

March 18, 2023

Dear 4-H Sheep Exhibitor:

As you prepare your sheep project, please read over this letter carefully to ensure that you're meeting all the requirements for the project. Also, be sure to read the Livestock section of the handbook for all terms and conditions as some changes have occurred. As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Sheep superintendent, Charlie Wallis, at 812-213-5388 or the Purdue Extension Office at (812) 867-4935.

Animal Identification:

Enclosed you will find the animal ID instructions to identify your animals in 4-HOnline. Ensure that your animals have met the animal ID requirements listed below.

Species	County Fair Requirements	State Fair Requirements	Deadline
Sheep Market Lambs	5-digit County Tag and Scrapie Tag	840-RFID Tag and 5-digit County Tag and DNA Hair Sample	May 15
Commercial Ewes	5-digit County Tag and Scrapie Tag	840-RFID Tag and 5-digit County Tag/or official Scrapie tag and DNA Hair Sample	
Registered Ewes	ID that matches registration Papers (could be Tattoo or Scrapie tag)	840-RFID Tag and ID that matches registration Papers and DNA Hair Sample	
Rams	5-digit County Tag or Farm/flock tag	RAMS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR STATE FAIR	

Animals not enrolled by May 15 cannot be exhibited at the county or state fair.

If you plan to take sheep to the State Fair, DNA hair samples are required to be turned into the Purdue Extension Office by May 15 in a specific envelope. Instructions are enclosed. A video outlining DNA collection can be found here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/projects/animal-identification.html>. Envelopes may be obtained from the Purdue Extension Office.

Sheep Tagging

It is a new requirement that all sheep that need tags must come to a Tagging Day. The Tagging Day will be held on **Saturday, May 6 from 9 – 11 am** at the 4-H Center Animal Barns. If you cannot attend the Tagging Day, please reach out to the superintendent to make other arrangements so that the tag is in the animal's ear by the deadline listed above. County tags cost \$1 and RFID tags are \$1.25. Please bring payment and your premise ID number when you come to Tagging Day. We are required to send premise ID information to the Indiana Board of Animal Health. If you do not have a premise ID, see the next page for instructions to obtain one.

Lease Agreements:

If you are leasing your animal, 4-H members are required to submit a copy of their Animal Lease Agreement to the Purdue Extension Office by **May 15**. A sample lease agreement is available online <https://tinyurl.com/leaseagreementanimal> OR at the Purdue Extension Office.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training:

New for 2023: to exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry, pygmy goats, rabbits, sheep, and swine, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care training OR the online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program (YQCA) by July 1. A letter was sent in late February with more details and training dates. You can find details at <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/vanderburgh/4hresources.html> under Livestock resources.

Premise ID Number:

All 4-H members exhibiting animals at the fair must have a premise ID number for the location where their animals are kept. Registering your premises may be done online, at no charge, and takes only about 5 minutes. If you need a premise ID, visit the Indiana State Board of Animal Health's (BOAH) website: www.in.gov/boah and click on "Premises Registration". You will need this number when entering your animals into 4HOnline and at Tagging Day.

State Fair Information:

Information about State Fair entries and the electronic entry forms can be found online at <http://www.indianastatefair.com/state-fair/competitionscontests/4-h-competitions/>. Be sure to carefully read the State Fair requirements to ensure that your animal meets the requirements and you understand the fee schedules.

If you know of someone who is taking sheep for the first year, please let us know so we can send them this information.

Sincerely,



Megan Hoffherr
4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

Enclosure: Animal ID Instruction Sheet
Shared/4-H Livestock/Sheep/Sheep Letter 23