Premises Identification – What is needed and how is it used?

SSWS
SECURE SHEEP
AND WOOL SUPPLY
www.securesheepwool.org

National Premises Identification Number (PIN), Flock Identification Number (FIN), a Location Identifier (LID), or a scrapie premises ID – so many numbers – which one is needed for a foreign animal disease outbreak? Each identification type serves a different and important purpose.

The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply (SSWS) Plan for Continuity of Business in a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Outbreak recommends getting a National Premises Identification Number (PIN) – why?

- A premises identification number (PIN) is required to request a movement permit during an FMD outbreak. A PIN is a *nationally* unique code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location where animals are housed or graze. PINs allow animal health officials to quickly and precisely identify where animals are located in the event of an animal health emergency like an FMD outbreak. PINs speed up communication and response during an outbreak. FMD is a highly contagious animal disease and is not a food safety or public health threat.

I have gotten ear tags for the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP) – do I already have a PIN?

- You might. There are 3 types of identifying numbers for premises: PINs, State Location Identifier (LID), and scrapie premises IDs. PINs are becoming more common but the scrapie premises ID is the most frequently used type of premises identifier for sheep and goats. If you have previously ordered "840" electronic ID tags you may already have a PIN, because a scrapie premises ID cannot be used to order electronic ID. See Table 1 for more information.

I have a Flock Identification Number (Flock ID or FIN) to order official scrapie ID tags – is that the same thing as a Premises Identification Number (PIN)?

- No. Flock ID or FINs are assigned to a group of sheep managed as a unit on one or more premises under the same ownership. The flock ID pertains to a group of animals wherever they move, not a location. One flock ID may be related to more than one premises. A PIN is permanently assigned to a single physical location and is required to request a movement permit during an FMD outbreak.

How do I know what type of premises identification I have?

- Contact the office of your State Animal Health Official (State Veterinarian), call 1-866-USDA-TAG, or contact the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Office in your state.

If I already have a scrapie premises ID, FIN or a LID, why do I need a PIN?

- PINs serve as a method of locating animals in a Control Area during an animal health emergency such as a foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak. PINs (not scrapie premises ID, LIDs or FINs) are required to request a movement permit during an FMD outbreak. A PIN is linked to the geospatial location reflecting the actual location of the animals on the premises. This includes a valid 911 address and a set of matching coordinates (latitude and longitude). PINs are an important part of traceability during an FMD outbreak, which is critical to outbreak management as well as regaining trade status for sheep and their products. If an FMD outbreak occurred in the U.S. and your flock was located in a Control Area, a PIN would be required for both the premises of origin and the premises of destination in order to request a movement permit for animals or their products.

How do I get a PIN?

- PINs can be requested, free of charge, from the office of the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) where the animals are located: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/traceability/state-pin. If you have multiple or adjoining locations with animals, contact your SAHO or the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Office in your state for guidance on how many PINs may be needed.

- Producers and packers are encouraged to validate their PIN with SAHOs to ensure their data on file accurately represents the location of the animals and not a mailbox at a residence or business affiliated with the animal premises. The National Pork Board provides an online premises verification resource for all species at: https://lms.pork.org/Premises. Submit corrections to the USDA APHIS Veterinary Services Office in your state.

Table 1: Types of Premises Identification and Purpose

Type of ID	Purpose	Additional Info
National Premises Identification Number (PIN)	Unique national code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location. The PIN identifies the actual location of animals and can be used for tracing in the event of an animal health or food safety emergency. Required for movement permits in an FMD or similar outbreak.	Can be used to order 840 Official ID.
State Location Identifier (LID)	Unique numeric state code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location. The LID identifies the actual location of animals and can be used for tracing in the event of animal health or food safety emergency. However, in a foreign animal disease outbreak like FMD, USDA APHIS cannot use a LID to issue movement permits in/out of a control zone.	Can be used to order 840 Official ID. Not all states issue a LID.
Scrapie Premises ID	Assigned to physical location and linked to one or more Flock IDs. If a PIN or LID is subsequently assigned the scrapie premises ID is called a "legacy" premises ID. The scrapie premises ID number may be the exact same number as the Flock ID.	Historically states and APHIS assigned scrapie premises ID, and not PINs or LIDs. If a PIN and/or LID has been subsequently assigned, this results in some premises having more than one premises identifier – a legacy scrapie premises ID **AND** a LID and/or PIN.

Abbreviations
- APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- FIN or Flock ID – Flock identification number
- LID – State Location Identifier
- NSEP – National Scrapie Eradication Program
- PIN – National Premises Identification Number
- SAHO – State Animal Health Official
- USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

Additional Resources
- The Secure Sheep and Wool Supply website has additional resources available at: www.securesheepwool.org
- The USDA has a Factsheet: National Scrapie Eradication Program: Animal Identification and Recordkeeping Guide for Sheep and Goats available at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/scrapie/downloads/fs-scrapie-recordkeeping.pdf