ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DIRECTOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

ANIMAL SERVICES DIVISION

Swine Identification A.A.C. R3-2-411 & R3-2-606(A)(5)

DIVISION/ PROGRAM	ASD
DAO 14-01	
AAR	
SIGNATURE 1	
DATE /	

1. ORDER

A person with swine subject to individual and/or premises identification pursuant to A.A.C. R3-2-411 or R3-2-611 may alternatively use official USDA eartags to meet the identification requirements in those rules. This alternative authorization includes the use of the official USDA eartag numbers on certificates of veterinarian inspection, Department-issued certificates of inspection, and bills of sale.

2. PURPOSE

A.A.C. R3-2-411(B)-(C) and R3-2-606(A)(5)(c) set out requirements for swine to have individual identification, usually by means of an earnotch, in addition to premises identification. The Department recognizes that official USDA eartags for swine provide for individual and premises identification. For this reason, the Department believes official USDA eartags are a preferred method of identifying swine. On the other hand, earnotching does not provide as effective identification. The universal ear-notching system uses the right ear for the litter mark and the left ear for the individual pig number in the litter, but a separate premises identification must be used. Earnotching readability is also ambiguous. Due to the increased labor and time required to apply the earnotches and read them, this procedure is not commonly used in commercial settings. Earnotching is mostly used by small purebred breeders and 4-H pig breeders; however, the trend is toward official individual USDA swine eartags for identification.

3. AUTHORITY

A.R.S. § 3-1203.

General powers and duties; civil penalties.

A.R.S. § 3-1205.

Control of animal diseases; violation; classification.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order is effective immediately and shall continue in effect until repealed, modified, or superseded.