

Premises Registration

Premises registration is fundamental to containing animal diseases

Knowing where animals are located and how to reach producers is the key to rapid, accurate, and cost-effective disease response. Premises information helps first responders quickly determine the size and scope of a disease outbreak or other animal health event and the resources needed to contain it. Producers who register their premises provide basic contact information. Registered producers are notified quickly when a disease situation might put their animals at risk. They then have the information and assistance they need to take action and protect the health of their animals. Premises registration is carried out by the States and Tribes. USDA recommends that producers provide at a minimum the following information during the registration process:

- Name of the entity
- Appropriate contact person
- Full address for the premises
- Contact phone number(s)
- Operation type (production unit, market, exhibition, slaughter plant, etc.)

Each State or Tribe may have its own additional premises information requests, based on local needs. Registered producers receive a Premises Identification Number (PIN), a 7-digit alphanumeric number used to identify livestock and poultry premises.

Premises registration is the foundation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS)

Premises information alone is of critical importance to preventing the spread of animal diseases. Therefore, premises registration is a valuable tool in itself and functions independent of NAIS' other two components: animal identification and animal tracing. Producers who choose to register their premises are not required to participate in the other two NAIS components. They can evaluate all three NAIS components and determine the level of participation that best serves their needs.

Participation in premises registration is voluntary at the Federal level.

USDA does not require participation in premises registration or any other component of NAIS. Individual States may choose to keep premises registration voluntary or not, based on local needs. You can participate by contacting your State or Tribal NAIS Administrator for the appropriate form. A list of the State NAIS Administrators is available at www.usda.gov/nais. You may opt to register your premises online (available in many States), or by mailing or faxing the form to the NAIS contact for your area.

Individuals' private information is protected

Federal law protects individuals' private information and confidential business information from disclosure.

Why participate in premises registration?

- Rapid response requires rapid communications. Producers who register their premises ensure they will receive the information they need to protect their animals and their investment if and when a disease outbreak or animal health event occurs.
- Time is money. A modern, streamlined information system ensures that the disease investigation process—which includes notifying affected producers—is completed timely and effectively.
- Opening the lines of communication between producers and animal health officials is critical.
- A single report of disease can shut down the movement of animals. Rapid disease response enables animal movements, markets, and exhibitions to return to normal more quickly.
- In a market-driven economy, the ability to rapidly respond to a disease situation is key to maintaining consumer demands and protecting access to domestic and international markets.

- Prices at home are dictated by the overall demand for U.S. products. Therefore, to maintain and protect prices for domestic commodities, it is crucial for international markets to stay open.
- By choosing to register their premises, producers become part of a national animal disease response network. They join industry, State and Federal partners, and fellow producers in controlling and preventing the spread of disease.
- Each producer belongs to a larger community. Producers who choose to register their premises will be better informed to protect their premises and their livelihood. In turn, they will help prevent disease spread and minimize the economic damage of an animal disease outbreak or animal health event in their communities.

How to Participate in Premises Registration

To participate in Premises Registration, visit your State's department of agriculture Web site or contact your State or Tribal NAIS Administrator. Contact information for all State NAIS Administrators is available at www.usda.gov/nais

Additional Information

For more information about NAIS, contact:

USDA, APHIS Veterinary Services
4700 River Road, Unit 43
Riverdale, Maryland 20737-1231
Telephone (301) 734-0799
Fax (301) 734-7964
www.usda.gov/nais

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