

PBA & Goat Identification

Goats crossing state lines for sale, show or exhibition need to meet ID requirements from the USDA/APHIS, along with other requirements that vary by state. The Pygora Breeder Association (PBA) goat registration database lists the “farm of origin” and ownership records, so Pygora owners can use an individual animal’s registration certificate - in conjunction with ear tattoos and/or microchip ID, as a substitute for APHIS approved ear tags.

In April 2019 the USDA issued requirements for the type of microchip that’s acceptable to use, based on studies of long-term durability and the need for each microchip to be assigned a unique number. These are referred to as “840” series, as the approved microchips from several manufacturers all begin with “840” in a 15-digit numeric string.

There are many “pet-brands” of microchips, and five manufacturers of 840-series microchips (Allflex, Alliance, Avid, Datamars and Destron Fearing). For registration purposes, the PBA allows tattoos and/or microchip ID, and individual breeders/owners are free to choose whichever brand or type of microchip they want to use.

If goats never leave their state of birth, either type of microchip is fine, but pet-type microchips are NOT acceptable ID for a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). CVI’s require a legible tattoo and/or an 840 microchip for each individual Pygora leaving their state of birth.