



France

Identification and registration

Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is compulsory. Identification can be by tattoo or microchip and before the age of 4 months, or before transfer of ownership. Once identified, the dog must be registered in a database.

Cats

Permanent identification of **cats** is compulsory and must be done before the age of 7 months, or before transfer of ownership. Once identified, the cat must be registered in a database.

There is one **national database** for dogs and cats (I-CAD) created by the Ministry of Agriculture. I-CAD is a member of the **EU-wide database** EuroPetNet.

Microchipping is regulated insofar as chip insertion and registration in the database can only be done by Government-approved individuals. The chip number must contain the country code.

Regulation of breeding

Dog breeders

All **dog breeders** must be registered and licensed, which requires breeders to declare their activity to the Competent Authority. Someone is considered a breeder when they own a breeding female which gives birth to one or more litters a year.

Cat breeders

All **cat breeders** must be registered and licensed, which requires breeders to declare their activity to the Competent Authority. Someone is considered a breeder when they own a breeding female which gives birth to one or more litters a year.

A list of **breeding establishments** is managed by the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy.

The veterinary services must carry out sanitary compliance **inspections**.

Legislation prohibits the **breeding** of dogs and cats where it can be foreseen that they or their descendants will suffer because of it, to limit the extremes of conformation.

There is a compulsory **code of practice** for breeders which includes the frequency in which females can reproduce and the conditions in which the animals are kept.

Sales and advertising

Dog and cat traders

There is legislation on the minimum age at time of sale: 8 weeks for **puppies** and **kittens**.

All dog and cat **traders** must hold a certificate of competence (ACACED). Traders must declare their activity to the Competent Authority. Traders must also provide the buyer with a certificate of sale.

Sales in **pet shops** are permitted but sales at **markets** and **on the street** are forbidden.

Surgical operations to modify the appearance of dogs and cats or for other non-curative purposes (e.g. tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation, declawing) is prohibited, however in some circumstances tail docking is permitted.

All **online advertisements** must include the seller's professional registration number, the microchip or tattoo number for the animal being sold and of the animal's mother, the age of the animals and if they are registered in a stud book recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Legislation: Rural code; Sanitary and Animal Protection Rules; Training of people keeping animals