

WALWORTH COUNTY SWINE TAGGING & DNA COLLECTION

GUIDELINES FOR MEMBER-FAMILIES

2020

- To be eligible for the 2020 Walworth County Fair Swine Show, animals must have an official Walworth County or Wisconsin State Fair RFID tag and must have collected DNA on file. **All market hogs must be barrows.**
- In Walworth County, swine tagging and DNA collection will be completed on a family basis. During fair weigh-in, animals will be assigned to specific family members.
- Member-families may purchase Walworth County RFID tags and DNA collection envelopes for 2020 use only. Tags and envelopes may not be held over for use in 2021. Leftover 2019 tags and envelopes may not be used.



- Cost for 2020 is \$5 per animal. There is a limit of eight tags/envelopes per youth exhibitor. RFID tags and DNA envelopes will be available for purchase at the County Government Center on **March 10** and **April 2** from 6:30—8:00 p.m. **These two dates/times are the ONLY dates/times that tags and envelopes will be sold.**
- Each family must complete and turn in the *2020 Walworth County Swine Tagging/DNA Collection Registration* form at the time of tag/envelope purchase. This form must be filled out completely. All project members in the household must be listed on the form.
- Checks for tags/envelopes should be made payable to the Walworth County Meat Animal Sale Committee or paid for with cash in the exact amount.
- Upon purchase, your family will receive tags and DNA collection envelopes for use at home. You will also receive a copy of the *Walworth County Market Hog Identification Form*, bar code stickers to match the bar codes on the tags you purchase, and directions for effectively pulling DNA samples.

COLLECTING YOUR DNA SAMPLES

- When you are ready to tag and collect DNA samples from your animals, take a moment to fill out as much of the following as possible:
 - 1) *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form*
 - 2) Information requested on the outside of the DNA collection envelopes. (Be aware that both a member and parent signature is needed on each.)

Place a bar code sticker on each envelope. The sticker should match the tag of the animal's DNA that's inside the envelope.

Put a copy of the bar code sticker on the WHITE sheet of the *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form* right next to where the corresponding tag is listed on that form. Please **DO NOT** put stickers on the PINK and YELLOW copies.

- Follow the *Swine Hair Sample Collection Instructions* to collect DNA from each animal you tag. Insert the DNA samples into the appropriate envelopes and seal them. Fill out missing info on the envelopes/forms as you go.
- When everything is complete, place the sealed envelopes back in the zip-style bag. Remove the back PINK page of the form to keep for your records and return the remaining pages to the zip-style bag. (You will keep the pink page from the *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form*.)

SUBMITTING YOUR DNA SAMPLES

- Return the zip-style bag and its contents to Superintendent Jim Henriott on **May 15 (3-6 p.m.) or May 16 (8 a.m. – noon)**. You will find Jim **in back of the Elkhorn Area High School by the greenhouse** at those dates/times. These are the only times that tag info and DNA envelopes can be submitted.
- **Your zip-style bag should contain the following when you turn it in:**
 1. White and yellow copies of the *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form* (with corresponding bar code stickers on the **WHITE SHEET ONLY**).
 2. Sealed DNA envelopes for each animal tagged using a Walworth County tag (with attached bar code stickers, as appropriate).

Absolutely no DNA samples will be accepted after May 16. Pigs for which no DNA was submitted will be ineligible for the 2020 Walworth County Fair.

IF ONE OF YOUR ANIMALS LOSES ITS TAG...

- Replacement tags will be available free of charge until Friday, August 28 at a location to be announced during tag sales. If replacement tags are needed, member-families must pick up the needed tag(s) and submit the old tag(s), if available. If the old tag(s) is/are not available, please be prepared to tell which tag number(s) you are replacing when you come to get the replacements.
- Be aware that any pig that presents at the fair weigh-in scale without its officially recorded RFID tag in its ear will be required to participate in a DNA test at the owner's expense (approximately \$100). The 2020 Champion & Reserve Champion Market Hog and several market hogs drawn randomly will be tested at no cost to members.

IF YOUR ANIMAL IS GOING TO STATE FAIR...

- State Fair barrow exhibitors may purchase their tags and DNA envelopes through State Fair or Walworth County. If tags are obtained directly through State Fair, exhibitors will simply need to list any "state fair" pigs that they want eligible for the Walworth County Fair on the *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form* available on March 10 and April 2 at county tag and DNA envelope sales. That paperwork must be turned in at the fairgrounds on either May 15 (3-6 p.m.) or May 16 (8 a.m.-noon).
- **State Fair exhibitors must mail their own DNA envelopes to State Fair.** The postmark deadline for *State Fair Identification* is May 21, 2020. We cannot guarantee that materials collected at the county level will make it to State Fair by their postmark deadline.
- State Fair exhibitors do NOT need to put both a state tag AND county tag in a state fair pig's ear. You do NOT need to collect two DNA samples for the same pig.