WALWORTH COUNTY SWINE TAGGING & DNA COLLECTION
GUIDELINES FOR MEMBER-FAMILIES
2015

• To be eligible for the 2015 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.

• 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 2015 use only. Tags and envelopes may not be held over for use in 2016. Cost is $5 per animal.

• Each family must complete and turn in the 2015 Walworth County Swine Tagging/DNA Collection Registration Form at the time of tag/envelope purchase. This form must be filled out completely. All 4-H & FFA members in the household must be listed on the form.

• Checks for tags/envelopes should be made payable to the Walworth County Swine Project 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 Barrow Identification Form, State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form, and directions for effectively pulling DNA samples. Plan to keep all of this information together in the zip-style bag provided.

COLLECTING & SUBMITTING 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 Barrow Identification Form
  2) State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form
  3) Information requested on the outside of the DNA collection envelopes. (Be aware that both a member and parent signature is needed on each.)

• 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 information on the envelopes and forms as you go.

• When your forms and envelopes are complete, place the sealed envelopes back in the zip-style bag. Remove the back page of each 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 Barrow Identification Form and the yellow copy from the State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form.)
• Return the zip-style bag and its contents to the UW-Extension office during regular business hours between May 18 and 4:30 p.m. June 8. You may also turn these items in on:
  o Saturday, May 16 from 7-10 a.m. in front of the Sheep Building at the Fairgrounds (in conjunction with Sheep Tagging Day ’15)
  o Tuesday evening, May 26 from 5:45-6:45 p.m. in the County Government Center (prior to Junior/Senior Leaders’ Association meetings)
  o Saturday, June 6 from 8-10 a.m. at the Swine Barn at the fairgrounds

The Extension office cannot accept DNA samples prior to May 18.

**Your zip-style bag should contain the following when you turn it in:**
1. White and yellow copies of the Walworth County Barrow Identification Form
2. White copy of the State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form
3. Sealed DNA envelopes for each animal tagged using a Walworth County tag*

**Absolutely no DNA samples will be accepted after June 8.** Pigs for which no DNA was submitted will be made ineligible for the 2015 Walworth County Fair.

**IF ONE OF YOUR ANIMALS LOSES ITS TAG...**

• Replacement tags will be available in the UW-Extension office free of charge until Friday, August 28. If replacement tags are needed, member-families must pick up the needed tag(s) in the UW-Extension office, submitting the old tag(s), if available. If the old tag(s) is/are not available, be prepared to tell which tag number(s) you are replacing when you come to get the replacements. If coming to pick up replacement tags, member-families must call the UW-Extension office at least 24 hours in advance.

• Be aware that any pig that arrives at fair weigh-in without an official Walworth County ear tag in its ear will be required to participate in a DNA test at the owner’s expense (approximately $100). The 2015 Champion & Reserve Champion Market Barrows, the 2015 Champion & Reserve Champion Carcass Barrows, and six barrows drawn randomly will be tested at no cost to members.

**IF YOUR ANIMAL IS GOING TO STATE FAIR...**

• Tag information and DNA envelopes for state fair pigs must be sent directly to WLIC by May 11 (postmark deadline). As a result, you will need to obtain an extra copy of the State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form to put your state fair pigs on separate from any other pigs you are tagging and collecting DNA for the county. The WLIC address is at the bottom of the documentation form.

• On the forms you will turn into the county, please list the state fair animals along with your other pigs. You will simply identify the appropriate pigs as “state fair” pigs in the appropriate column of the State Fair & County Fair Animal ID/DNA Sample Documentation Form.

• You 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.

If you have questions, please ask.