



Walworth County Junior Sheep Tagging Day Information '21

The annual Walworth County Junior Sheep Tagging Day will be held on Saturday, **May 8** in front of the sheep barn at the Walworth County Fairgrounds from **7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.** (or whenever the last lamb is tagged). All market lambs must be tagged on this date in order to be exhibited and sold at the 2021 Walworth County Fair. Market lambs will be tagged on a family basis (rather than a member basis). The lambs will then be identified by member at weigh-in during fair week.

Because of COVID-19 meeting guidance, this year's event will run a little differently than in past years.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

- **Bring your Walworth County Fair Market Lamb Identification Form to the event as COMPLETED as possible.** If you are a 4-H Sheep Project family, this form will be mailed to you the last week of April. If you are an FFA member, you will need to pick this form up from your FFA adviser.
- If one or more of your animals will have an 840 tag in their ear when they arrive for weigh-in, be sure that you have recorded the entire fifteen-digit 840 number on the *Market Lamb Identification Form*.
- **BE sure your PREMISE ID for your animals' housing location is written on the form.** If you don't have a premise identification number, visit the link that follows to obtain one: https://wiid.org/premises_registration/.
- If your animals are housed at a location other than your own property, please contact Junior Superintendent Tim Ehlen PRIOR to *Tagging Day* for approval; then record that information as appropriate on the form.
- The weigh-in line will face EAST (towards the Wiswell Center) and begin immediately in front of the Sheep Barn. **Please remain in your truck in line.** A volunteer will meet you at your truck to collect paperwork and provide you with instructions.
- **Facial coverings must be worn whenever you are outside of your truck at the event. Social distancing will also be required.**
- Understand that UW-Madison Division of Extension faculty, staff and volunteers may require that program participants leave the event based on health concerns associated with COVID-19. Please stay at home if you 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 *Tagging Day* due to sickness or have general safety concerns related to COVID-19, please contact Junior Sheep Superintendent Tim Ehlen before May 8.

Contact information for Junior Superintendent Tim Ehlen: 608-201-0776

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- All lambs must be wethers at the time of tagging.
- During tagging, hair will be pulled from every lamb for possible DNA testing during or immediately following fair week. Cost per lamb is \$5.00 payable in exact cash or with a check made payable to *Walworth County Meat Animal Sale Committee*. Plan to pay this fee when you are greeted in the truck line.
- 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*, as well. Checks for carcass entries should be made payable to *Walworth County Fair* or be paid in exact cash. You cannot use the same check to cover DNA costs and carcass entry costs, as the payees are different.
- Following *Tagging Day*, it is imperative that lost tags be reported to Junior Superintendent Tim Ehlen as soon as they are noticed. Lambs will be retagged and replacement tag numbers will be recorded.
- Be aware that lambs that arrive at fair weigh-in without an officially recorded RFID tag in their ear will be required to participate in a mandatory DNA test at the owner's expense (approximately \$100).
- The 2021 Champion and Reserve Champion Market Lambs and a handful of lambs drawn randomly will be tested at fair time at no cost to members.

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 Fair Market Lamb Identification Form* and TURNED IN AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE during regular business hours (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.) or at **TAGGING DAY by 9 a.m. on May 8**. If turning in at the Extension office, be aware that the office is still closed due to COVID-19 and is not always staffed. If no one is present when you arrive, please leave your form in an envelope in the basket just outside the Extension office door and mark it "Sheep Tagging Day."

EDUCATIONAL PROJECT MEETING INFORMATION

- Educational project meeting options will be announced to members shortly. Watch the *4-H News Blog*, your email inbox, and the *Walworth County Junior Sheep Project Facebook* page for updates.
- Walworth County members must be YQCA certified in order to register for Junior Sheep classes at the 2021 Walworth County Fair.
- All Junior Sheep exhibitors are required to participate in at least one educational project meeting and be YQCA certified in order to show in the Junior Sheep Show at the *2021 Walworth County Fair*. Members need to be YQCA certified when they register for fair classes.