



# Wyoming Livestock Board

"Safeguarding Wyoming's Livestock Industry Today and for the Future"

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Dave Freudenthal  
Governor

James L. Schwartz, Director - Chief Executive Officer  
Walter E. Cook, DVM - State Veterinarian

Jim Logan, DVM  
Assistant State Veterinarian

September 9, 2008

Dear Producers:

Did you know that:

- **84% of Wyoming producers** felt that there should be an animal disease trace back system in Wyoming.
- **58% of Wyoming producers** want the state government to fund a state mandated system.
- **More than 75% of Wyoming producers**, on an evaluative scale, felt a trace back system was important in Wyoming.
- **69.8% of Wyoming producers** thought that animal disease trace backs should be accomplished within 48 hours or less.

Protecting the livestock industry in Wyoming has always been a difficult job but with the changing times and emerging threats that now endanger the industry that is our livelihood, the agriculture world has to become much more proactive rather than reactive as problems and diseases strike in Wyoming. With this in mind the Wyoming Livestock Board decided to commission a Disease Management and Traceability Survey to be completed by the Wyoming Center for Business and Economic Analysis, LLC to discover how Wyoming producers would like to move forward. The survey was completed with an adjusted return rate of 62% (689 useable returned surveys out of 1,149 that were mailed) which gives the entire survey a margin of error at plus or minus 5% for a confidence level of 95%.

The above statistics are just a few of the survey results that jumped out at the members of the Wyoming Livestock Board. We felt that the survey returned many interesting results and that producers and others involved in the industry be given an opportunity to review them at your convenience. Please take the time to read through the survey and results-as many decisions and policies will be developed by the Wyoming Livestock Board based upon the results from this survey.

Please feel free to contact me or any member of the Wyoming Livestock Board with comments or suggestions. We look forward to hearing from all industries and taking their suggestions into account as we move forward with the information to develop and implement rules and policies. If you would like additional copies of the survey please let us know and we will send them to you promptly.

Sincerely,

Jim Schwartz, Director  
Wyoming Livestock Board

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