

OFFICIAL ID OF SHEEP AND GOATS IN OKLAHOMA

Until further notice, plastic tags are no longer provided free of charge from USDA-APHIS. Metal tags are still available free of charge from USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services by calling our office at **405-254-1797**. Request the number of tags that you will need for a three year period.

Metal tag applicators

The 505S applicator for the official metal tags can be purchased directly from the National Band and Tag Company.

Other applicators should not be used since it is unlikely that another tag applicator or pliers will correctly close the tag, resulting in increased risk of ear injury/infection and decreased tag retention.

National Band & Tag Company
721 York St., P.O. Box 72430
Newport, KY 41072-0430, USA
Phone: (859) 261-2035
Fax: (859) 261-8247
E-mail: tags@nationalband.com
<https://nationalband.com/metal-ear-tags/>

Plastic tags and applicators

- Official plastic tags and applicators can be purchased by the public from multiple tag companies. Company information is on the APHIS public webpage at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/scrapie-tags>
- Producers wanting official plastic tags must order tags directly from the following approved tag manufacturers and must provide their flock ID when ordering; call (405) 254-1797 for a flock ID.
 - Premier (800) 282-6631
 - Shearwell (320) 760-4696
 - Allflex (833) 727-2743
- If ordering RFID tags or implants, they must also have an NPIN or LID; these can be obtained by calling the State office at (405) 522-6141.

- Producers who have Allflex tags and need a new applicator or pin may purchase Allflex applicators or replacement pins online by searching with the words “Allflex Universal Tagger” or “Allflex Universal Tagger Pin” or by contacting Allflex at 833-727-2743. **Note:** An additional pin is stored in the handle of the red Allflex taggers.

All sheep and goats of any age must be identified before being moved for:

- Sale or show
- Slaughter
- Change of Ownership

Note: Unidentified animals arriving at livestock auctions and special sales will be identified before sale, most likely for a fee.

Each of the following qualifies as official identification:

- An official plastic or metal USDA tag, *or*
- Legible official registry tattoo (only if the animal is accompanied by a registration certificate listing the current owner), *or*
- For animals not suitable for eartagging, legible flank or tail-web tattoo containing the herd ID assigned by USDA.

Note: Some livestock markets may not recognize tattoos as sufficient ID and may still tag your animals for a fee.

- ➔ • **Do NOT double tag animals with official ID**
- ➔ • **Do NOT remove existing official ID**

What are the record keeping requirements?

The following records are required to be kept for at least 5 years:

Animals Tagged by Owners:

- Date the animals were tagged, *and*
- Tag numbers applied, *and*
- Breed, age and sex.

Purchased and Sold Animals:

- Animal ID, name, address and phone number of seller or market.
- Animal ID, name, address and phone number of person or market animal(s) sold to.
- Date of purchase or sale, *and*
- Breed, age and sex.

Questions? Please call (405) 254-1797