April 3, 2015

To: All 4-H/FFA Swine Project Members
   4-H Leaders

Each of you enrolled in the swine project area and hopefully are planning to bring swine to the Cedar County Fair. The same process will be implemented in the swine identification process as was used for the past three years.

IMPORTANT: The 2015 swine show at the Cedar County Fair will remain a terminal show.
KEEP IN MIND: The ear tags are for easy identification of the animals in the show ring. The ear notches are the actual identifier of swine in all weigh-in and check-in processes. This also follows State Fair requirements.

SWINE FOR CEDAR COUNTY FAIR
All swine which youth plan to bring to only the county fair must be tagged with a Cedar County 4-H tag. It will be the responsibility of each 4-H member to ear tag their animals with the tags.

- You will need to come to the office and request the number of ear tags you will need (one for each pig).
- Check out the tagger and pay a deposit of $25 for the tagger (if needed). The deposit will be returned to you once the tagger is returned.
- Pick up the required paperwork and information.
- Take everything home and:
  - Complete the top of the identification form (one for each youth)
  - Tag each pig (tag in one ear only)
    - Tags should be put in place with the large number part on the back of the ear and the small button on the inside of the ear
  - Record ear tag number on the identification form (be sure to say which ear it is in)
  - Record ear notches for each pig on the identification form
    - Be sure ear notches and ear tag are accurate for each pig
  - Complete other required information on the identification form (signature required)
  - After the tag is in place you will need to take 2 photos
    - One front view at eye level of the pig showing the tag and both ears
    - One rear view showing both ears and the black of the ear tag
    - Between the two photos all ear notches must be visible (a sample photo will be available, there is no ear tag in place as this photo is just to show you an ear notch example)
    - You also need to complete the pig ear diagram with notches marked and the tag number filled in (one form per pig)
    - You can send your photos in an email to me at the Extension Office (tbohlman@iastate.edu), these must be sent as .jpeg files as I have an option to import them into your swine record on 4hOnline, if sending an email please make sure that you include your name and not just a phone number from your cell phone
  - Once you are done tagging your animal – be sure to disinfect the tagger to help prevent the spread of disease
  - You will then need to return the tagger, completed identification form and photos for your animals to the Extension Office by May 1st
  - At this time the photos and ear notches will be reviewed by a committee, if there are any discrepancies you will be notified and a representative from the committee will evaluate the ear notches prior to the May 15th deadline
    - The Extension Office will enter all data into 4hOnline for you to review
    - You will receive an email from the Extension Office telling you the information has been entered in 4hOnline
    - You will have until May 15th to go into 4hOnline to verify your county fair pigs

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.
SWINE FOR IOWA STATE FAIR

All swine which youth plan to bring to the State Fair must be tagged with a County DNA ear tag. It will be the responsibility of each 4-H member to ear tag their animals with these tags. These are the only tags which can be used to identify pigs for the Iowa State Fair.

- You will need to come to the office and request the number of DNA ear tags that you will need (one for each pig), the tagger, and the # of DNA envelopes (1 large envelope per 4-H member – up to 25 pigs per envelope)
- Both market and breeding swine need to have DNA tags for the Iowa State Fair
- Pay for your DNA tag ($10 per tag)
- Pay the $25 deposit fee for the tagger
- Pick up the appropriate paperwork and information
- Take everything home and:
  - Review how to use the DNA ear tag
  - Complete the top portion of the identification form (one for each youth)
  - Record ear notches for each pig prior to tagging them
  - Record ear tag number on the identification form (make sure to say which ear it is in)
  - Tag each pig (tag in one ear only)
    - Tags should be put in place with the large number part on the back of the ear and the small button on the inside of the ear
  - Complete all required information on the identification form
  - Put DNA sample of the tag into large envelope, one large envelope per 4-H’er (up to 25 ear tags can go into one envelope)
  - Write down tag numbers on the large envelope
  - 4-H member and parent/guardian must sign the envelope, then seal it
  - After the tag is in place you will need to take 2 photos
    - One front view at eye level of the pig showing the tag and both ears
    - One rear view showing both ears and the back of the ear tag
      - Between the two photos all ear notches must be visible (a sample photo will be available, there is no ear tag in place as this photo is just to show you an ear notch example)
    - You also need to complete the pig ear diagram with notches marked and the tag number filled in (one form per pig)
    - You can send your photos in an email to me at the Extension Office (tbohlman@iastate.edu), these must be sent as jpeg files as I have an option to import them into your swine record in 4hOnline, if sending an email please make sure that you include your name and not just a phone number from your cell phone
  - Once you are done tagging your animal – be sure to disinfect the tagger to help prevent the spread of disease
    - Return the identification form and the tagger to the Extension Office
    - Return the large DNA envelope to Extension Office by May 1st
    - The Extension Office will enter all data into 4hOnline for you to review
    - You will receive an email from the Extension Office telling you the information has been entered in 4hOnline
    - You will have until May 15th to go into 4hOnline to verify your state fair pigs

All swine identification and the required clear pictures for each ear of the animal must be in the Extension Office by 4pm on May 1st (not May 15th). This deadline is for the Cedar County Fair and the Iowa State Fair.

If you have questions, please contact the office.

Teresa Bohlmann
K-12 Outreach Educator

Youth Development Is Our Bottom Line

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