

## **Public Statement from the Western Stock Growers' Association on Proposed CFIA Traceability Regulations**

---

### **Proposed CFIA Traceability Rules Are Unworkable and Unproven**

*Issued: January 31, 2026*

The Western Stock Growers' Association (WSGA) is calling on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to indefinitely halt its proposed implementation of new livestock traceability regulations. WSGA is acting on the strong response to a membership poll regarding traceability. Our members told us loud and clear in a definitive majority that changes to the traceability regulations are neither necessary nor workable on the ground.

CFIA has not demonstrated that these regulatory changes are necessary. No credible cost-benefit analysis has been provided, and no evidence has been shown that higher traceability standards will improve animal health outcomes, market access, or producer returns. Past experience, including during the BSE crisis, demonstrates that Canada suffered severe economic losses despite having a functioning traceability system in place.

WSGA is further concerned about expanded data collection without clear limits on how producer information will be used, stored, or shared in the future. This poses severe property rights concerns.

The added costs of compliance would also place Canadian cattle producers at a competitive disadvantage compared to U.S. producers, who do not face similar requirements and costs.

WSGA will continue to advocate on behalf of our producer members and work with provincial and federal governments to ensure our voice is heard.

#### About WSGA:

Established in 1896, Western Stock Growers' Association is a beef producer organization driven by province-wide voluntary membership. WSGA's main priority is protection of the livestock producer and the rangelands they operate on through advocacy. WSGA encourages interaction within industry leaders that promotes education and helps define philosophical issues in agriculture.