



State of Wisconsin
Governor Tony Evers

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
Bradley M. Pfaff, Secretary

Farm-raised Deer ID Requirements for the Herd Owner

Revised: 02/01/2019

Each farm-raised deer over 12 months shall be identified with two IDs, at least one of which must be official. If the second ID is not official, it needs to be individually unique to the herd. (The exception would be natural born additions to a herd non-enrolled in the CWD Herd Status Program do not need to have two ID's if they are not moving to another farm location.) For CVI identification, lab sample submission and the physical inventory, the veterinarian should include all of the IDs. Herd records should contain all of the ID's for each farm-raised deer in the herd.

No farm-raised deer carcass, or part, may be taken off its premises without an official ID or dead deer tag. It is preferred that the farmer place an official ID in the carcass if not already present. Owner-qualified CWD samplers should include all ID's for the deer sampled on the CWD Sample Information Form.

Official ID*

- USDA NUES tags: 9-digit (35ABC1234 or 35WIABC1234) or 8-digit (35AB1234 or WIAB1234) with U.S. shield
- AIN ear tags: 15-digit (840 003 000 123 456) with U.S. shield
- ISO microchip: 15-digit starting with 840
- AVID microchip: 9-digit (123-456-789) if implanted prior to 3/11/14
- "900" series microchip: (977s, 985s, 966s, etc.) if implanted prior to 3/11/15

*A person may **not** apply an official ID to an animal that already has an official ID except an 840 tag or microchip may be applied to an animal that already has a NUES tag.

Unique ID

- Dead deer tag: (A 12345)**
- CWD plastic tag: 11-digit (35CV123-1234)
- CWD plastic tag: 9-digit (WI-123-1234)
- NAEBA elk tag: (WI ABC 123 A)
- AVID and Non-ISO ("900" series) microchips are not official ID if implanted after the dates listed above but they can be used as "Unique" ID
- Farm bangle tag if the tag has been recorded on the farm census. If more than one color is being used, it is preferred that **numbers** are not duplicated in the herd to avoid confusion (for example, Red 35, Pink 35). Apply unique new numbers to deer when tagging. **Do not reuse these tag numbers.**

****Dead deer tags:** Farmers who are submitting carcasses or heads for CWD sampling need to have either an official ID or a dead deer tag attached to the head. If using a dead deer tag, we also ask that an official ID be placed in the ear or tongue of the carcass. If tags were removed from a trophy deer carcass at the farm for photos, the tags should be re-attached to the head in some manner prior to submitting the head to the veterinarian for sampling. If the carcass is from a natural born addition to a hunting preserve, it may not have been officially identified previously. In this case, we ask that official ID be attached somewhere on the head prior to presenting it for sampling. The dead deer tag may also be attached. All ID tags present on the deer or attached later should be recorded on herd records.

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DNA Testing

A herd owner may request DNA comparison testing to confirm that the sample submitted for CWD testing originated from the same animal as the submitted tag and/or tissue combination. DNA testing will not be able to be completed unless **official ID with tissue attached (fresh, not in formalin) is submitted along with the regulatory diagnostic samples**. If the carcass was a natural born addition to a non-enrolled herd and was not previously officially identified, the herd owner or sampling veterinarian should adhere to the following:

1. Apply official ID to the carcass.
2. Remove a quarter size section of tissue along with the tag.
3. Submit to the laboratory the official ID tag with affixed tissue (fresh, not in formalin) along with the regulatory diagnostic samples.
4. Record the newly applied official ID in herd records.

Microchips: If the only official ID for an animal is a microchip, in order for DNA testing to be completed, remove chip along with a portion of attached tissue and submit tissue and chip to the laboratory along with the other fresh regulatory samples. If deer are identified with a microchip, please remember to inform state or federal meat inspectors of the microchip as they are going to slaughter. Microchips need to be removed by inspectors at time of slaughter on any carcass inspected for human consumption.

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