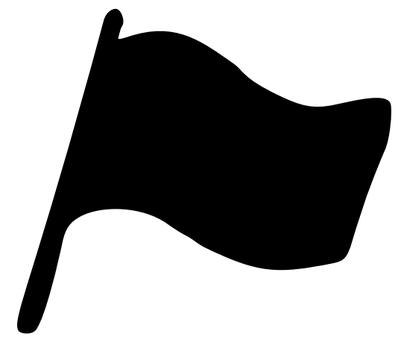
AGE VERIFICATION

IN THE CLTS

What is age verification?

- Age verification is the process of validating an animal's age. Recording a birth date is one component of that process. If an animal's age is in question, dentition is considered the most accurate method of age determination.
- Producers can voluntarily record the birth date of an animal that was born on their farm and identified with an approved CCIA indicator (tag) in the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) to support age verification.

FLAG: Enter birth date information before 12 months.

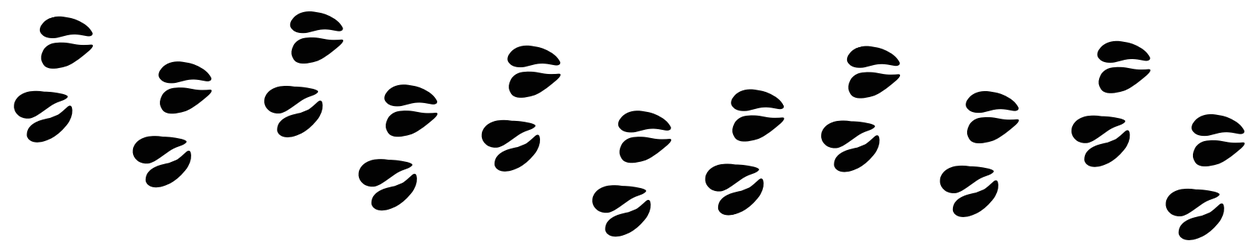


- The CLTS flags birth date information entered or modified after twelve months.
- It was introduced in 2022 by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for the BSE Program and updated in 2026 from 9 months to 12 months.
- Birth dates can only be entered by the herd of origin.
- Birth dates may be used at slaughter to determine whether an animal is under 30 months of age.
- Being under or over 30 months may affect the animal's value.
- Late entry or modification after twelve months trigger a pop-up window notification in the CLTS and is noted when a report is generated.

Age Verification is not mandatory.

- Age verification is not mandatory to report as it is not regulated data in Canada.
- Some specialty beef cattle programs require that animals are age verified to qualify.
- Producers can voluntarily record birth date information in the CLTS database.

How do I enter a birth date?



- To enter a birth date, you must have a CLTS database account.
- To set up and activate a CLTS account, contact CCIA:
  - Phone: 1-877-909-2333
  - Email: info@canadaid.ca
- If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, you may authorize a third party to submit information on your behalf.
- Third-party options may include a neighbour, relative, or local veterinary office.
- Contact CCIA by phone or email to receive a list of approved webservice providers from our Client Support Team.

How do I create a birth date certificate?

- After an animal's birth date is recorded in the CLTS database, a birth date certificate can be created.
- The certificate is generated using the CCIA tag/indicator number.

How can I confirm that an animal I have purchased is age verified?

- There are two options:
  - Search for a birth date using the animal's identification number(s).
  - Generate a birth date certificate.
  - The CLTS database allows users to generate a birth date certificate for any livestock with a recorded birth date.
- To provide confidence in the birth dates recorded in the system, if a birth date is entered or modified after the animal is twelve months of age, a flag will appear on the tag history and the birth date certificate.
- **Once an animal has left the farm of origin and ownership has changed, a new owner cannot enter or modify the animal's birth date in the CLTS database.**
- **Only the herd of origin (where the animal was born) can submit a birth date in the CLTS database.**