



CHAPS



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NDBCIA source and age plan streamlined for 2011 calf crop

Source and age verification for beef cattle producers in North Dakota just got easier. The North Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement Association board of directors approved the updated plan and gave Executive Secretary Kris Ringwall the go ahead to encourage cow-calf producers to source and age verify their 2011 production.

The streamlined plan will allow producers to place the proper tags, record the birth date of the calf and submit the records to the NDBCIA office staff.

“We need to have a calving book and a birth date to source and age verify the calves,” Ringwall said. “The calving book is the focal point and this change will make it possible for calves to leave the home place with the document of record verifying their source and age.”

While the other data (dam, sire, birth weight and weaning weight) is important for management evaluations, the data can be added at a later time.

The NDBCIA has been source and age verifying cattle through CalfAID™ for the last six years. CalfAID™ is an official USDA Process Verified Program that certifies annual production and provides producers with a SAV document of record.

The NDBCIA goal is to source and age verify 50,000 calves from the 2011 calf crop. The NDBCIA is promoting early submission of records in an effort to eliminate bottlenecks that producers may face when they market their calves.

For 2011, producers can submit their calving book records at various times throughout the



SAV Checklist

1. Producers need to complete the following 3 items in any sequence.

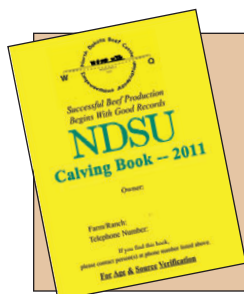
- Order ear tags from your livestock supply vendor. Ask vendor to send the electronic file to the NDBCIA office (ndsuhaps@ndsu.edu).
- Order your calving book.
- Select SAV program you want to join (CalfAID™ application form is enclosed).

2. Place tags in calves ears.

- 3. Verify VID and EID numbers match as per the calving book.

- 4. Submit the calving book to the NDBCIA office for verification.

- 5. Provide document of record to the sale barn and/or buyer(s) of calves. This document of record should also accompany calves during shipment. ■



Get Your 2011 Calving Book Now!





North Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement Association Official Calving Book Is Available.

NDBCIA, 1041 State Avenue, Dickinson, ND 58601

Phone: 701-483-2348 ext. 105; email: ndsuhaps@ndsu.edu

Source and Age Verification for 2011 Calves

Submit Paperwork Early and Save Money

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Aftermarket Back Verification
 <p>\$1⁰⁰ per head</p> <p>By June 30</p>	 <p>\$3⁰⁰ per head</p> <p>July 1-Sept. 30</p>	 <p>\$5⁰⁰ per head</p> <p>Oct. 1-Dec. 31</p>	 <p>\$5⁰⁰ per head + expenses</p> <p>After calves leave home ranch/farm</p>

year. A special NDBCIA committee will make final recommendations to the membership regarding fees at the NDBCIA annual meeting, February 24, 2011, in Bismarck.

The fee schedule being considered by the NDBCIA board of directors has four options as follows:

1. \$1.00 per head by June 30, 2011.
2. \$3.00 per head from July 1-Sept. 30
3. \$5.00 per head October 1-December 30
4. \$5.00 per head plus expenses for Aftermarket/Back Verification

The NDBCIA has been source and age verifying cattle through CalfAID™ for the last six years. CalfAID™ is an official USDA Process Verified Program that certifies annual production and provides producers with a document of record for source and age verification on cattle that meet the criteria. The document of record is a document that certifies the information provided by the producers is accurate.

In order for the NDBCIA to reach its goals to source and age verify 50,000 calves from the 2011 calf crop, the NDBCIA is promoting early submission of records. This can reduce and/or eliminate bottlenecks producers may face when they market their calves.

Requirements are minimal. Producers must complete the following steps:

Step One: This involves three elements that can be completed in random sequence.

- Order your ear tags from your livestock supply vendor. Ask your vendor to supply the

electronic file of tag numbers to the NDBCIA. This transmission of information will trigger a pre-printed calving book. The calving book will meet the requirements of CalfAID™ and most other USDA process verified programs if a producer opts to participate in a different program.

