

WALWORTH COUNTY SWINE TAGGING & DNA COLLECTION GUIDELINES FOR MEMBER-FAMILIES--2021

To be eligible for the 2021 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.** (Animals which already have a farm-based RFID tag in their ear may keep that tag, but must still submit DNA and have the full bar code—starting with 840—recorded.)



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 2021 use only. Tags and envelopes may not be held over for use in 2022. Leftover 2020 tags and envelopes may not be used. Cost for 2021 is **\$5 per animal**. There is a limit of eight tags/envelopes per youth exhibitor.

OBTAINING TAGS AND/OR DNA COLLECTION ENVELOPES

- 1) Complete the **Walworth County Swine Tagging & DNA Registration Form**.
- 2) Mail or email it to Junior Swine Superintendent Jessica Clapper so she **receives it on or before March 19**.
- 3) Participate in curbside pick-up at the fairgrounds 4-H Picnic Shelter on **Thursday evening, March 25, from 4-7 p.m.** Enter the fairgrounds from the Armory Gate entrance and follow the south drive around behind the barns. This way, everyone will be headed north as they pass the 4-H Picnic Shelter and can be assisted in the order of arrival. Remain in your vehicle. A Swine Project volunteer will assist you at your car. Facial coverings will be required during the curbside interaction. **The March 25th pick-up date is tentative until approved by Wisconsin 4-H.*

Plan to pay for your DNA envelopes at the time of pick-up. Checks should be made payable to the Walworth County Meat Animal Sale Committee or paid for with cash in the exact amount.

During the curbside pick-up event, you will receive a copy of the *Walworth County Market Barrow Identification Form*, bar code stickers to match the bar codes on the tags you purchase, and directions for effectively pulling DNA samples.

**Understand that UW-Madison Division of Extension faculty, staff, and volunteers may require that program participants leave the pick-up event based on health concerns associated with COVID-19. Individuals should stay at home if they are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or have had known contact with anyone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days. If you are unable to attend the pick-up event due to sickness or have safety concerns related to COVID-19, please contact the Junior Swine Superintendent at walworthjuniorswine@gmail.com.*

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 Junior Swine Superintendent Jessica Clapper on **May 22 between 9 a.m. and noon at the fairgrounds 4-H Picnic Shelter**. This is the only time 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 22. Pigs for which no DNA was submitted will be ineligible for the 2021 Walworth County Fair.

IF ONE OF YOUR ANIMALS LOSES ITS TAG...

- Replacement tags will be available free of charge until Friday, August 27 at a location to be announced. 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 2021 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*. That paperwork must be turned in at the fairgrounds on May 22 as described above.
- 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.