



Walworth County Jr. Sheep Tagging Day '19

The annual *Walworth County Junior Sheep Project Tagging Day* will be held on Saturday, **May 11** in front of the sheep barn at the Walworth County Fairgrounds. Tagging will begin at 7:00 a.m. and continue until 9:00 a.m. (or whenever the last animal is done). All market lambs* must be tagged on this date in order to be exhibited and sold at the *2019 Walworth County Fair*. If your lambs will be housed at a location other than your own property, please contact Junior Sheep Superintendent Tim Ehlen at (608) 676-2569 BEFORE Tagging Day for approval.

Guidelines are as follows:

- Lambs will be tagged on a family basis, rather than a member basis. Specific lambs will be linked to specific members at fair weigh-in.
- All lambs must be wethers at the time of tagging.
- Member-families must complete tagging paperwork; please be ready to share your address, the address where your lambs are being kept (if different from your address), **the premise identification number for your lambs' residence**, phone number, email address, club/chapter, and members' names and grades.
- Know ahead of time if you wish to make a *Carcass Contest* entry. There is a \$5 non-refundable fee for carcass entries. This fee must be paid at *Tagging Day*. Checks should be payable to *Walworth County Fair*.
- During tagging, hair will be pulled from every lamb for possible DNA testing during or immediately following fair week. Cost per lamb will be \$6. Checks should be made payable to *Walworth County Meat Animal Sale Committee*. The 2019 Champion & Reserve Champion Market Lambs and a handful of lambs drawn randomly will be tested at no cost to members. All *Walworth County Meat Animal Sale* species (beef, sheep, and swine) are participating in DNA collection and testing this year.
- Following *Tagging Day*, it is imperative that lost tags must be reported to Tim Ehlen as soon as they are noticed. Lambs will be retagged, and the UWEX office will record the new tag numbers. Be aware that lambs that arrive at fair weigh-in without an official Walworth County ear tag in their ear will be required to participate in a DNA test at the owner's expense (approximately \$100).

*State Fair Market Lambs

- State Fair market lambs may tag and have DNA pulled directly through State Fair OR as part of the county Tagging Day. Either will suffice for both.
- State Fair tagged/DNA-pulled market lambs do NOT have to appear at county tagging day. **However, they MUST be recorded on official Walworth County Sheep Project Tagging Day paperwork by 9 a.m. on May 11.** Paperwork will be available in the UW-Extension office May 6-10 ONLY for State Fair exhibitors who cannot attend Tagging Day. Call 262-741-4951 BEFORE coming to the UWEX office to complete this paperwork.
- The postmark deadline for State Fair identification is May 17. Visit <http://wistatefair.com/competitions/junior-livestock/> for full State Fair Junior Department information.

