Helpful Hints for families with animals at the
Des Moines County Fair

♦ The 4-H'er is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the identification forms. This is the Number 1 tip to remember! Please review all forms before you return them to the Extension Office!
♦ The 4-H'er must take an active role in the care of the animal(s) they have identified.
♦ Deadlines for these forms is weigh in’s of perspective animals and May 15th
♦ Remember that when registration papers are involved, it is preferred to have the registration papers solely in the 4-H’ers name. However, dual registrations (parent and 4-H’er) or a logical family relationship is acceptable. For example, Jane Doe’s beef animal registration is acceptable if it is registered under the Doe Family Farm, but not acceptable if the registration papers read Windy Hills Farm. There is no logical family connection between Jane Doe and Windy Hills Farm, but there is a logical family relationship to the Doe Family.
♦ Be sure to fill in all blanks that apply to your animal(s) and/or the type of show(s) you would like to register to exhibit in. (For example, breed classes often require tattoo, sire names, and/or registration numbers that crossbred classes do not.) At times, 4-H’ers may become ineligible to exhibit, or end up in a different class than anticipated at the state or county fair due to missing information on the animal identification report. 4-H’ers are encouraged to know each shows requirements prior to making entries. It is important to know birth dates of animals also.
♦ Animals “offered” for sale are considered to have changed ownership, and thus are terminated as a 4-H project.
♦ Signatures of both the 4-H’er and the parent/guardian are required on each of the identification reports in order to verify the accuracy of the information. A waiver form is acceptable but must be presented at animal weigh in’s.
♦ The back sheet (or the blue copy) of these forms is the member’s copy. Please save and file it with your records in case of discrepancy at a later date.
♦ Animals may NOT be identified as both a 4-H and FFA project.

Beef
Breeding Beef
♦ All breeding heifers, commercial and purebred animals, MUST have a legible tattoo. Please check the legibility of the tattoo prior to May 15. If you can’t read it, neither can anyone else.
♦ Calfhood vaccination tattoos are not acceptable. It must be distinctive numbers, letters, or combinations of letters and numbers.
♦ The tattoo MUST be listed on the identification report (4H-106b)
♦ Purebred animals MUST have a birthday and registration number listed on the identification report. This information MUST match the original breed registration papers. This information must be on file at the County Extension Office by May 15.
♦ If the information required for purebred animals is missing from the 4-H identification form; members will be moved into the commercial heifer division.
♦ Commercial heifers do not require a birth date, but MUST have a tattoo listed on the identification report.
♦ 4-H’ers cannot identify the same heifer as both a market and a breeding animal.
**Market Beef**
♦ All Market beef, at a minimum, MUST have all SIX pieces of the information listed on the LEFT HAND SIDE of the market beef identification report, 4H 106bi. This would include the following: Tag number, tag color, right or left ear, weigh date, weight, and sex
♦ Some counties may show Market Beef animals in specific breed classes, i.e. Angus, Simmental, etc., will need to provide additional information. Breed steers must have the following: Breed name, tattoo number, Sire name or Sire Registration.

**STATE FAIR SPECIFIC ID REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKET BEEF**
♦ All Market beef wishing to participate at the Iowa State Fair, MUST have been weighed and tagged at an official verification site, as well as had retinal images collected from the nominated animal. Both exhibitors and parents must have completed and signed the state fair verification form.
♦ Market Beef animals wishing to show in specific breed classes, will need to provide additional information. This information may vary from breed to breed; however, all breed steers must have the following: Breed name, tattoo number, Sire name and Sire Registration.
♦ Breed information, tattoo number and sire information for state fair nominated animals must be on the Iowa 4-H Market Beef Verification Form at weigh in.
♦ Exhibitors wishing to show the market beef in specific breeds must also provide the proper and original registration papers or breed certificates at check-in time.
♦ A few beef breeds may vary from those terms. The Iowa Junior Beef Breed Association breed requirements are the guidelines used for the 4-H beef show at the Iowa State Fair. The requirements are listed in the ag handbook under the beef section, also at [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/Documents/LHBeefBreeds.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/Documents/LHBeefBreeds.pdf). This additional breed information will assist the show officials in verifying the pedigree of that animal in order to meet the breed association requirements.
♦ If the information required for purebred animals is missing from the state fair verification form; they will be moved into the crossbred division.

