



March 5, 2020

Dear Members, Parents and Advisors:

All Junior Fair market sheep must be identified. This is a mandatory requirement for this project. Exhibitors have two options to have their market sheep identified for the fair this year:

1. The identification clinic for market sheep projects will be held at the Mercer County Fairgrounds, Complex Show Arena, on **Friday, April 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m. OR Saturday, April 25 from 9:00-10:30 am.** You do not need an appointment. **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE – this is a change from the original date.**

OR

2. You may select to have, at your own expense, your veterinarian visit your farm and tag your animals. You must pick up tags and paperwork at the Extension Office, make an appointment with your vet, have animals tagged and paperwork completed and **return this paperwork to the Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24.** Animals tagged on the farm will NOT be eligible for the rate of gain class. **Please note that the April 24 is a firm deadline.** In fairness to all exhibitors involved, ownership dates must be the same for everyone. Having stated that, do not wait until the last minute to make an appointment with your veterinarian.

As an alternative for those families who do not wish to bring their animals to the fairgrounds, see list below for veterinarians who have been sent tagging information.

Coldwater Animal Clinic	110 Harvest Drive	Coldwater	678-4071
Ft. Recovery Veterinary Center	119 State Route 119	Ft. Recovery	375-2684
County Animal Clinic	800 N 7 th St.	Coldwater	678-3610
Celina Animal Hospital	7100 Havemann Road	Celina	586-3109
Maria Stein Animal Clinic	8155 State Route 119	Maria Stein	925-4212
Chickasaw Vet Center	PO 144	Chickasaw	925-4910
Minton Veterinary Service	108 West Franklin	Chickasaw	925-9300

Tags can be picked up from the Extension Office. Office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The office may be closed from 11:30-1:00, so if you plan to come at that time, please call ahead first.

Policies regarding Market Lambs

1. An individual may tag a maximum of five market sheep animals. An exhibitor may show two of these five identified animals in the junior fair as their market sheep.
2. Animals are to be owned by the exhibitor or the exhibitor’s family or farm business.
3. Families may share sheep. A family means those junior fair eligible youth who are siblings, half-siblings or step-siblings.
4. Family shared policies are as follows:
 - Each exhibitor must identify one animal as their project. This animal cannot be shared by anyone else.
 - Each exhibitor may identify a maximum of 4 additional animals as family shared animals.
 - The exhibitor of the family shared animal must be stated when the animal is weighed at the fair.

Scrapie Identification Exhibitor/Owner Statement

All animals must have a Scrapie tag in their ear prior to tagging. **Animals cannot be tagged for the fair without an existing Scrapie tag.** Scrapie tagging is the law. If you are purchasing a sheep, **make certain that sheep are Scrapie tagged from the breeder prior to you taking possession of the animal.**

The Exhibitor/Owner Statement document enclosed in your envelope is mandatory. This forms must be completed thoroughly before an animal can be tagged or weighed in. The state vet may review these forms before and during the fair. Please make sure you have the all the information about the “Flock of Origin” before purchasing an animal. If you have purchased animals from multiple flocks then please get another form from our website or the Extension Office before April 24.

Procedure for Retagging Market Sheep

It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to monitor their animal’s ear tags. If you determine that your market sheep has lost its ear tag, call the Extension Office, (419) 586-2179, immediately and report it. In order to have your market sheep retagged it must be approved by the Sheep Superintendent. Monitor your market sheep ear tags very closely and report any missing tags immediately!

If you have any questions about Market Swine identification, please feel free to contact me at my email address below or call the Extension Office at 419-586-2179.

Sincerely,



Beth Guggenbiller
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4-H Youth Development
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