

December 15, 2014

Re: Alberta Beekeepers & Premises Identification (PID)

Dear Alberta Beekeeper,

In Alberta, if you are a beekeeper, and/or owner of animals which includes beef cattle, dairy cattle, bison, swine, sheep, goats, equine, cervids, poultry, etc., you must apply for a Premises Identification (PID) Account and register at least one land location where your bees and/or animals are located. You will be issued a PID Number for each land location registered.

Premises Identification (PID), one of the pillars of traceability, links livestock, poultry and bee hives to land locations or premises. The Premises Identification Program was established to plan for, control, and prevent the spread of agricultural diseases. It is also used as an early warning system to notify producers of a natural disaster such as a flood or fire that could affect their animals or operations. Regulations requiring premises identification became law January 1, 2009 as part of the Animal Health Act.

Also, beekeepers and/or animal owners will need to have a PID Number to:

- Buy medication for your bees and/or animals at retail outlets (this requirement took effect on July 1, 2014 as part of amendments to the Animal Health Act).
- Complete movement documents such as manifests and permits
- Apply for many government sponsored agriculture grants and programs

You can apply for and obtain a PID Account:

- A. Online by visiting -- <https://extranet1.agric.gov.ab.ca/pid/welcome.page>.

Online registration is a simple 5 step process that only takes a few minutes to complete. By registering online you will have direct access to your information and the ability to immediately make any changes to it.

- B. Paper - using the attached application form and schedules, you can apply by mail or fax.

For additional information on Premises Identification, contact the Alberta Ag-Info Centre toll-free at 310-FARM (3276) or your local ARD Field Office.

Allan Pelletier, Director
Traceability Branch

Encl.

Frequently Asked Question: As a beekeeper am I required to register each location where my bees are located?

No. Under the Premises Identification (PID) regulation, animal owners (which includes beekeepers) are only required to register or obtain a PID Number for at least one premises where their bees are located. This is preferably their main site or operation.

Beekeepers have the option to register additional premises. It is beneficial for them to register additional premises in the PID System, particularly those away from their main site or operation, to ensure they are still notified if an emergency happens in that area. One can register each premises online after initially setting up your account or by completing a separate Schedule A in a paper application.