



# 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 not mandatory in Canada. Alberta regulation that required Age Verification (AV) of cattle was repealed in 2020. Even though AV is not mandatory regulated information producers are encouraged to record this information in the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database administered by the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) as part of building a world-class traceability system.

### **How do I enter Birth Dates 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' Birth Dates prior to purchasing. Any CLTS users can see Birth Dates 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 Birth Date? 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 Birth Date 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 Birth Date change?**

If the requestor is the source of the birthdate, they can make changes to the birthdate directly in their CLTS account. If the requestor is not the source account then unfortunately, CCIA is unable to assist in making the change in Birth Date request as this is not mandatory/regulated data. While the CLTS database can receive Birth Date information from herd of origin account holders across Canada, there is no support available from CCIA for requests to change a Birth Date.

In Alberta where Age Verification was regulated and supported by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF), Alberta regulated parties who believe an error has been made can continue 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.

### **What happens if there is a mistake like an incorrect Birth Date?**

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

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

### **Two common errors:**

- Producers apply a birth date 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 birth date 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](mailto:info@canadaid.ca) or 1-877-909-2333