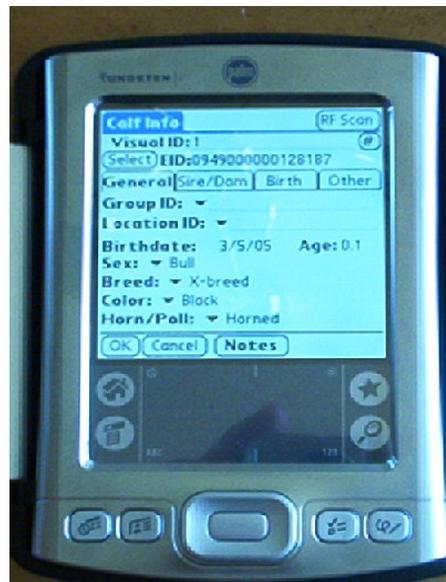


What are the advantages does EID provide for the producer?

- It makes management practices more simplistic and more accurate.
- Possible premium prices for cattle with EID tag and proper herd data.
- Eliminates the paper trail of herd data and information.

Advantages to using EID cont.

- It has the ability to record various information including:
 - Breed and sex of animal
 - Pedigree information
 - Vaccination and treatment record.
 - Birthdates and calculates age.
 - Birth weights and average daily gain of animals
 - Cow information concerning calving and milking information.
 - Various other characteristics of each animal



What are the disadvantages of EID?

- Acceptability of this new system of identifying cattle.
 - Technology may frighten breeders.
- Added expenses to purchase tags, EID program, and a personal data assistant.