

Guidance for Scrapie Program Tag Orders

Effective December 3, 2018 (significant changes are highlighted)

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Metal tag orders	1
Recommended distribution methods for tag requests based on order size	2
Metal tag applicators provided at USDA expense	4
Plastic tag orders:.....	5
Producers in the SFCP Export Category.....	6
How producers and others can purchase plastic tags and/or applicators	6

Introduction

Due to budget constraints and a new metal tag contract with higher costs, APHIS is **only** providing metal serial tags at no cost to industry. (See page 4, for use of plastic tags for disease response and surveillance testing.) The **regular, formerly white, metal serial tags are orange** under the new contract. This change was made at industry request to make the tags more visible on white-faced sheep. You can order regular orange metal serial tags or slaughter only blue serial tags for producers at no charge to them **up to one order of 100 tags every 24 months**. Metal serial tags will be provided for markets and RSSS sites in the amounts needed through FY 2019. **Field offices may provide serial tags to recognized dealers who maintain appropriate records in the number needed for business operations in FY 2019.** Other non-breeding entities who handle sheep or goats in commerce (example, feedlot operators) or who tag sheep or goats for others (such as accredited veterinarians) can only receive **one order of 100 tags every 24 months at no cost**. **Field offices may use their discretion to provide 4-H and other youth program leaders with an appropriate number of tags for animals belonging to young people participating in their programs if they keep the required records.**

National Band and Tag (NB&T) is allowed up to 3 weeks from order receipt to ship tags so requestors will typically get their tags in 4 weeks. (Any individual order over 6 weeks or a pattern of orders typically being over 5 weeks should be reported to scrapie@aphis.usda.gov; please include the order information.)

Metal tag orders

Orders for metal tags can be handled in different ways, depending upon the size of the order and personnel resources in a VS Area Office or in a State office that provides tags. In this guidance, both will be referred to as Field Offices.

Recommended distribution methods for metal tag requests based on order size

Whether to distribute tags from Field Offices will be determined by the AVIC or State Animal Health Official (SAHO) for each Field Office based on available resources, and may change as resource availability changes.

- **Only serial tags may be ordered** (orange regular or blue slaughter only)
- **All orders placed in AIMS must be in increments of 100 tags.** Any increment can be distributed from the Field Office.
- **Requests from producers and non-breeding entities (other than markets, recognized dealers, and RSSS sites):** No more than one order of up to 100 tags may be provided every 24 months to any person (including accredited veterinarians) or entity, other than markets, recognized dealers, and RSSS sites. If personnel resources allow, redistribute metal serial tags from the Field Office supply. If resources do not allow, order 100 metal tags through AIMS from NB&T for direct shipment to the requester. To determine if the 24 month requirement has been met, ask the requestor. If they say they haven't received tags within 24 months, start an order in AIMS. If there was a previous order, it will show up at the bottom of the order entry screen. Verify that it is under 24 months (see screen shot below).

Program Order Information

Manufacturer: *

Device: *

Order Quantity: *

Quantity Fulfilled:

Due Date:

of Tagging Devices:

Min Tag ID	Max Tag ID	Order Size	Date
MT2064301	MT2064320	20	2018-02-18

Most Recent Order Summary:

(non 840) Sequence Start:

Print Flock ID:

Product Color:

Remarks (255 characters max):

A search in AIMS using the “Find Program Orders” function will show the complete order history (see screen shot below).

Find Program Orders

Disease Program: Scrapie Eradication Program

Manufacturer: * Submitter NPN: *

State: * Montana Customer ID: * MT2064

Order Status: Order Id:

Begin Date Created: End Date Created:

Begin Date Modified: End Date Modified:

Device:

Page Size: 50

Orders

Flock/ Person ID	Submitting NPN	Manufacturer NPN	Date Created	Order Size	Status
MT2064	003EGQX	008NBR4	05-12-2008	100	Fulfilled
MT2064	005S55A	005S55A	09-28-2017	200	Fulfilled
MT2064	005S55A	005S55A	10-04-2017	200	Cancelled by Fulfiller
MT2064	005S55A	005S55A	02-18-2018	20	Fulfilled

- **Requests by markets, recognized dealers, and RSSS sites:** Utilize the pricing table below, the urgency of the request and whether it is covenant for someone to deliver the tags to determine whether it makes sense to ship tags direct from the manufacturer or from the office supply. Also, use the pricing table to determine whether it is cost effective to provide extra tags to get the volume discount. When there is little or no difference in price or if the price is higher for the smaller number of tags select the larger number of tags. For example orders should not be placed for 1,800 or 1,900 tags since they cost the same or more than 2,000 tags or for 2,700 to 2,900 tags since they cost the same or more than 3,000 tags. (Note: There was an error on the original pricing table see corrected table below.)
- **Orders for Field Offices:** Utilize the pricing table below to get the best pricing on a per tag basis that is reasonable given the office’s likely needs for FY 2019 and available storage space. In most cases 3,000 or more tags should be ordered at one time. This guidance may also be applied to State offices if they are willing to comply with the tag distribution limits in this guidance.
- Instructions for Field Offices on how to charge tag shipping costs to a central SGCE account are on External Sheep and Goat SharePoint site in the National Scrapie Reference Library in the [Identification and Compliance folder](#).

