

NATIONAL ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (NAIS)

December 27, 2009

Since the last Board meeting, I wrote an article which appeared on page 13 of the Fall 2009 issue of MEMO entitled "National Animal Identification System, NPGA's Position." It synopsised for the membership what NAIS is, its three components, how the components are or will be phased in, and the widespread opposition among breed organizations and others to USDA's efforts to implement NAIS. The article described NPGA's efforts to monitor the program and keep our membership informed. Finally, it described the position repeatedly taken by NPGA that our membership should be kept informed in order for them to make their own choices.

There has not been any significant activity with NAIS in the recent past. There has been nothing distributed by USDA to indicate that any new changes are being contemplated.

Members should be vigilant in their own states and pay attention to their respective state departments of agriculture for state level legislation, rules or policies that might impact them with respect to premises or animal identification.

I will continue to pay attention to things at the federal level, and pass along any developments as they play out.

Ray Hoyt