



## PREMISES IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

### What is a Premises Identification Number (PID)?

By definition, a premises is any parcel of land on which animals, plants or food are grown, kept, assembled or disposed of. All premises can register with their provincial government and receive a number (based on national standards) that correlates with that piece of land or property. Therefore, the PID number correlates directly with the physical land, and not the owner of the land or the business associated with the land. The number is anonymous, and remains the same through any transfers of ownership of the land.

Protection of personal information is a primary objective of the program. As per the [Health of Animals Act](#), personal information cannot be disclosed for any purposes except those prescribed in the Act.

#### Examples of premises include:

- Farms
- Stables
- Pastures and community pastures
- Fairgrounds and show grounds
- Vet clinics
- Auctions
- Racetracks
- Hobby farms

### What are the benefits of PID Numbers?

Knowing where livestock are located and how to reach owners, operators, farmers or emergency contacts is key to a rapid, accurate and cost-effective response to animal health or emergency issues. Premise identification is a critical component in developing a national identification system.

For example, if a reportable disease (such as *Equine Infectious Anemia*) is discovered, all the premises in the area with animals that may be at risk of becoming infected can be identified and notified via their PID number. At the time of registration of the PID number, the land owner can indicate how they would like to be notified when/if necessary (e.g. telephone or email).

#### PID benefits:

- Allow for rapid notification of livestock farmers
- Help prepare for, manage and reduce the impact of an animal health issues, such as disease, flooding, or sanitary issues
- Track and trace animals in the event of an emergency



## What information is needed?

- Basic land and contact information
- Legal land description or geo-referenced coordinates
- Contact and/or owner name and coordinates, and name of operation, if available
- Premises type (e.g. farm, abattoir, etc)
- Animals, plants and food that have been kept, assembled, disposed of or grown in the last year on the premises

Information will be verified to ensure accuracy, and is protected under privacy legislation.

### How will the information be used?

The information will only be used for the purposes for which it was collected - to prepare for, respond to, or recover from a disaster or animal disease. Complete and accurate contact information is essential for officials to deal with these situations.

## How much does it cost to apply for a PID?

There is no cost. PIDs can be obtained for free.

## How do I get a PID?

The provinces and territories are responsible for administering premise ID, and are implementing the program according to their own requirements. For more information, or to find a contact in your province or territory, please visit [www.agr.gc.ca/traceability](http://www.agr.gc.ca/traceability).

If you have any further questions, or would like to share a story about how a PID number has benefited you, please contact:

Kristy House  
Manager of Welfare and Identification  
[khouse@equestrian.ca](mailto:khouse@equestrian.ca)