



AGE VERIFICATION 101

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Age Verification anyways?

Age Verification provides an effective and internationally recognized Age Verification Process. Producers can enter and store Birth Date information and have it readily available for domestic and export markets.

Is Age Verification mandatory in Canada?

Age verification is only mandatory in Alberta at the moment. However, the current regulation is in the process of being repealed. Consequently, the support offered by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) for Age Verification issues/corrections may diminish over time. The other provinces and territories administered by Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) do not have provincial regulations regarding AV.

How do I enter birthdates for my animals?

Detailed instructions are available in the CLTS Resource Centre at (<https://support.canadaid.ca/clts/submit-events/animal-events/birth-date/>) or the Client Support Representatives can provide instructions over the phone at 1.877.909.2333.

How do I prevent Age Verification issues when purchasing animals?

- Check animals' birthdates prior to purchasing. Any Canadian Livestock Tracking System database (CLTS) users can see birthdates by RFID tag number.
- Demand to see the birth certificate prior to purchasing. Any potential errors could be addressed with the seller at that time.

Who can report a birthdate? Is it only the operator to whom the approved tag was issued?

It can only be done by the herd of origin of the account where the tag was issued to, not by any subsequent custodian of the animal.

How can a birthdate be modified? Can it be changed directly on the CLTS/mobile application?

Yes, it can. The account holder has the ability to change or delete from any of the CLTS applications including CLTS MOBO. This change can only be made by the herd of origin account holder.

Who is allowed to make a request for a birthdate change?

In Alberta where Age Verification is regulated and supported by AF, Alberta regulated parties who believe an error has been made are required to contact the Ag Info Centre. AF will then take the necessary measures to contact the source account and ask them to correct the error or receive permission to administer the change on behalf of the source account. The "requestor" is never informed of who the source account is. If the source account is unreachable, or unresponsive to the situation, then no change is made.

If the requestor is not the source account and is located outside of Alberta then unfortunately, CCIA is unable to assist in making the change in birthdate request as this is not mandatory/regulated data. While the CLTS database can receive birthdate information from herd of origin account holders across Canada, there is no support for requests to change a birthdate that is not from a source account outside of Alberta.

What happens if there is a mistake like an incorrect birthdate?

Some export markets require that animals/carcasses be under a certain age. When the tag is read at the abattoir, the birthdate attached to that tag becomes part of the information that will follow the carcass.

If the birthdate is wrong, it may disqualify the carcass for the targeted market, leading to lower prices or a downgrade.

Two common errors:

- Producers apply a birthdate or calving start date to a series of tags, but do not use all of them on the same calf crop. The leftovers are applied to animals born the following year, but the birth information is not updated.
- The wrong year is used when inputting the birthdate or calving start date.

If you have any questions about age verification or the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database, please contact CCIA at info@canadaid.ca or 1-877-909-2333