



NAIT RFID TAGS APPLICATION AND REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES



**A GUIDE FOR APPLYING NAIT APPROVED
RFID TAGS TO NAIT ANIMALS**



APPLYING NAIT APPROVED RFID TAGS

To ensure a high retention rate, OSPRI recommends that the following actions are taken when tagging NAIT animals:

1. READ THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying tags. Many manufacturers have advisors and best practice guidelines to assist tag buyers with tag application practices.

2. USE THE CORRECT TAG APPLICATOR

Use a tag applicator specific to the type of tag you are using. The wrong tag applicator can damage the tag on application which can affect tag retention and readability with an RFID scanner.

If unsure which applicator to use, or how to use it, check with the tag manufacturer or retailer you purchased the tags from.

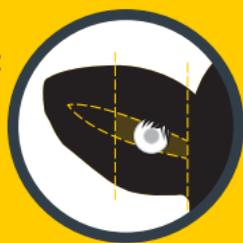
3. USE A DISINFECTANT SOLUTION

It is recommended to rinse the tag applicator in antiseptic or disinfectant solution prior to tagging an animal. This reduces the risk of infection and disease transfer.

4. POSITION THE TAG CORRECTLY

NAIT approved RFID tags should be applied:

- To the right ear,
- To the central/inner part of the ear between the two veins, and
- With the RFID portion (female) of the tag facing forward.





TAG REMOVAL

It is an offence under the NAIT Act to remove a NAIT tag without permission from NAIT Limited.

Any PICA that needs to remove or replace a NAIT RFID tag from a NAIT animal, must first contact NAIT to request authorisation on **0800 482 463** or email **info@ospri.co.nz**.

The tag number of the NAIT RFID tag that requires removal must be provided to NAIT prior to authorisation being granted. A tag replacement must be logged in the NAIT online system by the PICA.

It is an offence to alter or reuse a NAIT tag under any circumstances.



REPLACEMENT TAGS

When an animal is tagged with a replacement NAIT RFID tag, it must be registered in the NAIT online system.

- If you can identify the original NAIT RFID or visual ID tag number, the *replace tag* function should be used to link the original tag and animal information to the new tag.
- If the original tag number is unknown, you will need to re-register the animal in the NAIT online system with the new tag number. The original tag will remain active 'on animal' until the replacement is completed in the NAIT online system.

NAIT replacement tags are printed with a NAIT number or dairy participant code followed by the 15-digit RFID number of the tag.

If you know the original tag number of the animal, you may request to purchase a replacement tag with a duplicate visual ID. The electronic RFID number cannot be duplicated. All tags with duplicate visual IDs must be recorded as a tag replacement in the NAIT online system.

HOW TO LOG A TAG REPLACEMENT IN THE NAIT ONLINE SYSTEM

1. Locate the original tag in your list of registered animals.
2. Select the lost tag and click 'Replace Tag'.



3. Type the new RFID or visual ID or select the tag number from a list of tags you have purchased.
4. State whether the original tag has been lost, damaged or incorrectly registered.
5. Save and continue.

Note: once you have registered the new tag number you will be unable to search for this tag by visual ID (if not a duplicate visual ID) or RFID of the original NAIT tag number.

ANIMALS ARRIVING ON FARM UNTAGGED

If an animal arrives at a property untagged, the receiving PICA must either re-tag the animal and register the new tag in the NAIT online system, or return the animal to the farm it moved from.

It is a requirement that NAIT animals (cattle and deer) are tagged with a NAIT approved RFID tag and registered in the NAIT online system within 6 months of birth or before their first off-farm movement, whichever comes first.

If an animal has lost a NAIT RFID tag, it must be re-tagged with a replacement NAIT approved RFID tag as soon as practicable.

See 'Safety' on the reverse for information about impractical to tag animals.



ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION & REGISTRATION

When you purchase NAIT approved RFID tags, the manufacturer uploads the tag numbers to your NAIT number in the NAIT online system. However, **registration of your animals is not automatic.**

When registering your animals, you can select the tag numbers from a list of tags you have purchased.

We suggest you make a note of the tag numbers or tag sequence range used when tagging animals. This makes it easier to locate the tag numbers in your NAIT account when registering the animals.

Alternatively, using an RFID scanner to read the tags will allow you to upload a file of tag numbers to register the animals in a group.

To ensure you are fulfilling your NAIT obligations when registering animals, you will need to note the production type (beef and dairy only) and the month and year of birth of the animals you are tagging.

It is not a NAIT requirement to register the gender of animals, however, this can be entered at point of animal registration for farm management purposes.

USE OF SECONDARY VISUAL PANEL TAGS

Using a secondary visual panel tag in addition to the NAIT RFID tag can make visually identifying an animal easier.

The NAIT online system enables a secondary tag to be linked to the NAIT RFID tag. It is recommended that you keep a record of visual panel tags and NAIT RFID tags, to assist with identifying animals for replacement tagging purposes.

NAIT birth tags, for animals born on farm, can be purchased with a matching visual panel tag printed with the NAIT tag visual ID.



SAFETY

You should always consider the risks associated with tagging your animals.

If a PICA deems that tagging a certain animal would constitute a health and safety risk, the NAIT regulations provide an exemption for this purpose. As a condition of this exemption, impractical to tag (ITT) animals can only be moved direct to a meat processor, and will incur a \$13 ITT levy (excl. GST) per head.

EXEMPT ANIMALS

Calves less than 30 days old consigned directly to a slaughter, fallow deer, and trophy stags at a game estate or safari park are exempt from NAIT tagging requirements.

An annual tally of exempt animals at a location must be provided to NAIT.

NEED HELP?

There are several accredited manufacturers of NAIT RFID tags. To purchase tags or enquire about the range available, contact your local farm supply store, vet, or artificial breeding service provider. A tag levy of \$0.90 is included within the cost of cattle tags – this contributes to the running of the NAIT scheme.

For specific advice about the tags you are using, it is recommended you contact the appropriate tag manufacturer directly.

For more information on the NAIT programme visit ospri.co.nz or call:

0800 482 463

We can assist with:

- Advice on where to purchase NAIT approved RFID tags.
- Registering animals in the NAIT online system.
- Authorisation to remove NAIT tags.

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NAIT and TBfree are OSPRI programmes

