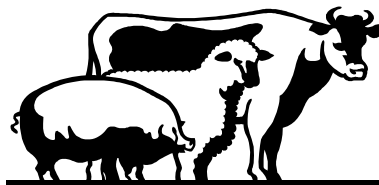
*Livestock**Lines*

National Animal Identification System

Saturday July 10, 9:30 am - Noon

Hutchins Street Square, Crete Hall 125 S. Hutchins Street, Lodi, CA

The only Listening Session in California and it's in our backyard!

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) previously referred to as the US Animal Identification Plan (USAIP) is quickly becoming a reality. USDA is holding a series of listening sessions across the country, and the one for California will be held in Lodi at the Hutchins Street Square. This will be your opportunity to provide comment to the proposed plan, how you would like to see it implemented and the concerns you may have. For anyone who is not familiar with the plan, here is a brief overview:

- The NAIS will cover all species of livestock, including horses. It is designed to be able to trace back animal movements within a 48 hour period to prevent the spread of any disease such as Foot and Mouth or Tuberculosis. It is not related to COOL, the plan is strictly designed to address animal health issues.
- A unique identification number will be assigned for each animal. Animals raised in groups that move together such as hogs, poultry, and fish are proposed to have group lot identification numbers.
- All ranches will have unique premise identification numbers. Also proposed to be included as “non-production” premises would be vet clinics, sale barns, fairs, any place where animals may be moved to.
- The information needed for the plan to work are:
 - Animal ID
 - Location (premise)
 - Date
 - Event (move in, out, slaughter, vaccinations, etc.)
- All information will be kept confidential.
- USDA wants to be “technology neutral”; in other words, they do not want to have any of the technology for the plan. Instead, private industry will step in and develop the technology and allow for value added products such as recording weights, vaccination records, production records, etc. To do this they will be providing competitive grants to develop the infrastructure. Approximately \$12 million will be available this year, with application deadline of July 12, 2004. By fall, USDA hopes to have a system standardized for all states. President Bush currently has another \$33 million ear marked for Animal ID in the 2004-2005 budget.
- In California, it is expected that the Brand Inspectors will play a role in tracking movement of cattle.
- By July 2004, it is expected that premise IDs will start to be assigned on a limited basis. By the end of June 2005, ten states are expected to be assigning premise IDs, and by June 2006, all states will be assigning premise IDs.
- The website for more information is: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/nais/nais.html>

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Hope to see you there.

Theresa Ward, Livestock Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension
Stanislaus & San Joaquin Counties

Directions from North & South Hwy. 99:

Exit on Kettleman Lane and head West. Make a right hand turn onto S. Hutchins Street. Continue North until you reach Hutchins Square.

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