Price Schedule (Confidential Official Use Only):

No. of Tags in Order	Per Tag Cost	Per Order Cost
100	\$0.28	\$28.00
200	\$0.18	\$36.00
300	\$0.16	\$48.00
400	\$0.13	\$52.00
500	\$0.12	\$60.00
600	\$0.11	\$66.00
700	\$0.11	\$77.00
800	\$0.10	\$80.00
900	\$0.10	\$90.00
1000	\$0.10	\$100.00
1100	\$0.10	\$110.00
1200	\$0.10	\$120.00
1300	\$0.10	\$130.00
1400	\$0.10	\$140.00
1500	\$0.10	\$150.00
1600	\$0.10	\$160.00
1700	\$0.10	\$170.00
1800	\$0.10	\$180.00
1900	\$0.10	\$190.00
2000	\$0.09	\$180.00
2100	\$0.09	\$189.00
2200	\$0.09	\$198.00
2300	\$0.09	\$207.00
2400	\$0.09	\$216.00
2500	\$0.09	\$225.00
2600	\$0.09	\$234.00
2700	\$0.09	\$243.00
2800	\$0.09	\$252.00
2900	\$0.09	\$261.00
3000	\$0.08	\$240.00
Over 3000	\$0.08	

Metal tag applicators provided at USDA expense

- Metal tag applicators can be provided to or ordered for State or federal animal health officials for their use, and can be provided or ordered to fill reasonable start-up or replacement requests by livestock markets to replace broken or damaged applicators.

Note: Producers and others may purchase metal tag applicators (model 505S) directly from NB&T. Other applicators should not be used since it is unlikely that another tag applicator or pliers will correctly close the tag, resulting in increased risk of ear injury/infection and decreased tag retention.

National Band & Tag Company
721 York St., P.O. Box 72430
Newport, KY 41072-0430, USA
Phone: (859) 261-2035
Fax: (859) 261-8247
E-mail: tags@nationalband.com
Web address: <https://nationalband.com/products/style-505/>

Plastic tag orders:

1. For live animal testing for surveillance or disease investigation or control

- Field offices may order plastic serial tags to have on hand for conducting live animal testing or to facilitate inventories in flocks for disease investigation or control including identifying exposed, potentially exposed or suspect sheep and/or goats. Alternatively, Flock ID plastic tags may be ordered for these purposes if time allows.
- Flock ID plastic tags may be ordered for flocks that are on PEMMPs in sufficient quantity to last for the term of the PEMMP.
- Email Diane.L.Sutton@aphis.usda.gov with the reason for providing tags, number of tags to be ordered and the person or flock ID number to have the order placed.

2. Provided as an Incentive for On-farm Surveillance

- While funding remains available, Field Offices can issue plastic eartags at no cost to producers (up to 300 plastic tags or 4 times their flock size, whichever is fewer) as an incentive for producers who have never submitted on-farm samples to submit a sample for scrapie testing in FY 2019.
- This incentive is available to those producers, including producers enrolled in SFCP, who have at least one animal tested through on-farm surveillance during FY 2019 (necropsy or rectal biopsy) prior to ordering the tags, and who have had no animals from the flock or herd tested for scrapie through on-farm surveillance between January 1, 2012 and September 30, 2018.
- Flocks that are known or reasonably believed to be genetically resistant or less susceptible are not eligible for live- animal surveillance at APHIS expense, but such flocks are eligible to submit necropsy samples to qualify for free tags.
- Instructions for determining whether a sample has been submitted from a flock are on the External Sheep and Goat SharePoint site in the National Scrapie Reference Library ([Verifying Sample Submissions in SCS](#)). A guidance document "[Steps for Live Animal Surveillance](#)" is also posted in the Reference Library. Email

Diane.L.Sutton@aphis.usda.gov with reason for providing tags, number of tags to be ordered, the flock ID number and tag sequence start number to have the order placed.

Producers in the SFCP Export Category

Producers participating in the SFCP Export Category are required to use plastic tags, RFID or tattoos, according to the SFCP standards. Producers who plan to use plastic tags will need to purchase the tags. They may use blue metal tags to identify animals sold for slaughter at under 12 months of age. White or orange metal serial tags may be provided to serve as a secondary ID, in case the primary official ID is lost; metal tags may not be used as the primary SFCP official ID.

How producers and others can purchase plastic tags and/or applicators

- Before a producer with breeding animals can order official tags directly from the approved tag manufacturer, they must first have a Premises and Herd record in the SCS-Scrapie database. If ordering RFID tags or implants, an NPIN or LID must be entered in the Premises ID Legacy field 1 of the Premises record in SCS-Scrapie.
- Official plastic tags and applicators can be purchased by the public from multiple tag companies. Company information is on the APHIS public webpage at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/scrapie-tags>
- Producers and others who have Allflex tags and need a new applicator or pin may purchase Allflex applicators or replacement pins online by searching with the words “Allflex Universal Tagger” or “Allflex Universal Tagger Pin” or by contacting Allflex at 833-727-2743. **Note:** An additional pin is stored in the handle of the red Allflex taggers.
- Non-breeding entities may order serial plastic tags from tag manufacturers at their own expense (Refer to ‘User Guide Ordering Official ID Devices Sheep and Goats_Feb2017’ on the External Sheep and Goat SharePoint site). At this time Allflex and Shearwell are the only manufacturers providing plastic serial tags.