Premises ID
Frequently Asked Questions

BRITISH COLUMBIA | Ministry of Agriculture

What is a premises?
A premises is any parcel of land where animals or food are kept, assembled, grown or disposed of.

What is a Premises ID?
A Premises ID is a nine character unique identifier assigned to a single legal land description or land use permit. In British Columbia, all Premises ID numbers start with **BC33** or **BC44** (for example: **BC449GP7N**).

What is the purpose of Premises ID?
Premises ID is an essential component of the national livestock traceability system.
Premises ID supports fast and accurate responses to animal disease outbreaks and natural disasters.

What is the BC Premises ID Registry?
The Premises ID Registry is a secure database of BC Premises IDs connected to the following information:

- Legal land description or land use permit with geographic coordinates
- Emergency Contact Information
- Premises Type (e.g. farm, community pasture, auction market, abattoir, feedlot, fairground)
- Animal Type (all species that may be on the premises)
- Animal Capacity (the maximum number of animals by species that may be on the premises)

Who has access to the BC Premises ID Registry?
Only a few Ministry of Agriculture employees have access to the BC Premises ID Registry. Neither the public nor any outside agencies can access the premises registry. Per the *Consent for Disclosure of Information* on the Premises Registration form, the data can only be used for responses to animal diseases or natural disasters.

What happens when a property is sold?
If the new owners register a livestock operation on the same parcel, they will receive the same Premises ID, but they will not receive any information on the history of the premises. All information on contacts, premises types, animal types, and animal capacity will be replaced with the new owners' information. If a property is subdivided or consolidated, the Premises ID is retired permanently. Because there is no link between the Premises ID Registry and the Land Title Office, please notify us of property sales so we can update the registry.

What happens if my contact information, premises types, animal types or capacity changes?
Because effective emergency response depends on accurate information, we request that you notify us if there are significant changes to your contact information or the nature of your livestock operation.

What does it cost to register?
There is no financial cost to register your premises. We thank you for taking time to complete the registration.

How do I submit my Premises Registration?

There are four options for submitting your Premises Registration:
1. Mail your registration to: BCPID, Ministry of Agriculture
   1767 Angus Campbell Road
   Abbotsford, BC   V3G 2M3
2. Email a scanned copy of your registration to: BCPID@gov.bc.ca
3. Fax your registration to: 604-556-3030
4. Drop off your registration at any BC Ministry of Agriculture office

What is the easiest way to communicate my parcel(s) on my registration?

Attaching a copy of recent Property Assessment Notices from BC Assessment to your registration is the easiest way to indicate your premises location(s). Please feel free to black out confidential PIN numbers and valuation data on Property Assessment Notices as this data is irrelevant to premises registration.

What is the difference between Primary Premises and Linked Premises?

The **Primary Premises** is the single parcel defined as the main location of an agricultural operation, also known as the main ranch or home site. **Linked Premises** are additional parcels of land within an agricultural operation where livestock may be present. From an animal health perspective, the Primary Premises and all Linked Premises form a single epidemiological unit because of the regular movement of animals between them.

From a Federal traceability perspective when do I report movement of animals?

Movement reporting is dependent on animal species. Movement reporting of pigs is mandatory. Movement reporting of cattle into feedlots with more than 1000 head capacity is voluntary and is being encouraged by the beef cattle sector. For details on the changes to federal pig traceability requirements, in effect as of July 1, 2014, please visit the CFIA website at www.inspection.gc.ca/traceability or the Canadian Pork Council's PigTrace website at http://pigtrace.ca/.

How long will it take to receive my Premises ID and how will I be notified?

Our goal is to notify producers of their Premises ID within two business days of the receipt of a registration. The Ministry will notify you via email or phone as soon as your premises is registered. We will also mail you an aerial photo map with your parcels and associated Premises IDs displayed prominently for reference. If there are any errors on the map, please return the map to the Ministry with instructions on necessary corrections.

If I have cattle, does the Ministry notify the CCIA of my Primary Premises ID?

In accordance with the *Consent for Disclosure of Information*, we do not share premises registration information with the CCIA. We do submit new valid Premises IDs to the National Premises Lookup System nightly so that you can link your CCIA account to your Primary Premises ID at your convenience.

How do I confirm that my Premises ID is valid?

You can type your Premises ID into the National Premises Lookup System website to learn if your Premises ID is valid (https://www.nls.livestockid.ca/nls/query) or you can contact the Ministry of Agriculture (see below).

Who can answer my other questions?

Ask a Premises ID Program Representative at the Ministry of Agriculture in Abbotsford (1-888-221-7141 or 604-556-3001) or send an email to BCPID@gov.bc.ca.