

## Microchips and/or Tattoos...?

Since 2002, the PBA has allowed owners and breeders to use tattoos OR microchips to identify their Pygora® goats, to be in compliance with federal animal health regulations. Here is an excerpt a letter on file with the PBA from the USDA, dated Sept 12, 2002 (highlights added for this posting):

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has approved your association's registry tattoo/microchip number to be used as official identification for goats in the Scrapie Flock Certification Program. Each animal in your permanent registry herd book must have a unique tattoo or microchip number. The unique tattoo/microchip must allow any association-registered goat to be traced to its flock of origin. Upon request by APHIS, your association must make available information that will allow such determination.

If microchips are used, the owner must provide a reader for use by APHIS personnel during inspections. An official eartag or an official premises tattoo must be applied if the animal is sold or otherwise disposed of without transfer of the registration papers. I have enclosed a copy of APHIS policy on microchips.

If you already have a tattoo set and like it – keep using it. If you haven't already purchased a tattoo kit, or are considering the use of microchips, the price of a microchip reader with a set of 25 chips is about the same price as a good tattoo set at ~\$225. An Alliance ID "Pocket Hero" reader by itself is available for \$60. (two links are appended to use as a starting point for price comparison)

As an owner, you are not required to own a microchip reader. You ARE required to have access to one – owned or borrowed – IF you are showing your goat or IF need to identify your goat during a health inspection. There are usually several owners at a show who will share their microchip readers, and most of them will read multiple brands of microchips. Some veterinarians also have them.

As a matter of personal choice, either tattoos alone OR microchips alone are acceptable forms of identification for Pygora goats – as long as the registration certificate goes along with the Pygora goat. A tattoo will ALWAYS be assigned and recorded on the registration certificate, regardless of the presence of a physical tattoo. Judges appreciate reading microchips at shows, as do veterinarians and state health officials who check animal health certificates!

**In order for the PBA to stay in compliance with the Scrapie Flock Certification Program, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS, within USDA) requires that owners who microchip need to use "840" series APHIS-USDA approved microchips. This will require breeders who do not already have a "premise ID number" to apply for one, which can be done by simply calling the national USDA office at 1-866-USDA-TAG or contacting your local state office (the list as of 6 Oct 2019 is appended to this reference).**

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**Allflex USA, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 612266**  
**2805 East 14th Street**  
**Dallas Ft. Worth Airport, TX 75261-2266**

Toll Free: (800) 989-TAGS [8247]  
Phone: (972) 456-3686  
Fax: (972) 456-3882  
[www.allflexusa.com](http://www.allflexusa.com)

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**840 RFID INJECTABLE TRANSPONDER**

Tag Name	Type RFID Technology	Size (transponder piece)	AIN Product Code	Species
1. Allflex Global Ident Microchip	Injectable Transponder ISO 11784/85 Compliant – FDX	Length = 12 mm Diameter = 2.1 mm	AIN 0036	Equine, Alpaca/Llama, Deer/Elk

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1.



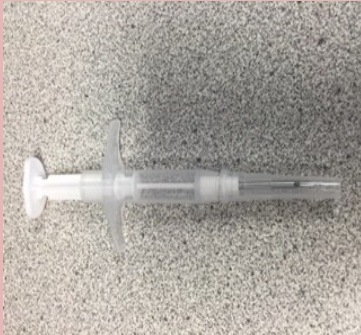
**Alliance ID**  
**2199 Manton Drive**  
**Covington, LA 70433**

Phone: (985) 898-0811  
Fax: (985) 796-1531  
[www.microchipsystems.com](http://www.microchipsystems.com)

**840 RFID INJECTABLE TRANSPONDER**

Tag Name	Type RFID Technology	Size (transponder piece)	AIN Product Code	Species
1. 840- ID miniMicrochip	Injectable Transponder ISO 11784/85 Compliant - FDX 134.2 kHz	Length = 12 mm Diameter = 2.12 mm	AIN 0081	Equine, Alpaca/Llama, Deer/Elk
2. 840-ID Microchip	Injectable Transponder ISO 11784/85 Compliant - FDX 134.2 kHz	Length = 8 mm Diameter = 1.4 mm	AIN 0082	Equine, Alpaca/Llama, Deer/Elk

1.



2.



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**AVID Identification Systems Inc.**  
**3185 Hammer Avenue**  
**Norco, CA 92860-1983**

Marketed by:  
EZid Livestock Identification, Greeley, CO

Phone: (970) 351-7701

Toll free: (877) 330-3943

Fax: (970) 351-7711

[www.ezidavid.com](http://www.ezidavid.com)

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**840 RFID INJECTABLE TRANSPONDER**

Tag Name	Type RFID Technology	Size (transponder piece)	AIN Product Code	Species
1. EZID Transponder Implant	Injectable Transponder ISO 11784/85 Compliant - FDX 134.2 kHz	Length = 12 mm Diameter = 2.1 mm	AIN 0019	Deer/Elk, Equine, Alpaca/Llama

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1.



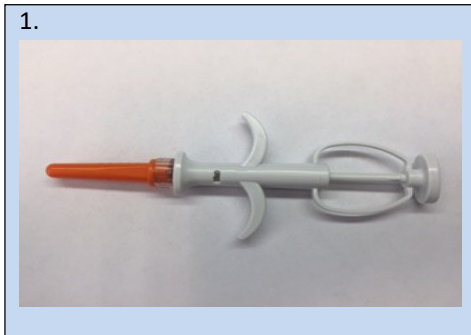
**Datamars, Inc**  
**1110 Industrial Blvd**  
**Temple, TX 76504**

Phone: (254) 598-3449  
www.datamars.com

**840 RFID INJECTABLE TRANSPONDER**

Tag Name	Type RFID Technology	Size (transponder piece)	AIN Product Code	Species
1. Equine Slim Microchip (T-SL)	Injectable Transponder ISO 11784/85 Compliant - FDX	Length = 10.9 mm Diameter = 1.6 mm	<b>AIN 0086</b>	<b>Equine, Alpaca/Llama</b>

134.2 kHz



## **ID SUPPLIERS FOR COMPARING THE COST OF TATTOOS & MICROCHIPS**

While not a complete list, nor a PBA endorsement, below are links to use as a starting point for reviewing microchip and tattoo equipment (as of 7 Sept 2019):

### **Approved 840 series microchips from Alliance ID:**

<https://www.microchipsystems.com/product/usa-840-official-microchip/>

### **Tattoo set from Premier1:**

[https://www.premier1supplies.com/p/stone-tattoo-outfit-standard-3-8?cat\\_id=116](https://www.premier1supplies.com/p/stone-tattoo-outfit-standard-3-8?cat_id=116)

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Website: <http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/>  
Permits Info: Most livestock and poultry have entry permit and Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) requirements to enter California. California entry permits are issued to accredited licensed veterinarians from the state of origin by the Animal Health Branch.  
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