- When ordering tags, producers are reminded that technological advances in the ear tag industry have made it possible for the VID and the EID to be contained in the same tag. The producer decides the tagging and numbering system. The important part is that the calving book correctly matches and records the VID and EID numbers accurately and legibly. In many cases, the pre-printed calving book can help eliminate legibility issues.

- Producers can receive a blank calving book from the NDBCIA. Producers who have their tag vendor supply an electronic file to the NDBCIA office will receive a pre-printed calving book with the numbers matching the tags. The calving book is the heart of source and age verification. The information in the calving book is the basis for the document of record.

Step Two: Producers seeking to SAV their 2011 calves with the CalfAID™ program need to complete and submit an application form to the NDBCIA. This usually takes about one hour CalfAID™ team member Mick Riesinger said. Producers opting to use a different PVP need to contact the respective program officials for their application procedures.

Step Three: Place the tags in the calves' ears and verify that the VID and EID numbers match as per the calving book.

Step Four: Submit the calving book to the NDBCIA office. The NDBCIA office staff will verify the information and generate the source and age verification document of record. If information cannot be verified on a calf or calves, the calf is listed as non-conforming and the producer will have an opportunity to correct information. Most non-conforming issues are legibility issues, according to CalfAID™ team member Lee Tisor. He urged producers to use a sharp pencil and an eraser for legible calving book entries.

Step Five: Provide document of record to the sale barn and/or buyer(s) of calves. This document of record should also accompany calves during shipment.

Source and age verified calves are expected to increase in demand. The percentage of United States beef production for international markets is also expected to increase.

There is also a growing desire by local consumers to know where the beef they eat came from. This trend is expected to grow annually, which may provide additional value for source and age verified beef.

The NDBCIA through the CalfAID™ PVP is interested in helping all producers. The document of record means once a calf is SAV it does not need to be done again. The document of record follows the calf. ■



OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NDBCIA ANNUAL MEETING

As a member of the North Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement Association, you are invited to attend the annual meeting and supper which will be held at the Doublewood Inn in Bismarck, North Dakota on Thursday, February 24, 2011, beginning at 5:00

p.m. This is your official notice as prescribed in the by-laws of the NDBCIA. Please RSVP by email: lee.tisor@ndsu.edu or call 701-483-2348, ext. 105. K. A. Ringwall, Executive Secretary
North Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement Assn.

Calving book is major, necessary link in source and age verification process

By DR. KRIS RINGWALL
NDSU Extension Beef Specialist

It could be said the future of source and age verified beef starts with a calving book. Now is the time to prepare source and age verified cattle for marketing this fall.

While North Dakota Beef Cattle Improvement Association (NDBCIA) members have been source and age verifying cattle for nearly six years, source and age verification (SAV) is simple but not well understood.

The NDBCIA provides a calving book because a well-kept calving book is critical to the SAV process. The calving book identifies the calf and its birth date. Those two pieces of information are essential to the process.

Today, producers can order calving books with preprinted electronic identification (EID) so when a producer tags a calf with the herd numbering system, an EID button that matches the calving book may be placed securely in the calf's ear at the same time. The visual identification number is placed in the calving book, aligned with the proper EID, and the calf is ready to apply to a source and age verification program.

Producers are tempted to delay tagging calves with an EID until later in the season because there is uncertainty as to whether they should implement source and age verification. NDBCIA has seen this delay result in calves moving into the marketing channel without the proper paperwork and processing.

This can result in tempers getting a little heated. Buyers want the appropriate assurance and verified paperwork to accompany the calves to their next place of residence. The current NDBCIA goal is to have source and age verification completed by mid-summer so producers can maintain marketing flexibility and the verification process does not interfere with the marketing process.

Producers have two opportunities for the calving book. They can use a blank calving book or they can apply to have a pre-printed calving book through the NDBCIA. In the blank calving book, producers write the calf number and corresponding electronic tag and birth date. With the pre-printed calving book, producers order their electronic ear tags (high or low frequency) from the vendor of their choice. The vendor supplies the list of EIDs to the NDBCIA office.

The NDBCIA office orders a calving book pre-printed with the EIDs. It is possible to have the EIDs also included in the pre-printed calving book if a producer orders pre-numbered tags. All the producer has to do is tag the calf and record the birth date.

