

Estimated Costs Associated With NAIS

The costs of developing and implementing NAIS will be handled by State/Federal Government and industry. Individuals who choose to participate in certain components of this voluntary system will bear some costs as well. For each NAIS component, the anticipated costs for producers and veterinarians are briefly explained below:

Premises Registration

- Free in all States, Territories, and participating Tribes

Animal Identification

- Free tags for use in some USDA-APHIS disease programs (scrapie)
- Variable for non-program disease tags depending on animal species and method of identification selected by the producer/owner. Examples:
 - Visual plastic eartags ~\$1 to \$2
 - Button-like radio frequency eartags ~ \$2 to \$3
 - Injectable transponders (implants), up to ~ \$20
- No additional cost if the owner has the expertise to implant the transponder him/herself
- As a veterinarian, you could provide this service to your clients for a fee; some horse owners are paying \$20 per animal.
- Again, the service associated or “packaged” with the device determines the cost that the provider of the device(s) charges.
- For a complete listing of official AIN ID tags that have been approved, visit: http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/naislibrary/documents/guidelines/NAIS_ID_Tag_Web_Listing.pdf.

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Visual eartags must include a panel for writing or imprinting each animal’s herd management number. The herd management number is typically assigned by a producer for on-farm recordkeeping. If both the management number and the PIN with which it is associated are clearly visible on the tag, and the U.S. shield is visibly present, it can be considered official; if the management number is used by itself, it is not official.

Animal Tracing

- Variable depending on what, if any, additional services the producer elects to use within the State or private animal tracking database.
- Some ATDs plan to charge per animal, others may elect to charge per record submitted, and some will not charge anything.
- Most ATDs provide other services, thus producers must examine cost and services.
 - The ATDs provide animal identification and movement information at no charge to State, Territory, Tribal, and Federal Animal Health officials.
 - The USDA-APHIS-VS Animal Trace Processing System (ATPS) became operational in March 2007. Formal agreements with the private sector and the States are in progress and will be listed on the NAIS Web site <http://www.usda.gov/nais>.