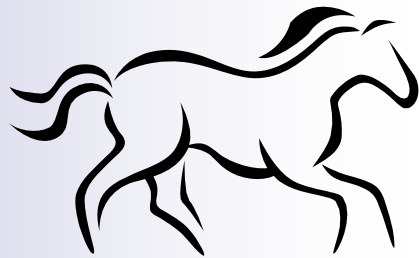




Equine Species Working Group Update: Equine Identification in the U.S.



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ID INFO EXPO



Why have a National Equine Identification Program?

- Protect our horses
- Reduce potential effects and enhance control of disease outbreaks
- Protect human health
- Address the threat of bio-terrorism
- Identify lost, stolen or displaced horses
- Maintain a stable economic environment
- Insure freedom of movement and export of horses
- Be a responsible member of the livestock industry



Equine Species Working Group

- **Established:** October 2003
- **Membership:** 37 industry representatives & Animal Health officials
- **Purpose:** To represent the equine industry in the development of NAIS; To evaluate NAIS, and the potential benefits and costs of the system
- **Goal:** Develop recommendations to USDA on how the equine industry might be included in NAIS, should it become mandatory

ESWG Members

- American Horse Council
- Breed Registries
- Various Discipline Organizations
- Event Organizations
- State and Federal Animal Health Officials
- Education/Extension
- Racing Commission
- Subcommittees:
 - Steering Committee
 - Breed Registry and Database Management
 - Identification and Technology
 - Communication and Owner Education
 - Pilot Project and Tracking Movement

Primary ESWG Focuses



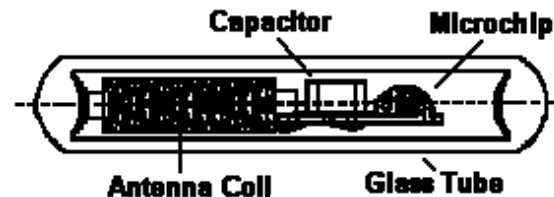
- Premises Identification
 - Defined by states
 - Important for traceback and prevention (vaccinations)
- Animal Identification
 - Microchips
- Movement Records
 - CVI, Brand Inspection, VS-127, International CVI

Equine Identification

- Animal Identification Number: 15-digit code
- ESWG recommendation for standardized identification:
 - RFID appears most practical at this time
 - By establishing a uniformly accepted method such as RFID, the following conditions are met:
 - Internationally compatible, Permits 15-digit identification number, allows for compatibility

ESWG ID Method Recommendation

- ISO/ANSI compatible RFID chips (11784/85, 134.2 kHz)
- **Implantation site:** nuchal ligament on left side, in middle third of the neck, halfway between the ears and withers.
- **RFID scanners:** at a minimum read 134.2kHz microchips and are able to identify the presence of a microchip in a horse.



ESWG Movement Recommendation

- Rely on current regulatory mechanisms in place for horses that move.
 - Brand Inspection
 - Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)
 - VS-127 Permit
 - International Certificate of Veterinary Inspection
- Additional reporting mechanism would be heavy burden on horse owners or premises managers/owners

