

CCIA Tag Remittance Fee Increases

The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) increased the tag remittance fees charged to manufacturers from 20 cents to 60 cents per tag effective June 1, 2009. This is the first tag remittance fee increase in the 10 year history of CCIA.

Since 1998, the system operated by CCIA, the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS), has grown exponentially in its complexity and in industry's reliance on the system to support commerce and market access. The CCIA has seen a tremendous positive response to the industry's animal identification and traceability initiative to date. There have been more than 250 million tag related events within the system, with an average of 47,000 submissions per month; submissions may relate to one or multiple tags. The CLTS supports programs like age verification and is instrumental in assisting the Canadian Food Inspection Agency with BSE investigations.

“With the increased demand on the CLTS over the last ten years, it was clear that we needed to secure funding to grow our resources accordingly,” says Kerry St. Cyr, Executive Director of the CCIA. “The majority of CCIA's operational funding comes from tag remittance fees. A portion of the system development has been funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Additional cost-recovery fees have been implemented through service agreements with other partners.”

The increase in remittance fees from the manufacturers will work to ensure CCIA's ongoing financial viability and its ability to maintain industry control of the database. The CCIA does not set the purchase price of a tag; the purchase price of a tag is set by the manufacturer, then the distributor and finally the dealer.

The CCIA system provides multi-species traceability services and currently houses the beef, dairy, bison and sheep information. The CLTS is a proven system that has received international recognition and continues to meet market access and traceability demands.

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