

DOG MICRO CHIPPING – FINLAND DOG ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION

The mandatory requirement for identification and registration of dogs will enter into force on January 1, 2023, and then the authority's dog register will also open. In other words, chipped dogs cannot yet be registered in the dog registry.

Before the authority's register opens, the chip can be registered in another tagging database, e.g. Suomenkoiravaljakkoyrittäki microchip. However, registration in these databases does not remove the obligation to register the dog later in the authority's dog register.

Deadline for identification and registration. A dog born in Finland after January 1, 2023 must be identified with a microchip and reported to the register: - no later than 3 months after birth; or - if it is handed over to a new owner before the age of 3 months, before it is handed over to a new owner.

Dogs born before 1 January 2023 must be identified and registered in the register no later than 31 December 2023.

The microchip operator gives the dog owner the dog's identification certificate and take a copy of it for yourself, for example as a phone picture.

- The microchipper makes a list of all the dogs he has chipped and sends it to racinghuskyinfo@gmail.com to be added to the database until January 1, 2023, and the microchipper keeps the list of the dogs he has chipped in his own archive.

The owner of the dog must report the chipped dog to the address provided by the Food Agency on 1 January 2023. after. Even dogs that have already been registered with the kennel association.

Microchips can be bought e.g. <http://sirushop.fi> where 1.4 mm microchips were bought for education or www.mikrosirut.fi

- A microchip is a capsule about the size of a grain of rice, with electronic parts inside. When the microchip is read with a suitable device, the device displays chip number sequence.

- the chip is placed in place with an inserter that resembles a large vaccination needle.

- The needles used to insert the chips are somewhat larger than the vaccination needle, the procedure is quick and causes only mild pain (needle sting). The procedure does not require sedation of the pet.- The code of the chip is not the dog's registration number, but it is an unchanging set of characters coded by the manufacturer, which is stored on the sticker strips that come with the chip. The chip itself does not have an energy source, but is only activated by the low radio signal sent by the reading device.

- A pet can be microchipped by a veterinarian or an approved identification tag.

The Food Agency's registrar accepts all microchips according to the ISO11784/5 standard.

In Finland, dogs are fitted with microchips without a country code, which consist of a manufacturer's number and an individual microchip code. For imported dogs, an identification mark made in the country of origin is still accepted. If an imported dog has to be re-identified due to, for example, the old microchip not working, the new microchip must meet the requirements set by dogs to be chipped in Finland.

There are two ISO standards associated with microchips:

ISO 11784, which describes the code structure of the chip, and ISO 11785, which describes the technical principle of the chip

The minimum age limit for placing a microchip on a dog is eight weeks, if the Finnish dog sled company's identification tagger carries out the tagging. If necessary, the veterinarian can microchip the puppy at a younger age.

Small dogs can be marked on the table and bigger dogs on the floor. Often the puppies are held in the lap to keep them in their fields. The assistant can be the owner of the dog or another person who treats dogs well.

It is recommended to place the microchip between the shoulder blades. If the dog is very hairy, brush or comb the skin first. After that, the chipper lifts the loose neck skin with a finger grip, pushes the needle under the skin and presses the chip into it.

The functionality of the chip is checked with a reading device immediately after insertion. Dogs with very thick fur should be carefully brushed from the installation site and thus check that the chip has not remained in the hair. When it is determined that the chip is definitely under the dog's skin, the chipper fills out the required papers

Animal Protection Ordinance / Finland Law

§ 23 Permitted measures

Notwithstanding Section 7, subsections 1 and 2 of the Animal Protection Act, the following measures performed on animals are permitted:

3) cat tattooing performed by a veterinarian, dog tattooing performed by a qualified person and placing a microchip on a cat or dog by a qualified person;

A qualified person means a person who has sufficient knowledge of the technique for performing the procedure in question and sufficient skill to perform the procedure.

The tools and equipment used for procedures on animals must be suitable for their purpose, clean and functional.

Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on the identification and registration of dogs

In accordance with the decision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, provisions are made under the Animal Identification System Act (238/2010):

§ 1 Scope

This regulation applies to the identification and registration of dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*).

§ 2 Definitions

In this regulation means

1) the owner of a dog means a natural person or a legal entity who owns a dog or has the dog under its control. The owner of the dog can also be more than one natural person or legal entity with joint liability;

2) microchip electronic identification with radio frequency identification;

3) a person qualified to insert a microchip means a person who is qualified to insert a microchip in a dog as referred to in the Animal Protection Act (247/1996).

§ 3 Deadline for identification and registration

A dog born in Finland after January 1, 2023 must be identified with a microchip and entered in the register:

– no later than 3 months after birth; or

- if it is handed over to a new owner before the age of 3 months, before it is handed over to a new owner.

Dogs born before 1 January 2023 must be identified and registered in the register no later than 31 December 2023.

A dog permanently arriving in Finland from another country must be identified with a microchip and the dog must be registered in Finland within four weeks of arrival, or before the dog is handed over to the new owner, if the handover takes place before the four-week deadline. A dog temporarily staying in Finland for more than three months must also be registered in the register within the corresponding deadline.

§ 4 Identification marking

The dog's owner is responsible for identifying the animal with a microchip, which includes the dog's unique identification code. The microchip is primarily placed between the shoulder blades or secondarily in the neck or nape area.

The microchip is inserted by a veterinarian or a person qualified to insert a microchip. The microchip inserter must keep a list of all the chips they insert and their insertion dates, as well as the identification certificates they issue.

Requirements regarding microchips are stipulated in Regulation (EU) No. 576/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council on non-commercial transfers of pets and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 998/2003.

§ 5 Identification certificate

Attachment 1.

When the dog is marked with a microchip, the microchip inserter gives the dog's owner an identification certificate.

§ 6 Registration

The owner of the dog must enter the information of the identification certificate in the register.

Notification to the register is made by providing the following information:

- 1) in an internet service that requires strong electronic identification; or
- 2) On a form approved by the Food and Drug Administration (by post or electronically).

Notification for entry in the register is made to the Food Agency or an entity authorized by it.

§ 7 Notification of data changes

The owner of the dog must notify the register of any changes to the information entered in the register within one month. Notification does not need to be made for a temporary change lasting less than three months. Both the new and the former owner must notify the change of the dog's owner within the mentioned deadline.

When a dog dies, is euthanized or disappears, the owner of the dog must notify the information register within one month of the event at the latest.

§ 8 List of persons qualified to insert a microchip

The Food Agency or a body authorized by the Food Agency maintains a list of persons qualified to insert a microchip in dogs.

§ 9 Entry into force

This regulation enters into force on January 1, 2023.