



THE GLOBAL STANDARD  
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Network. Guidelines. Certification.

# ICAR's Animal Identification Services

## Testing and Certification of ID devices

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## QUICK FACTS ABOUT ICAR

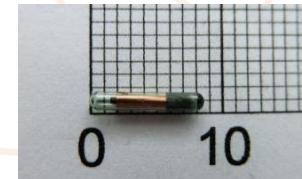
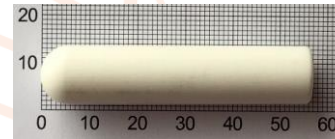
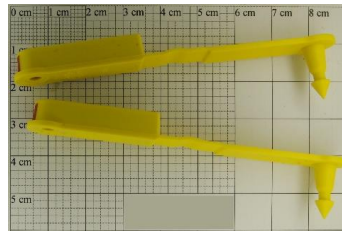
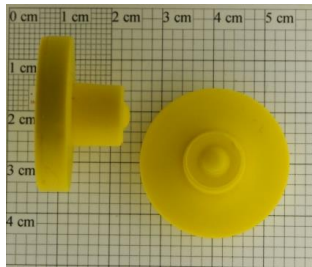
- **International NGO** with 117 Members from 59 countries all over the world.
- Active in **farm animal production** sectors:
  - Identification
  - Performance recording
  - Genetic evaluation
- **Services:**
  - Guidelines
  - Certification and evaluation services
  - Knowledge sharing activities
  - Networking

## CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Electronic devices:** RFID ear tags, leg tags, tag attachments, ruminal boluses and injectable transponders (for horses and pets).

**Conformance test** with ISO standards 11784 and 11785 according to ISO standard 24631-1.

- 11784: Transponder code structure for the radio frequency identification of animals
- 11785: Technical concept for the radio frequency identification of animals (communication between transponder & transceiver)



## CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Electronic devices:** ICAR offers also the **Performance test** according to standard ISO 24631-3.
  - Not obligatory.
  - Does not lead to a certificate.
  - Provides useful information about the performance e.g. read range of the transponder.

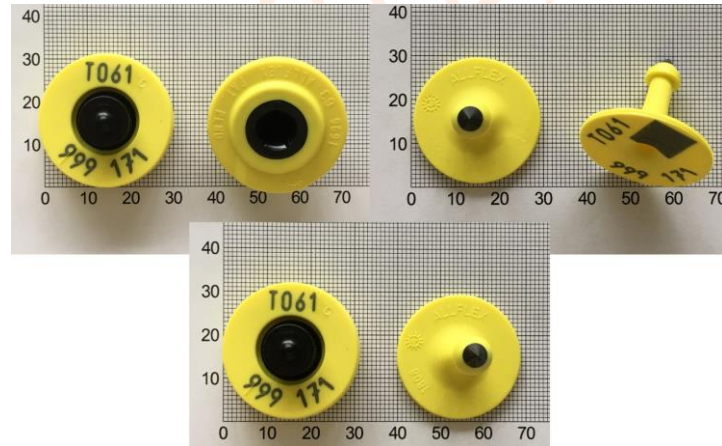
## CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Conventional ear tags:** ICAR certifies the **composition and environmental performance** of the ear tags according to ICAR standards.
  - Preliminary Assessment: ear tag design; locking mechanism; application test (axial and transverse test).
  - Laboratory test: material characteristics; harmful substances; acid/alkaline bath treatment; ageing by damp heat and cold; resistance to artificial ageing; abrasive treatment; typography readability; colour contrast change; machine readability (optional); resistance of locking system.