If tagging the calf at birth does not work, branding or spring calf processing could also be a good time to apply the EID. If done during spring processing, the EID number needs to correspond to the calving book and the tags crossed checked to assure that the correct EID was given to the correct calf. The time spent doing things right is certainly rewarded come fall as the industry is searching for more and more source and age verified calves.

The processes and documentation required of SAV are the opportunities for the future. Producers no longer sell their calves to the neighbor to feed out. Producers sell calves to the world.

As calves enter the market place, there are unique differences in the cattle. They may be all the same color, they may all bellow the same tune, they may all eat the same hay, but they are not the same cattle. Some have the right paper work. Some don't.

The future of beef is like crossing borders. Is your paper work in order? The result is three lines.

The first line includes those that move through quickly, generally only requiring a nod or slight verification. The second line includes those who simply do not have their paper work in order. Tempers get heated, but paper work takes time and the lines get long. The third line includes those that are turned back because they lack the appropriate paper work to move forward.

In the source and age verification line, there really are no large differences in the cattle type, ability to perform or the owner's ability to produce high quality calves. The difference is how the calves are prepared for market. Source and age verification takes time. The sooner the calves can be prepared, the more likely a producer can ensure peace of mind and end up in the first line.

And, ultimately the goal of the NDBCIA is to make things easier and less confusing. Pre-printed calving books help. Give your tag supplier a call and see what you can do. May you find all your ear tags. ■

Source and Age Verification

Steps for preparation:

1. Contact local tag supplier
2. Order visual and EID tags
3. Order calving book with preprinted EID numbers
4. Apply to calves at calving

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Frequently Asked SAV Questions

Why is source and age verification (SAV) important?

Source and age verification is a result of consumers (national and international) wanting to know where their food was grown.

Who can participate in SAV beef production?

Producers who comply with the guidelines of a USDA Process Verified Program can have their calves source and age verified.

Is a calving book necessary?

Yes. The calving book is a record of what happened on your farm/ranch regarding the source and age of your calves. The calving book can be obtained from the NDBCIA office. A simple spreadsheet or CHAPS Input Form that lists the necessary information can also qualify as a calving book. Producers must submit the calving book to the NDBCIA office for validation during the SAV process.

For how long is SAV good?

Calves need only be source and age verified one time. The Document of Record (data trail) follows the animal throughout its entire lifetime.

If a calf is SAV through CalfAID™, can it meet other PVP requirements?

Yes. Each PVP may be a little different and producers need to meet the requirements of each PVP. The requirements of CalfAID™ PVP, however, remain and the calf needs to retain its identification (VID and EID) so the animal can be tracked.

What are the minimum requirements for CalfAID™?

Each calf needs a visual and electronic identification (they could be separate or combined into one tag). The data in the calving book needs to match the tag information and be verifiable.

How early can a producer SAV calves?

The desired scenario is to have the Document of Record generated before the calves leave their original home, however, aftermarket and/or back verification may be possible and is more expensive. It is best to submit the

calving book and data a minimum of three weeks before marketing animals. For 2011, CalfAID™ participants who complete the SAV application and submit data before June 30, the cost to generate the Document of Record will be only \$1.00 per head. The Document of Record price is expected to increase incrementally as animals age.

When can I get the ear tags and what will the cost of the tags be?

Your local agricultural supply store is the best place to buy the tags. They should know the requirements for each PVP and can assist you. For 2011 CalfAID™ participants, pre-printed calf books that match the VID and EID tags are available. Ask your tag vendor to contact the NDBCIA office to be part of the CalfAID™ SAV program. The cost of tags will vary by vendor.

Do producers have to SAV their entire calf crop?

No. Some producers only want to SAV their steers, which is acceptable.

What kind of sale premium can I expect for SAV calves?

The demand for SAV produced beef is on the increase. Export usage is increasing. More and more buyers are requesting SAV calves. To attempt to quantify a dollar amount could be misleading so the decision is left up to each individual producer.

Is SAV for all producers?

No. While the NDBCIA CalfAID™ program that will SAV calves is available to all producers, the decision is an individual deci-

sion. Participants need to be committed to data collection and management details.

