



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS
10B Airline Drive
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12235

DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
518457-3502
FAX 518 485-7773

July 12, 2007

[REDACTED]

Phone#: [REDACTED]
County: [REDACTED]
PIN#: [REDACTED]

Dear Owner:

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has a long and successful history of preventing, controlling, and eradicating diseases of animal health and public health significance. Examples of successful disease control efforts include the elimination of equine infectious anemia in horses, eradication of brucellosis and tuberculosis in cattle and deer populations, eradication of chronic wasting disease in captive deer populations, elimination of low pathogenic avian influenza in poultry, and many others. Outbreaks of numerous emerging or introduced pathogens of animal and public health significance are managed, often without notice of the general production animal community. None of these achievements are possible in the absence of the cooperation, forward thinking and active participation of New York's animal caretakers and managers. Furthermore, no major disease control effort has been successful in the absence of an animal location and identification system.

New York State has adapted the framework of the National Animal Identification System and modified it for application in New York. The objective of the **New York Animal Health Information System** (NYAHIS) is to maintain the positive aspects of disease surveillance embraced by the national system, tempered by practical constraints and limitations of existing technology and industry practices.

Care was taken to ensure that New York producers would be considered part of the national system, and entitled to the recognition and privileges afforded that status.

The foundation of the New York Animal Health Information Systems rests upon the identification of livestock premises. Premises location (911 addresses) and description of animals on premises are recorded for livestock premises in New York. Defining the vulnerable

animal populations in advance of an animal threat sets the stage for appropriately limited, efficient, and effective response. Such advanced preparation will minimize disruption of businesses, and limit the economic and social impacts of an animal health threat.

This letter serves as notification that your business has been successfully registered in both the National and State Animal Health Information programs using information we have on record for your operation. This registration provides you with a national premises identification number which is unique to the geographical location of your operation.

Please keep the Premises Identification Card in a safe place as this number may, at the producer's discretion, be used to facilitate livestock transactions.

If any of the information used to register your premises is incorrect please indicate the correct information on the correction form and return it to the address on the bottom of the form.

Additionally, participation in the National Animal Identification System remains voluntary. If you do not wish to participate in the National Animal Identification System, please indicate that on the correction form, return the form and destroy the certificate and PIN card. I ask you to carefully consider the decision to withdraw for the following reasons:

- 1. Participation in the federal system grants recognition to New York livestock operations and ensures that New York livestock will be held in good standing for movement, health status, and other advantages available to cooperating states.*
- 2. A critical level of producer participation is essential to the success of the system. The ability to quickly detect animal populations at risk and guide the deployment of response resources will be degraded by non-participation. Consequently, an increased risk is transferred to all susceptible animal populations and livestock operations.*

The impact of non-participation reduces the statewide preparedness and response status and slows effective response. The result is a delayed industry recovery.

Thank you for your support of the New York Animal Health Information System. Your contributions will allow New York State, and the animal industries you represent, to continue to build upon past successes.

If you should have any questions regarding NYAHIS or your Premises Identification Number please feel free to contact the Department at (518) 457-3502.

Sincerely,



Sarah Blood-Szentmiklosy
NYAHIS Coordinator Division of Animal Industry
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

*Note: Producers managing herds and flocks currently enrolled in the SCRAPIE program should be aware that this Premises Identification number will be used to identify your geographical location. Your existing flock number beginning with the letters NY will be used to identify the flock, and refers to the flock or herd.