

## Livestock Disaster Preparedness – IDENTIFICATION

Proper and effective identification of each animal is critical to biosecurity, animal health, ownership and inventory.

Traceability including distinct and accurate animal identification, premises identification and movement records is fundamental to disease response and emergency preparedness protocols. Cattle, bison and sheep must be identified with an industry approved RFID tag (CCIA, CSIP) at all times.

The Alberta **Livestock Identification Services (LIS)** oversee and enforce the **Alberta Stray Animals Act** and will be present at all receiving sites. They also have legal responsibility for all loose livestock.

All livestock will require a means of identification upon arrival at the evacuation center, including those found as stray or abandoned. Acceptable/common methods of permanent identification for equine include microchips, hot iron brands, freeze brands, lip tattoos, registration papers and photos (both sides, from front and from back).

Temporary identification for livestock may include paint brands, tags on halters, descriptive markings, spray paint. Owners should also have photos of their animals (i.e. llamas, horses) for proof of ownership.

