



### Sheep and Meat Goat DNA Hair Sample Collection Instructions

Please read instructions completely before beginning process. This is required for all animals that you want eligible for the 4-H sheep and 4-H meat goat shows at the Indiana State Fair. Collection Envelopes are available from your County Extension Office.

1. Clean the hair collection area to remove dirt and other contaminants. Make sure area is dry before collecting hair. **DO NOT SUBMIT WOOL this will not be accepted.**

**SHEEP:**

- a. Recommended site is a tuft of hair on the leg of the animal between the toes. **NO WOOL WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- b. It seems that the longer the hair, the more likely you will be to get follicles.

**GOAT:**

- a. Recommended site is a tuft of hair on the leg of the animal between the toes.
- b. Hair may also be collected from other coarse areas of longer hair on goats. Including: over the withers, chest, rump, tail, fetlock, or poll of your 4-H Meat Goat.

2. Use pliers to **pull** the hair. Be sure pliers are clean and dry.
  - a. Pull the hair directly away from the animal, not at an angle. This will allow the follicle to come out with the hair.
  - b. **Do not cut the hair** from the animal as the roots must be present for DNA analysis.
3. Repeat pulling process, 5 pulls may be necessary to get enough hair (a minimum of 40 hairs).
4. Visually inspect hairs to ensure follicles are attached. If follicles are not present, discard sample and start over.
5. Place the sample directly into the self-sealing collection envelope and complete the appropriate information on the front of the envelope. **Avoid touching the hairs and using plastic bags.**
6. Repeat the process for remaining animals. Clean/disinfect pliers and hands between collections to prevent contamination of sample. Animals that are co-enrolled with siblings only need one sample. Just be sure to list all siblings on the envelope.
7. The sealed collection envelopes with the information completed on the front of envelope should be turned into the County Extension Office at the same time as the animal ID deadline in Indiana 4-H Online (May 15 or earlier deadline set by county).
8. A "how-to" video will be available April 1<sup>st</sup> on the Indiana 4-H Sheep Project page and Indiana 4-H Goat Project page:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/project.aspx?proj=13>

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/project.aspx?proj=6>

For questions about this process or 4-H sheep ID, please contact your county 4-H Educator, or Courtney Stierwalt ([dickerso@purdue.edu](mailto:dickerso@purdue.edu); 765-494-8435).



## Sheep and Goat Exhibition and Identification Facts

All sheep and goats exhibited in Indiana must meet baseline, statewide standards for exhibition established by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH). Sheep and goats exhibited in 4-H shows may need to meet additional requirements for the county and/or state fair. Please contact your county Extension office for details. Contact information is available at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/countyOffices.aspx>

### STATE REQUIREMENTS

#### Premises ID Number

- Premises ID is required
- Easy to obtain through BOAH (Request online at: [www.in.gov/boah/2642.htm](http://www.in.gov/boah/2642.htm) email [animalid@boah.in.gov](mailto:animalid@boah.in.gov) or call 317-544-2400)
- Please note that a Premises ID number is required to enroll livestock in a 4-H fair

#### Scrapie Flock ID Number

- Only needed if you have lambs or kids born at your premises
- Easy to obtain through BOAH (Request online at: [www.in.gov/boah/2669.htm](http://www.in.gov/boah/2669.htm) or call 317-544-2400)

#### Identification Requirements for all Indiana Exhibitions (not just 4-H shows)

- BOAH requires unique individual official ID on all sexually intact sheep and goats that are being exhibited
- Wethers younger than 18 months of age must bear a unique and permanent form of identification
- Official ID can be one of the following:
  - o All animals, both registered and non-registered
    - Scrapie program ear tags
    - Tattoo of scrapie flock ID along with individual animal ID number
  - o Registered animals
    - Registration tattoo, if accompanied by registration papers with tattoo noted on papers
    - Electronic implant (microchip), must be noted on registration papers and accompany the animal

#### Additional Identification Requirements for 4-H Shows

- Requirements may vary by county; check with the county 4-H Educator.
- If the county requires a county 4-H tag other than a scrapie program tag and the animal is sexually intact (i.e., not a wether), the animal **must** maintain a scrapie tag as well as the county 4-H tag.
  - o Removing scrapie tags is against Federal Law.
- State Fair: Check state fair identification requirements for different categories of sheep and goats.

#### DO NOT REMOVE SCRAPIE EAR TAGS