What does it cost to SAV calves for 2011 through the NDBCIA CalfAID™ program?

The investment is the time required to individually tag each calf and record it in a calving book, the price of the tag(s) and \$1.00 per head (if SAV records submitted by June 30, 2011). SAV paperwork submitted after June 30, 2011, will cost more.

How important is the Document of Record?

The Document of Record is an attest by the producer that the information contained in the calving book is correct and matches the VIDs and EIDs in the calves.

How can producers become involved in SAV for their calves?

There are many process verified programs available through the USDA (www.ams.usda.gov/). The NDBCIA program is CalfAID™. Information is available by contacting Mick Riesinger by email: Michael.Riesinger@ndsu.edu or by phone: 701-483-2348, ext. 102.

Can producers SAV calves after they have left the home farm/ranch?

If animals contained visual identification tags at the first site, it may possible but it is more expensive and there is no guarantee. Once animals leave their place of origin, many are co-mingled. The CalfAID™ team must physically visit the sites where the cattle may be co-mingled and verify the data. The cattle must also contain a VID and a EID to qualify for the NDBCIA PVP. This is discouraged because the success rate of back verification is very poor.

How long has CalfAID™ been providing SAV for cattle?

CalfAID™ was certified on October 3, 2005. It has been providing SAV since then. The certificate was renewed October 3, 2011.

Is there an audit process for the CalfAID™ PVP?

Yes. The USDA audits about 2% CalfAID™ participants. The audits are random and the USDA sends an auditor to verify the process. ■



The best time to tag a calf for source and age verification is at birth. Data collect and calving book information should be done then.

Source and Age Application Form

	Date:
	Optional Premise ID:
	Herd ID:

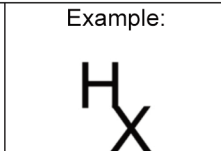
Name: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____ Sec/Twnshp/Range: _____

GPS Locations: (if available) _____



ND Brand #: _____ Brand Description: _____

Are you a current CHAPS user? Yes / No Do you have a current Calf Book? Yes / No Do you record individual calf birthdates? Yes / No Are calves individually identified? Yes / No Do you use a color code tag system at birth? Yes / No If yes, explain: _____	# of purchased calves in herd: _____ # of purchased pairs: _____ Date purchased: _____ Purchased from: _____	
	Calving records available for purchased calves? Yes / No	

# of calves produced each year: _____ Do you have multiple calving seasons? Yes / No Bull turn out date (MM DD YYYY): / /2010 Calving Date (MM DD YYYY): Beginning / /2011 Ending / /2011 Do you retain ownership? _____	Are you a stocker/backgrounder? Yes / No Do you have a feedlot at this site? Yes / No Do you feed out? Yes / No Do you manage share cows? Yes / No If yes, how are they managed? _____	
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Total Number of EID #'s: _____

High Freq Tags _____ Low Freq Tags _____

* Note: Calves with EID's will be entered into the CHAPS Program. A CHAPS generated report will be the Document of Record, and will provide you with source and age verified data.

Marketing Plans: _____

2011 CalfAID™ EID FEE STRUCTURE

Signature _____ Date _____	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> OPTION 1 NDSU Calving Books JAN 01 – JUNE 30 Data Management Fee: \$1.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____ </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> OPTION 2 JULY 01 – SEPT 30 Data Management Fee: \$3.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____ </td> </tr> <tr> <td> OPTION 3 OCT 01 – DEC 31 Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____ </td> <td> Aftermarket/Backverification Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf + Expenses x # head: _____ Total: \$_____ </td> </tr> </table>	OPTION 1 NDSU Calving Books JAN 01 – JUNE 30 Data Management Fee: \$1.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____	OPTION 2 JULY 01 – SEPT 30 Data Management Fee: \$3.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____	OPTION 3 OCT 01 – DEC 31 Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____	Aftermarket/Backverification Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf + Expenses x # head: _____ Total: \$_____
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OPTION 3 OCT 01 – DEC 31 Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf x # head: _____ Total: \$_____	Aftermarket/Backverification Data Management Fee: \$5.00/Calf + Expenses x # head: _____ Total: \$_____				

* 3 year record retention is required. Initials of Signee _____

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