USDA Releases New NAIS Users Guide

Recently, USDA released a new users guide for the National Animal Identification System. The novelty of this release is the fact that no timeline exists for the mandatory implementation of the program. In fact, the new user guide explicitly states that although the program could authoritatively be mandatory, it will be kept voluntary at the federal level. USDA’s belief at this time is that voluntary market driven participation will still make the program successful. The system will push for livestock producers to recognize the potential animal health and marketing benefits of participating in the program.

The program will continue to focus on premise registration and enacting guidelines for voluntary participation. Even though it is voluntary, the program will still enact procedures to protect individual private information. As the program recognizes that livestock producers vary in their operations, the implementation procedures for those who choose to be in the program will vary. The complete user guide explains further details on compliance procedures. To view the entire user guide visit: [http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/index.shtml](http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/index.shtml)

If you would like more information contact Josh Davy at the Tehama County Cooperative Extension Office at (530) 527-3101.
Animal Identification Made Simple

Looking for a simple way to comply with new regulations for livestock identification and get a free steak dinner at the same time?

Then mark Thursday, December 14, 2006 5:30 pm on your calendar.

You will be able to obtain a premise number, which is presently the only requirement of the program.

There will be a discussion on the direction toward voluntary compliance and also the future animal identification needs to access certain markets.

The meeting will be held at the CSU, Chico Farm – Pavilion.

Please RSVP by December 12 to Kasey DeAtley at 530.828.4318 or kdeatley@csuchico.edu