Have your say

NAIT Device Standard consultation

Introduction

1. Why are we consulting?

We are reviewing the NAIT Device Standards to ensure they align with the current needs of the primary sector. Our aim is to provide farmers with a broader range of solutions to achieve effective, lasting animal identification.

This is a public consultation, and we will be consulting with farmers, saleyards, meat processors, tag manufacturers and RFID reader manufacturers about the changes.

There are three areas of the Standards where we are proposing changes. These are:

- The requirements for NAIT devices.

- The approved formats for Visual Identification Codes.

- The loss of NAIT devices.

The NAIT Device Standard is made under section 14 of the National Animal Identification and Tracing Act 2012 ("NAIT Act").

Section 14(3) states that:

Before issuing an animal identification standard, the NAIT organisation must—

a. have regard to—

    i. the need to provide unique, clear, and lasting animal identification; and

    ii. any relevant international standards relating to animal identification; and

    iii.the need to avoid confusion with any other generally used system of identification; and

b. consult those persons that the NAIT organisation reasonably considers to be representative of the interests of persons or classes of persons likely to be substantially affected by the NAIT animal identification standard; and

c. be satisfied that the standard, in the context of the NAIT scheme, is efficient, effective, and appropriate.

2. Proposed amendments

The requirements for NAIT devices

We are proposing amendments to the requirements for NAIT devices, or RFID tags, to allow for the use of one-piece NAIT tags.

The current NAIT Animal Identification Device Standard was written for button style two-piece tags, so a number of clauses in section 2 of the document need to be amended to allow for this addition.

It is important to note that one-piece tags will have to meet the same strict criteria as two-piece tags including international certification and laboratory testing.

One piece metal RFID tags are already approved by the Australian, Canadian, and British cattle tracing schemes.

If the amendments are published, one-piece tags may be approved for field trials in New Zealand.

The proposed changes aim to provide farmers with a wider range of RFID ear tag options to meet the requirements for lasting animal identification.

The approved formats of Visual Identification Codes

The NAIT Device Standards include a list of approved Visual Identification Codes, these are the codes that are printed on NAIT Devices, or tags.

There are several formats that are in use, these are:

• NAIT number – Year – Sequence number

• NAIT number – Sequence number

• Participant code – Year – Sequence number

• RFID number – NAIT number

• RFID number – Participant code

There is one format that is no longer in use:

• Participant code – sequence number

We propose removing this format from the approved list.

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Tags with this format are not approved under the Dairy Herd Test standard and were last issued in 2014.

The proposed amendment would mean these tags will no longer be able to be issued, but it will not prevent the registration of existing tags if you have them.

The loss of NAIT devices

The current standard requires field trials to demonstrate that the 3-year tag loss rate is less than 2%. This is expressed as a "3-year rolling average of 2%", we are proposing to change this to a "2% cumulative loss rate over a 3-year period". This will allow the standard to be applied more precisely to field trial data.

Additionally, the requirement for NAIT Ltd to publish an annual report on tag loss has been removed. The current NAIT information system doesn't adequately capture meaningful data so does not allow for an accurate report to be produced.

We plan to publish tag loss rates after the NAIT Information System has been replaced. This clause is not required to publish tag loss rates.

3. Request for feedback

The proposed amendments to the NAIT Device Standards have been written to ensure the efficient, effective and appropriate implementation of the NAIT Scheme, but we want to make sure that we've got it right, so we are requesting your feedback.

Your feedback will be analysed and considered, and a final recommendation will be presented to the OSPRI Board for approval.

The amended standard will then be gazetted and published to the OSPRI website.

Have your say

The consultation will run from **29 May** to **15 June.**

To read the proposed NAIT Device Standard and submit your feedback, visit our website: **ospri.co.nz/nait-device-standard-consultation**.