

Thank you for your interest in the National Animal Identification System (NAIS).

Improving our ability to rapidly trace, control, and eradicate animal disease makes it imperative that practicing veterinarians understand and participate in NAIS. Your position on the front lines of animal health makes you a key player in communicating the importance of NAIS and encouraging client participation.

With your help, animal agriculture has made significant strides in reducing disease in livestock, poultry, and horses. But we cannot drop our guard. Reduced participation in disease programs, increased interstate and foreign movement of animals and germplasm, and key differences in the way species are managed are just a few of the factors that make disease control an ongoing challenge. NAIS is designed to improve the identification of animals and premises in an ongoing effort to modernize disease control.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has created this Toolkit to help veterinarians:

- Identify opportunities to use NAIS,
- Incorporate NAIS into existing State/Federal cooperative animal disease programs, and
- Educate livestock producers and animal owners about the three components of NAIS—including how to improve animal disease traceability.

In addition, this Toolkit provides basic NAIS information and ideas on how to discuss the program with clients.

As always, thank you for the work you do in safeguarding U.S. animal agriculture. We look forward to your continued assistance as we move forward with NAIS.



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