

Want an alternative to a livestock inspection? Use a Green Tag.

What are green tags?

Green tags are a tool to identify animals at the first point of sale instead of having a livestock inspection performed. They are only available to licensed Grade A milk producers when selling bull calves and freemartins.

Why are green tags important?

Green tags help the state Department of Agriculture trace livestock movements if there is an outbreak of an animal disease - to protect both public health and the livestock industry. By providing a fast way to track where an animal has been, green tags help limit the spread of animal disease.

How to use?

Green tags are for unbranded calves less than 30 days old that are not being sold out of state. The tags cannot be transferred to different animals. For a complete list of the conditions that must be met visit the website listed below and click on the 'Green tag conditions of use' link.

What happens if tags are used incorrectly?

State law sets the conditions under which dairy farmers must request a livestock inspection. Remember for you to follow inspection requirements, you must properly use green tags, or report on-line via the Electronic Cattle Transaction Reporting (ECTR) system as an alternative to an on-site inspection. One of these three options must be followed at any point of private sale, gift, or barter.

Misuse of green tags is a violation of the law. Violators are subject to a fine of \$205 for a first offense. The state Department of Agriculture takes such violations seriously and will issue fines if violations are committed.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on green tags, or to order green tags, visit agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalID/tags.aspx or call (360) 725-5493.



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