

## **IDENTIFICATION OF LIVESTOCK**

### **Identification of cattle**

- Owners of cattle must ensure that each animal is identified by means of the approved device in the prescribed manner (primary RFID tag in the left ear, and secondary visual tag in the right ear).
- Calves must be tagged no later than 6 months after the date of birth OR before the calves leave the establishment where it was born, whichever is sooner.
- A person who fails to comply with the provision of the Regulations commits an offence.
- Official cattle ear tags for areas south of the VCF are distributed by the Meat Board of Namibia and can be obtained directly at the Meat Board head office or ordered at agents. Official cattle ear tags for areas north of the VCF are distributed by the Directorate of Veterinary Services.

### **Identification of sheep and goats**

- Owners of sheep and goats must ensure that each animal is identified by means of the approved device.
- Lambs and kids must be tagged no later than 3 months after the date of birth OR before the lambs / kids leave the establishment where they were born, whichever is sooner.
- A person who fails to comply with the provision of the Regulations commits an offence.
- Approved tags for group identification of small stock currently are: Plastic ALLFLEX MINI SHEEP TAG and ALLFLEX BUTTON SHEEP TAG, or aluminium BESTAG, CONTI TAG and KAMTAG.
- All sheep and goats destined for export RSA shall have officially approved double ear tags (RFID and visual tags) as from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017. No animals will be eligible for export without the required double ear tags. The Ear Tags are currently available only at the Meat Board of Namibia.

### **Identification of pigs**

- Owners of pigs must ensure that each animal is identified by means of the approved device.
- Piglets must be identified no later than 3 months after the date of birth OR before the piglets leave the establishment where they were born, whichever is sooner.
- A person who fails to comply with the provision of the Regulations commits an offence.

### **Identification of imported animals**

- Imported animals must be tagged with an identification device approved within 7 days of being imported OR before the animal leaves the establishment to which it was imported, whichever is sooner.

### **Central data base**

- All cattle and imported animals must be registered on the central data base.
- All small stock for export should be registered on the central database by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.

### **Movement of designated animals**

- No animal may be moved if such animal is not identified in accordance with the Regulations.
- The person in charge of moving the animals must be in possession of the original movement permit.
- All movements must be captured on the central data base.