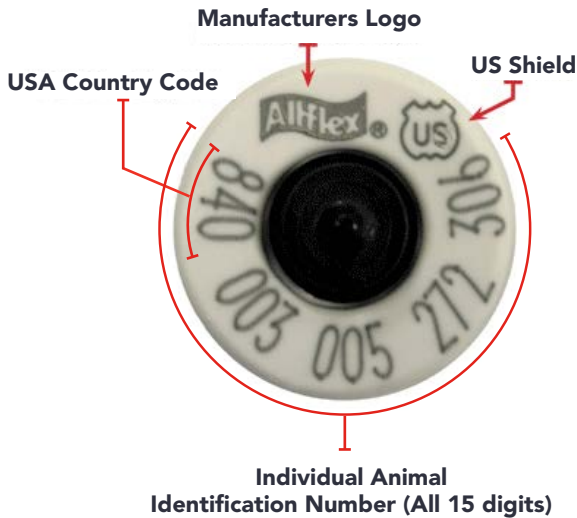
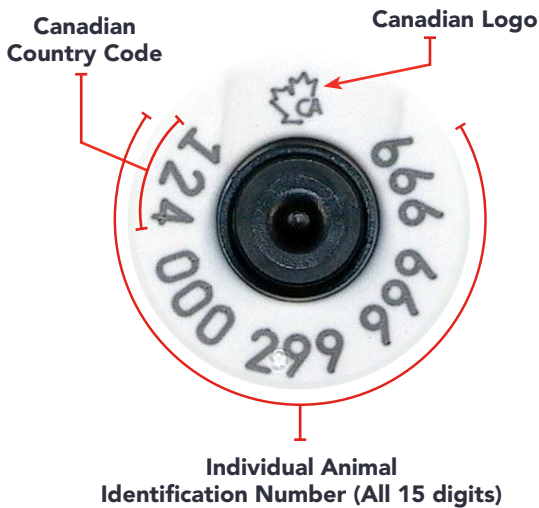


# Tagging USA - Imported Animals

## FRONT - USA



## FRONT - Canada



Official Canadian tags start with "124" and have a half maple leaf/CA logo on the tag representing the international numeric country code for Canada. The international recognized code for the US is "840" plus the US shield and cannot be reproduced on tags printed in Canada.

Good News! Effective July 1, 2014, the U.S. RFID ear tags with identification numbers beginning with "840" applied to bovine dairy animals are considered equivalent to approved Canadian tags.

**UNDER CANADA'S HEALTH OF ANIMALS REGULATIONS**, imported animals for dairy purposes must be identified with an approved Canadian tag or an official tag deemed equivalent to Canadian-approved tags regardless of the duration of their stay in Canada. Cattle imported for immediate slaughter do not need to be identified with an approved tag.

"Breeding cattle imported into Canada must have a tag applied before import or as soon as they arrive at initial destination under the national livestock identification program in accordance with section 189 of the Health of Animals Regulations" **unless they have been identified with a compliant "840" U.S. RFID tag.**

With this new ruling, recognizing "840" RFID U.S. tags for traceability in Canada will enhance the ability to manage health issues by maintaining the identity of livestock that crosses the Canadian border. It will also eliminate the need to insert another Canadian official tag to imported animals for dairy purposes.

NLID and ATQ require dual/security tagging for dairy in support of traceability and Holstein Canada for registration. In Québec, ATQ regulations require **double identification** of each calf, steer and cow raised in Québec and destined for human consumption to ensure the animal remains identified in the event of a lost tag.

### What if?

The animal is identified with two official US tags starting with "840" (RFID button and visual panel tags).

The animal is only identified with an official US electronic button tag starting with "840".

The animal is not identified with official US RFID tags starting with "840".

### What to do:

The owner does not need to re-identify the animal; no official Canadian tag needs to be purchased.

In Québec, the owner must complete the identification of the animal by affixing a blank tag with the same number written on it. For all other provinces, contact NLID to order your secondary tag.

In Québec, the owner must purchase a set of official Canadian tags from ATQ, or use a set from your tag inventory and report import event info to ATQ. For all other provinces, the owner must purchase a set of official Canadian tags from NLID, or use a set from your inventory and report the import event to CCIA.

If a registered animal is imported to Canada from the US for dairy purposes, the Associations exchange the herdbook data to support registration of future progeny. As part of this process, Holstein Canada will continue to report import events to CCIA.

# STILL A MUST!

Information for imported cattle must be reported to Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) within 30 days; Owners in Québec have seven (7) days to report animal information to ATQ!

## WHAT TO REPORT:

Event type (i.e. import) and event date; destination and source of origin premises or account number; tag number and animal information (sex, birthdate).

## WHERE TO REPORT:

- Report information to CCIA, or in Québec, to ATQ.

## CCIA

- Online on CCIA website using CLTS file upload: [www.canadaid.ca](http://www.canadaid.ca)
- Online Tutorial: <http://support.canadaid.ca/wp-content/uploads/13A-Imported-840-Tags.pdf>
- Call CCIA directly at 1-877-909-2333.

## ATQ (QUEBEC ONLY)

- Online, using ATQ Direct, or by using Form CLIC software.
- Call ATQ directly at 1-866-270-4319.
- Fax or mail your duly completed form to ATQ.

\* The requirement to report "Import" events applies to all dairy cattle bearing an "840" tag or not.

## U.S. RFID Tag Loss

If a dairy animal loses its official US electronic button tag starting with "840", or both US tags (electronic and visual) beginning with "840":

The owner must purchase a set of official Canadian tags from NLID (or ATQ if in Québec) or use a set from the owner's inventory. Canadian approved tags with the marking "USA" will no longer be available or required to be applied.

If a dairy animal loses its visual US panel tag starting with "840":

In Québec, the owner must complete the identification of his animal by affixing a blank tag and write the same number on it. For all other provinces contact NLID to order a secondary panel.

Replacing lost "840" tags with "124" official tags requires the animal's owner to report both numbers to the administrator database so the numbers can be cross referenced.

# 840

### **Benefits of Having Dual Tagging for dairy with RFID button and visual tag with matching unique number:**

1. Enhances visual recognition of animal for herd management.
2. Harmonizes herd management ID systems for dairy in Canada.
3. Ensures a back-up in case of tag loss; security tagging for dairy; and one number for the life of the animal.

