



October 21, 2021

To: 2021 Junior Fair Beef Exhibitors - Beef Projects
4-H Club Organizational Advisors
FFA Chapter Advisors

All market beef animals must be ear tagged in order to be eligible for the 2022 Mercer County Junior Fair. This includes all market steers (beef or dairy) and market heifers. An exhibitor will have 2 options to have your animals identified for the fair this year.

This letter is being sent to any exhibitor who was enrolled in any type of beef project in 2021. (You received this letter because you exhibited a breeding heifer, market beef or a feeder calf at last year's fair. You DO NOT need to ID breeding heifers or feeder calves at this time, but I wanted you to have this information in case you have decided to exhibit a market beef animal for 2022).

New Rule for Animal Identification

Each exhibitor will be allowed a maximum of 5 animals for identification. Families do not need to designate animals with specific member names. All animals will be identified under a family name. The family name/unit is composed of Legal siblings (brothers, sisters, stepbrothers and stepsisters, half-brothers, and half-sisters)

For example: The "Clover" Family has 3 children- they could tag up to 15 beef for their family (3 children times 5 beef)

An exhibitor may show any of the family identified animals at the county fair. Member's will identify what

Options for Identification:

1. The identification clinic for market sheep projects will be held at the Mercer County Fairgrounds, Complex Show Arena, on **Friday, December 3, 6:00-8:30 p.m. OR Saturday, December 4 from 9:00-10:00 am.** You do not need an appointment.

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, December 3.** Animals tagged on the farm will NOT be eligible for the rate of gain class. **Please note that December 3 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
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
Four Star Veterinary Service	108 West Franklin	Chickasaw	925-9300

If you exhibited a market beef project in 2021 BUT ARE NOT taking this project in 2022, please notify me (guggenbiller.23@osu.edu or 419-586-2179). I would appreciate knowing that you are not coming to this event.

FOR STATE FAIR: If you are just considering showing at the state fair in 2022 and have not yet made a firm decision, I would advise you to submit the required hair samples and EID tagging requirements by the state fair's January 15, 2022, deadline. Simply providing this sample to the state fair office does not enter your animal into the state fair show. The actual entry process happens in June. However, if you do not send the required information to the state fair by January 15, 2022, your animal(s) will not be eligible to be shown and you cannot make an entry for that animal in June. **If you would like EID kit, please notify our office to reserve your kits. We will have select few available.**

Also note that youth showing at any of the BEST sanctioned shows must have EID tags in their calves prior to the first show in which they exhibit. BEST shows prior to the January 15 deadline to submit samples to OSF include: AGR Holiday Classic (December 10-12, Columbus) and Scarlet & Gray Midwest Showdown (January 7-9, Columbus).

Questions may be directed to me at the Extension Office at 419-586-2179 or guggenbiller.23@osu.edu.

Sincerely,



Beth Guggenbiller
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