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International Health Certificates

AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS OBTAINING A PIN

BACKGROUND

Large animal veterinarians are often asked to complete health certificates for livestock that are moving in and out of the country. Due to the increased risk for disease transmission during animal movement, USDA will soon require a premises identification number (PIN) for livestock import and export.



INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CERTIFICATES

SETTING THE SCENE:

Your client, George Anderson, recently began to ship his cattle outside of the United States. As a result, George has requested that you complete health certificates for his cattle. You plan on informing George of new USDA requirements when you discuss the international health certificates.

CONVERSATION STARTER:

"Here's the international health certificate you requested. While we're on the subject, I wanted to inform you that the Government is developing an additional requirement for filling out these forms," you begin.

"Really? What's new?" asks George.

"A premises registration number, or PIN, will be required for international health certificates," you respond.

"Why is the Government doing that? What's the incentive for me?" asks George.





KEY POINTS:

- USDA is developing a regulation that will require a premises identification number, or PIN, for livestock import and export.
- Producers/owners will no longer be able to import or export livestock and poultry without having a PIN.
- USDA is implementing this regulation because it is important for managing disease risk.
- Premises registration will help protect the U.S. livestock population and ensure that you can continue trading overseas because it demonstrates tracing capability.
- You should register your premises with the State and obtain a PIN in advance of this regulation.
- Obtaining a PIN is simple and free.
- The basic information you are asked to provide includes:
 - Name of entity
 - Contact person for premises
 - Street address, city, State, and Zip or postal code of the premises
 - Contact phone number
 - Operation type
 - Date activated
 - Alternative phone numbers
 - Species kept at the premises.

NEXT STEPS:

- Research the process for obtaining a premises identification number (PIN) in your State and be ready to share this information with clients.
 - Go to www.usda.gov/nais/getPIN and find the contact for your State.
 - Find out whether your State's department of agriculture Web site allows clients to sign up online.
 - Contact the State and find out whether you can hand out registration forms in the field.