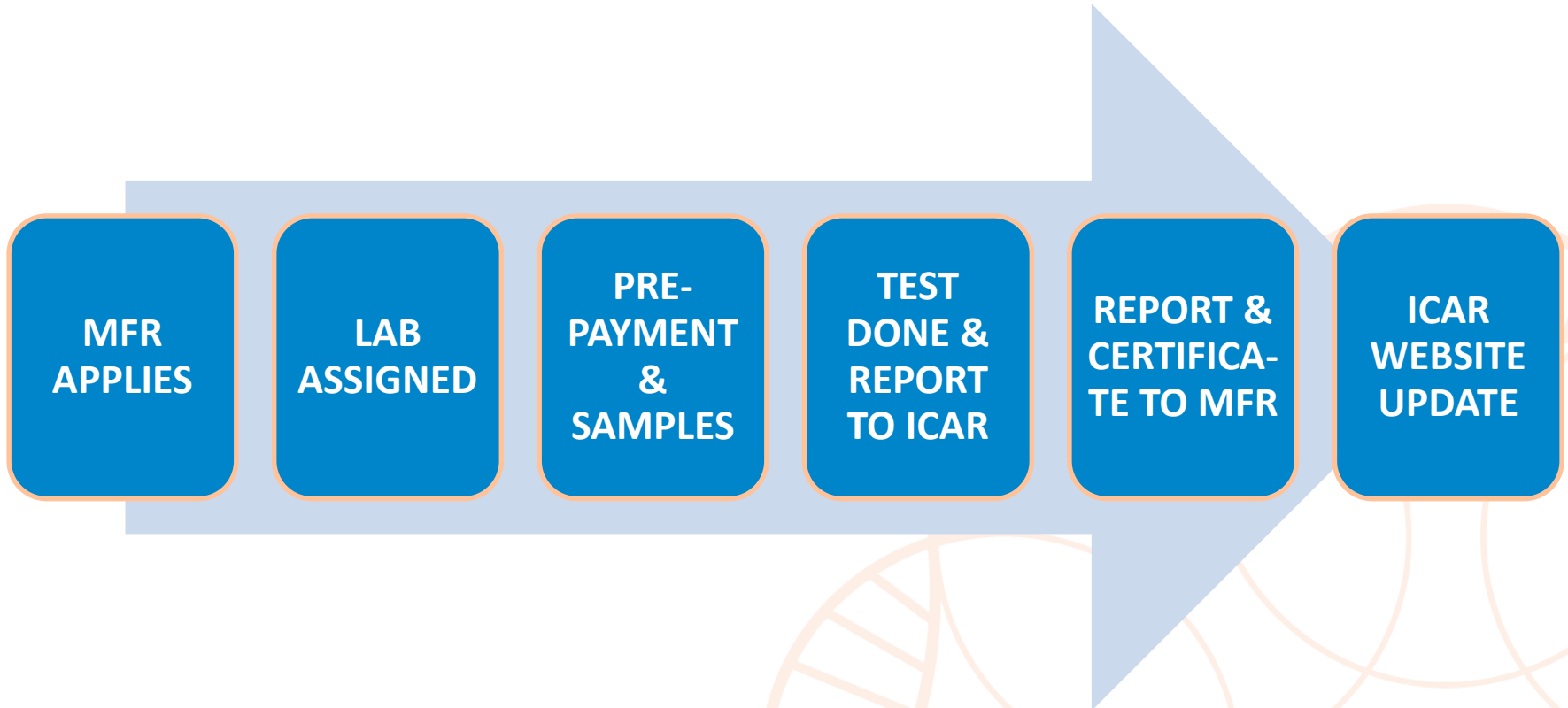


## CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Full certification of RFID tags:** RFID tags can be tested and certified for **composition and environmental performance, plus conformance with ISO standards 11784/11785.**
- Preliminary Assessment
- Laboratory test as outlined before



## CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE



- Full information for the testing/certification procedures (including application forms) of the different test types: See [here](#).

## RE-CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- ICAR Certification lasts for 5 years
- After 5 years, test can be repeated and **certification renewed for another 5 years**. The device maintains its original product/certification code.

Tests applied for re-certification:

- RFID devices: Limited test
- Conventional ear tags: Preliminary assessment



## VALIDATION OF ID DEVICES

- Voluntary service for national **Competent Authorities** (not manufacturers or their agents).
- Quality verification to ensure that **devices on the market** remain compliant with the appropriate ISO and ICAR test protocols.
- **Does not lead to certification** of the devices.

Full information [here](#).

## FIELD TESTING OF ID DEVICES

- **New protocol - Future service**
- Will be applicable to:
  - **ICAR-certified/registered devices**
  - For both **RFID and conventional ear tags** that have passed ICAR's Device Composition and Environmental Performance test
- Initially for cattle only
- Key role of national **Competent Authorities**

FIELD TEST PLAN

FIELD TEST  
EXECUTION

REVIEW OF TEST  
RESULTS

CERTIFICATE &  
PUBLICATION

## MISUSE OF CERTIFICATION

- ICAR and ISO have **specific rules** for the use of the certification / registration of devices.
- In case of inappropriate use, **specific measures** are foreseen – even withdrawal of the certification.
- Competent Authorities and farmers should report to ICAR any cases of misuse.
- Form for reporting misuse

## PUBLICATION ON ICAR WEBSITE

- **RFID devices**
  - Currently certified - [link](#) (Devices certified every 5 years by ICAR)
  - Registered - [link](#) (Devices registered for their lifetime)
- **Conventional ear tags [link](#)**

### ICAR Certified Devices


- Conventional ear tags  
<read more>
- RFID Devices
  - Full certification <read more>
  - Ear tags, Tag attachments, Boluses <read more>
  - Injectable transponder <read more>
- RFID Transceivers  
<read more>








### ICAR Registry of RFID Devices

- Registered RFID devices  
<read more>
- Registered manufacturers – signatories of Code of Conduct  
<read more>

# ICAR GUIDELINES

- **Section 10** of ICAR Guidelines:  
**Guidelines for Animal Identification Device Testing & Certification**
- Includes the test protocols / procedures for all types of tests
- Link to ICAR Guidelines [here](#).



Section 10 - Identification Device Certification	
	Overview
	Procedure 1: Conformance of Transponders
	Procedure 2: Granting of Manufacturer Code
	Procedure 3: Conformance of Transceivers
	Procedure 4: Testing of Conventional Plastic Ear Tags
	Procedure 5: Testing of External RFID Devices .pdf
	Procedure 6: Field Validation of Identification Devices

## QUESTIONS – CONTACTS

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Animal Identification [webpage](#)