



*Information produced by CCIA
February 17, 2021*

*For permission to use contact:
info@canadaid.ca*

Age Verification Frequently Asked Questions

Age verification is the association of a Birth Date with an animal that was born on your farm and identified with an approved Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) tag/indicator and then reported to the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database. When an animal is bought or sold there is a streamlined process for the purchaser to easily verify the age of the animal eliminating any unnecessary back and forth between parties and supporting a fully functioning traceability system.

Here are a few Frequently Asked Questions to help you better understand how Age Verification works as a function of the CLTS.

1. Why would I want to age verify when I can already record the Birth Date as part of my management process?

Age Verification (AV) 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.

This Birth Date information then moves with the animal as it goes through the supply chain and reporting Age Verification (Birth Date tied to a tag number) in the CLTS is an important piece of data which allows for traceback within the traceability system.

2. Who can report a Birth Date?

A Birth Date can only be reported by the herd of origin of the account where the tag was issued to and not by any subsequent custodian of the animal. The herd of origin account holder is responsible for verifying Birth Date information is accurate.

3. Is Age Verification mandatory?

Age Verification is not mandatory in Canada. Alberta regulation that required Age Verification of cattle has been repealed in 2020.

Even though AV is not mandatory regulated information producers are encouraged to record this information in the CLTS as part of building a world-class traceability system.

4. Who is allowed to make a request for a Birth Date change?

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.

5. 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.

You can prevent Age Verification issues by checking the animal's Birth Date prior to purchasing. Age can be verified directly through the CLTS, by physically asking a producer to see a Birth Certificate or by looking up a Birth Date number from an RFID tag/indicator within the CLTS. There are multiple ways for a buyer to verify a Birth Date. Any potential issues can be addressed with the seller at that time.

6. How can a Birth Date be modified?

The account holder has the ability to change or delete from any of the CLTS applications including CLTS MOBO. However, a Birth Date change can only be made by the herd of origin account holder.

7. How do I enter Birth Dates for my animals?

If you have bought CCIA approved tags in the past you already have a CLTS account. If you have never logged in to your account you will need to contact CCIA to set your user name and password.

You can enter Birth Date events online by logging in to your account on the CLTS. A detailed, step-by-step user guide is available to help you navigate through a Birth Date submission on support.canadaid.ca 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**.