All Adair County 4-H and FFA members who are planning to exhibit swine at the 2014 Adair County Fair must have their pigs tagged as part of the countywide identification program scheduled for April 9 – April 15. Adair County Extension office staff and the Adair County Fair swine committee have the responsibility to follow protocol that will provide swine exhibitors and their farm sites the greatest protection from disease when identifying swine for exhibition at the Adair County Fair and the Iowa State Fair. Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) is a new virus to the U.S. and was first confirmed in the country on May 17, 2013. PEDV only infects pigs (NOT humans or other livestock).

Because PEDV is highly infectious and can create tremendous financial losses to a pork producer, the swine tagging process for the 2014 Adair County Fair will be different than in past years. If you are planning to exhibit swine at the 2014 Adair County Fair and/or the 2014 Iowa State Fair and have not received a letter with detailed protocol and instructions for tagging, contact the Extension office immediately 1-800-ISUE 399.

Separate classes will be offered at the fair for market barrows and market gilts. Each exhibitor can show three head of market barrows and three head of market gilts. In addition, they may enter up to two pens of market hogs. Exhibitors may also show two breeding gilts. Birth dates for all gilts must be provided in order for those animals to be eligible for the breeding class.

Members may also choose to nominate up to six head of their pigs for the lean value carcass contest sponsored by the Adair County Pork Producers. There is a $3 per head entry fee. No pigs will be weighed. Final placing in the contest will be determined by lean carcass value – not lean gain per day on test.

For more information about the county and state fair swine tagging requirements, please call the Extension office at 641-743-8412 or 1-800-ISUE 399.