

Traceability



Notice of Change

This Notice of Change provides official notice to farmers on changes being implemented to the proAction® requirements in the Traceability module.

Tagging: now

LT2 Requirement: double-tagging dairy cattle with approved dairy tags (NLID-ATQ).

Reference: proAction Workbook and Reference Manual (Chapter 3)

Effective date: October 5, 2020

Description of changes:

Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC), through discussion with the Traceability Technical Committee and the DairyTrace Advisory Committee, has reviewed the LT2 requirement exception that allows single RFID ear tags for calves born on farm and destined for beef industry.

The resulting change is to permit dairy farmers to use either an approved dairy tag or approved beef tag for these calves. Effective immediately, the requirement is revised to:

LT2: Are your dairy cattle double-tagged with approved dairy tags (NLID-ATQ)?

- Calves must tagged within 7 days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm of origin, whichever comes first.*
- Any calves born on farm and destined for the beef industry may be identified with a single RFID ear tag (**approved dairy tag or approved beef tag**) - except for provinces that require double-tagging.*

DFC will revise some supporting documents this fall, and other documents, such as the Workbook and Reference Manual, in 2021.

Rationale*: The DairyTrace program, in partnership with National Livestock Identification for Dairy (NLID), has introduced a single white button tag for dairy cattle born outside of the province of Québec that are destined to leave the farm at a young age for the beef industry. The single white button tag is designed to replace the currently allowable use of the single yellow button tag. Using the single white button tags will keep these animals within the DairyTrace system, and the tag revenues within the dairy industry.

The proAction requirement, LT2, was revised to clearly indicate that the new single white button tags can be used by dairy farmers, in the same manner as the single yellow button tags.

Note: all other animals on dairy farms across Canada must be double-tagged.

***Please refer to the Single White Button Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for more information.**

Note: The change to LT2 will be incorporated into the next version of the proAction Workbook and Reference Manual in 2021.

National Traceability Database

Lactanet Canada is now the official national administrator responsible for traceability of dairy bovine animals: The DairyTrace Portal (Lactanet Canada) is replacing the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database (Canadian Cattle Identification Agency).

Reference: proAction Reference Manual (Chapter 3)

Effective date: October 5, 2020

Description of changes:

In June 2020, Lactanet Canada was recognized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) as the national administrator responsible for traceability of dairy bovine animals under Part XV of the *Health of Animals Regulations*. On October 5, 2020, the DairyTrace Portal was launched, replacing the CLTS traceability database for dairy farmers.

This has resulted in the following changes, which will be reflected in the next version of the proAction Reference Manual in 2021:

- Farmers who have been reporting traceability data to the CLTS will need to shift to reporting to DairyTrace. Visit www.DairyTrace.ca for information on how to do this.
- Throughout the traceability documents, DFC will replace Traceability National System referring to CLTS with the DairyTrace Portal:

Reporting Requirements

LT4, LT6 and LT8 requirements: reporting animal births, animal move-ins, and tag retirements to the national traceability database.

Reference: proAction Workbook and Reference Manual (Chapter 3).

Effective date: September 1, 2021

Description of changes:

Farmers will be required to start reporting animal births, move-ins and tag requirements to the DairyTrace database as of September 1, 2021, and the validation process will incorporate those requirements the same day.

Rationale: Until now, dairy farmers outside of Quebec could report data to the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) only via the internet or electronic means (i.e. MOBO app, directly in a web-based account or via uploading a document to a web-based account). Since some farmers were not able to do this for religious or financial reasons, DFC temporarily adjusted the validation of reporting requirements for all farmers until alternative means of reporting were available. DairyTrace, which was launched October 5, 2020, offers both electronic (e.g. web portal, mobile App, email) and non-electronic reporting options (e.g. phone, fax). Due to the excellent reporting options now available, DFC has decided to make the validation of reporting requirements for all dairy farmers mandatory as of September 1, 2021. The timeline provides time to communicate with and help farmers and validators adjust.

Until August 31, 2021, proAction validators will still ask farmers if they are reporting data and, if they are, how they are doing it, to encourage early adoption of reporting. Farmers who are reporting properly will receive a compliant score for these requirements. Farmers who are either not reporting properly, or at all, will receive a not applicable score and will still be able to achieve proAction registration.

Reporting traceability data to the national database is essential to a strong and responsive traceability system, which is critical to a swift and effective response to an animal health emergency.

Tagging: Future

LT2 requirement: double-tagging dairy cattle with approved dairy tags (NLID-ATQ).

Reference: proAction Workbook and Reference Manual (Chapter 3).

Effective date: September 1, 2023

Description of changes:

As part of the review of the LT2 requirement, DFC has decided to no longer allow the use of the yellow button tag by September 2023.

This will result in the following changes, which will be noted in the next version of the proAction Reference Manual in 2021, but not reflected in the wording of LT2 until 2023:

LT2 requirement: Are your dairy cattle double-tagged with approved dairy tags (NLID-ATQ)?

- Calves must tagged within 7 days of birth or before the animal leaves the farm of origin, whichever comes first.*
- Any calves born on farm and destined for the beef industry may be identified with a single RFID ear tag (approved dairy tag ~~or approved beef tag~~) - Except for provinces that require double-tagging.*

Rationale: With the launch of DairyTrace, ensuring all dairy information in the dairy system will help ensure a strong and responsive traceability system. The transition to the single white button will keep these animals' information within the DairyTrace system, and, also importantly, keep the tag revenues within the dairy industry, ensuring a financially sustainable system.