

CATTLETRACE IS NOW U.S. CATTLETRACE

CattleTrace, Inc., was created in August 2018 to establish an industry-driven program for animal disease traceability. The program was designed to effectively trace cattle and maintain a producer's confidential contact information.

Soon after its launch, USPB and National Beef announced an agreement to participate in and support the group and their objectives. Initial participants included Kansas State University, Kansas Livestock Association, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, USDA and other stakeholders including beef processors, feedlots, livestock auction facilities, seedstock and cow calf producers and others in the beef production chain.

In the unfortunate event that a highly contagious disease situation materializes, individual traceability will be critical. The goal with CattleTrace is to demonstrate the feasibility of a traceback system using ultra high frequency (UHF) ear tags throughout all segments of the beef production chain.

In addition, the development of an industry-wide cattle disease traceability system could potentially open the beef industry to additional export markets worldwide.

Today, CattleTrace, Inc., is known as U.S. CattleTrace.

The name change took effect in January, when Florida, Kentucky and Texas became part of the group. These states had previously developed and operated their own individual pilot programs and have since merged into U.S. CattleTrace.

As of now, ten states are participating in the program — with more looking to get involved. Since its inception, there have been more than 535,000 “sightings” on the program.

A ‘sight’ occurs when a tag is read and could involve a single ear tag read more than once at different locations as the calf moves through the production system.

Beef producers at all levels are encouraged to participate in U.S. CattleTrace as the program continues to develop and fine tune its traceback systems.

At the recent National Cattlemen's Beef Association Summer Business Meeting in Denver, Colorado, a resolution was passed indicating strong support and encouraging producer participation in U.S. CattleTrace.

More information is available at www.uscattletrace.org, or by contacting USPB's Brian Bertelsen. ♦

U.S. CattleTrace

