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Premises Identification valuable in all livestock emergencies

Premises ID requires that all Alberta owners of animals, except household pets, be registered. The mandatory Traceability Premises Identification Regulation became effective in January 2009. The system keeps track of where farmers and different species of animal are located.

Brad Andres, Emergency Program Manager with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, says for the most part the Department uses the system to do tracking and notification of animal disease emergencies but this also applies to any possible emergency that could occur across the province.

For example, a wildfire runs through the countryside – What are the farms at risk? “We can use the system to pull out the farms that are in the path of the fire and make sure they’re warned. The same thing applies with train wrecks or tornadoes. It gives us a tool to try and identify who is at risk, depending on what the threat is. Once I’ve got the location for the hazard, or area of concern, within a couple of minutes I can identify all the farms that are within five, 10 or 15 kilometers of that event. We’ve got all the information and the emergency contact numbers in the system.”

For any animal owners who may not be in possession of a Premises ID number, Andres advises there are two ways to proceed. Numbers can be obtained on the Internet at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises or call the Ag Info Centre at 310-FARM.

Clip No. 1:

Premises Identification is used to keep track of farms and different species of animals located across the province. Brad Andrus, Emergency Program Manager with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, comments:

(13... “province.”)

Clip No. 2:

The Premises ID system is all-inclusive and deals with all other emergencies, says Andres:

(17... “is.”)

Clip No. 3:

Andres feels the system works very efficiently and very quickly:

(12... “system.”)

Clip No. 4:

There are two ways to register if any animal owner does not have a Premises ID, adds Andres:

(17 “mail in.”)

This story is brought to you by Alberta Farm Animal Care in partnership with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association.

For further information contact: Lorna Baird, Executive Director

(403) 662-8050