**Dairy & Dairy goat**
♦ Dairy cattle MUST have all four boxes on the identification form complete and accurate.
♦ Registration number, ear tag or tattoo, birthday, registered or grade distinction and breed. This information MUST match their original breed papers. All levels of registry are accepted.
♦ Calfood vaccination tattoos are not acceptable. It must be distinctive numbers, letters, or combinations of letters and numbers.
♦ The same is true for Dairy Goats – All four boxes on the identification form must be complete and accurate.
♦ Tattoos for dairy cattle and dairy goats, must be in place and legible by May 15th.

**Meat Goat**
♦ All meat goat, at a minimum, MUST have all SIX pieces of the information listed on the LEFT HAND SIDE of the market beef identification report, 4H 106g. This would include the following:
♦ Tag number, tag color, right or left ear, weigh date, weight, and sex.
♦ Some counties may show meat goat animals in specific breed classes will need to provide additional information. Information needed may vary from county to county, however, a general rule of thumb is that all breed meat goat must have the following: Breed name, tattoo number, Sire name and Sire Registration.
Dog
♦ All information is required, with exception of the dog’s birth date.
♦ Dog’s name, rabies vaccination number and date of vaccination, breed and sex of dog are all required.
♦ If the rabies vaccination expires prior to a show, updated information will be required.
♦ Years of training for both dog and 4-H’er are critical in order to get them into the correct class.

Horse
♦ ALL information on the identification report is required
♦ Markings must be complete and accurate – photographs attached to the identification report are acceptable.
♦ 4-H’er must take an active role in the care of the animal, even if the horse is a leased.
♦ IF a family includes more 4-H’ers than horses, more than one 4-H’er may identify a horse; however, in this situation a 4-H’er cannot identify more than one horse. Likewise, a family with multiple horses cannot put the same horse on more than one 4-H’er’s identification report.

STATE FAIR SPECIFIC ID REQUIREMENTS FOR HORSES
♦ Markings must be complete and accurate – photographs are acceptable. For state fair entries, please submit the original photos rather than copies.
♦ Leased horses are eligible for exhibition at the Iowa State Fair. A copy of the signed lease agreement must accompany the entry form and identification report.

Sheep
♦ Ear tag number, ear tag color, right ear or left ear or both
♦ Ewe lambs may be listed in both the market sheep column and the breeding sheep column.
♦ All of the information requested in each column must be complete and accurate for these ewe lambs. However, these lambs may be shown in only one of those divisions, either as a market lamb or a breeding ewe.

Market Sheep
♦ MUST have a beginning weight, beginning date weighed and sex of animal

Breeding Sheep
♦ Purebred ewes MUST have the breed, registration number and face color listed.
♦ Commercial ewes MUST have a birth date listed.
♦ All Ewes Must have a scrapie tag to exhibit.

STATE FAIR SPECIFIC ID REQUIREMENTS FOR SHEEP
♦ All Market sheep wishing to participate at the Iowa State Fair, MUST have been weighed and tagged at an official verification site, as well as retinal images collected from the nominated animal.
♦ Both exhibitors and parents must have completed and signed the state fair verification form.
Swine
♦ Ear notch numbers and notch marks, color markings, sex of animal, and tags if used.

Market Swine
♦ MUST include notches that are clearly indicated by both number and actual hash marks, sex of animal and color markings.
♦ Purebred market swine animals MUST have notches clearly indicated by both number and actual hash marks, as well as a birth dates listed on the identification report. This information MUST match their original breed registration papers.

Breeding Swine
♦ Purebred animals MUST have notches clearly indicated by both number and actual hash marks, a birthday, and color markings listed on the identification report. This information MUST match their original breed registration papers.
♦ Commercial gilts MUST have notches clearly indicated by both number and actual hash marks, a birthday and color markings listed on the identification report.
♦ If the information required for purebred animals is missing from the 4-H identification form, they will be moved into the commercial gilt classes.

STATE FAIR SPECIFIC ID REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SWINE
♦ Derby, Market, and Breeding Swine verification forms are completed during the designated swine weigh ins traditionally in late April.
♦ In order to be eligible for the Iowa State Fair, all swine, (Derby, Market, Breeding) wishing to participate at the Iowa State Fair, MUST have been ear notched, tagged, tattooed and identified at an official verification site, as well as had a DNA sample taken from the nominated animal. Derby swine must also have been weighed. Both exhibitors and parents must have completed and signed the state fair verification form.

Completed Forms
♦ 4-H members who complete their animal identification forms (4H106a-f) and return them to the local Extension Office by the deadline date now have their livestock projects identified and on file.
♦ 4-H’ers will need to complete a “fair entry form” to enter these animals in the Iowa State Fair and/or county fairs.
♦ The Fair entry deadline is July 1 and entry forms are available at your local Extension Office, online and in the newsletter.