

Most important remarks out of the report of the European Commission to the European Parliament in connection with a huge research to the possibilities of using electronic identification devices for cattle.

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Report from the European Commission to the European Parliament about the possibility to introduce electronic identification devices for cattle.

370.000 cows
500.000 sheep
29.000 goats
15.000 buffalo's

Readability

There have been reported problems using a dynamic reading system in slaughterhouses. The special circumstances in slaughterhouses (meaning great amount of metal and interference of several machines being used) apparently influence the function of the stationary readers.

Results concerning recuperation

For different reasons it is essential electronic identification devices can be recuperated. At first, electronic identification devices are electronic waste (electronic waste, contaminated with organic material) that should be kept out of the human food chain and environment. It is necessary as well to recuperate electronic identification devices to prevent fraud.

The results of recuperation with electronic earmarks and stomach capsule point out that there are no recuperation problems in the slaughter process and that the readability is still alright.

With injectable transponders (chip) the entire situation is different. Only 80% could be recuperated en only 52% of that was readable. Somehow the extraction process is of negative influence of the readability.

Injectable transponder

Disadvantage

Recuperation is low in comparison with other identification devices. The risk, identification devices get into the human food chain is higher that way. Only half of de recuperated transponders still is readable after extraction, what means crosschecking and documentation is hard.

Conclusions

All types of identification devices need to be kept out of the human food chain, which means the injectable transponder is less useable, considering the recuperation problems.