



Maryland Department of Agriculture

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Office of Marketing
Animal Industries and Consumer Services


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Animal Health

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To: Maryland Accredited Veterinarians

From: Michael J. Odian, DVM 
State Veterinarian and Chief, Animal Health Program

Subject: **FREE RFID TAGS & TAGGERS AVAILABLE FOR VETERINARIANS**

Date: November 16, 2020



The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is offering **FREE RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) Tags & Taggers** to all Maryland Accredited veterinarians. We are providing free RFID tags to veterinarians, cattle and swine producers to improve disease traceability in Maryland and the U.S., and to improve the ability of Maryland producers to move livestock nationally and internationally. RFID tags allow producers, market operators, exporters, and veterinarians to identify cattle easily using electronic wands that record identification information without touching the animal. As a reminder, all livestock moving interstate must be identified using “Official Identification”, which includes RFID tags.

To ensure traceability, we require that you log the tags that you apply or dispense to producers, and a copy of these logs to us monthly to we can enter tag information into a searchable database in case of a disease outbreak. To make this easier for you, we will supply a pre-printed list of tags by number, and a logbook to keep track of tags.

TO ORDER TAGS:

- Email your request to animal.disease.traceability@maryland.gov, including your name and current associated address of business for premises identification, type of tags and number of tags requested, or
- Submit your request by calling the Animal Health Program at 410-841-5810.








All veterinarians requesting tags must register their business premises with MDA to obtain any Official Identification tags. Veterinarians who already have a premises registration – please provide address information so we can confirm we have the correct premises registration.

Veterinarians may request any type of RFID tag we have in stock, while supplies last. Please see the attached sheet for a description of available tags. Veterinarians and producers can always order tags at cost by contacting vendors listed here: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/AIN_device_list.pdf.

I hope you will take advantage of this offer to try out how RFID - Radio Frequency tags may benefit your business and help us all respond rapidly to any disease threat in Maryland livestock. If you have more questions regarding this offer or any animal disease traceability matter, please call our ADT Coordinator, Dr. Jo Chapman, or our ADT Administrative Assistant, Ms. Della Penn, at 410-841-5810.

Attachment

**AVAILABLE RFID TAGS FOR VETERINARIANS FROM
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

<u>Tag Type</u>	<u>Picture/Description of Tag/Tagger</u>
1. White Button Single RFID Tags	
2. White PANEL/Button Single RFID Tags (Combo)	
3. Yellow Button Single RFID tags	
4. Yellow PANEL/White Button matching RFID Tags	
5. Yellow Button Single SWINE (small tags) RFID Tags	
6. Yellow Button/White back Single RFID Tags	
TAGGERS - Universal Total Tagger	
TAGGERS - Ultra Retractable Tagger* *Need both Ultra and Universal Tagger for #3, matching panel/button	