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## MAINE-ANJOU – REQUIREMENTS

Tattooing is a permanent form of identification required when registering cattle with the American Maine-Anjou Association (AMAA). Tattoos remain with the animal for life and are routinely checked at shows and sales. Because of this, proper tattooing technique is very important. If you are uncomfortable tattooing your own cattle, please contact your local veterinarian for assistance.

### Important Updates

- Herd prefixes will no longer be required to be tattooed beginning **January 1, 2026**.
- AMAA requires a tattoo number and the year letter code corresponding to the animal's birth year.
- The required tattoo must be placed in at least one ear.
- At the time of registration, members may choose to tattoo the **right ear, left ear, or both ears**.

### Tattoo Examples

- A calf born on **January 5, 2025** may be tattooed **15N** in one or both ears.
- If the calf is out of a cow tattooed **41**, the calf may be tattooed **41N**.
- If this is your first animal registered with AMAA, you may begin with **1N** and continue sequentially (**2N, 3N, 4N**, etc.) as calves are registered.

### Additional Tips

- If tattooing **both ears**, remember to leave adequate space for the **FID (official ID) tag**.
- If you choose to include a **herd prefix** along with the tattoo number and year letter, AMAA registrations allow **a maximum of 8 characters per ear**.

Year letter codes are below:

Year 2000 – K	Year 2014 - B
Year 2001 - L	Year 2015 - C
Year 2002 - M	Year 2016 - D
Year 2003 - N	Year 2017 - E
Year 2004 - P	Year 2018 - F
Year 2005 - R	Year 2019 - G
Year 2006 - S	Year 2020 - H
Year 2007 - T	Year 2021 - J
Year 2008 - U	Year 2022 - K
Year 2009 - W	Year 2023 - L
Year 2010 - X	Year 2024 - M
Year 2011 - Y	Year 2025 - N
Year 2012 - Z	Year 2026 - P
Year 2013 - A	Year 2027 - R

**Note: The letters I, O, Q and V are not used as year letter codes.**