

Larimer County 4-H

Market Swine Identification Form Rules

Read all policies below as incorrect identification forms will result in ineligibility at the Larimer County Fair.

OVERALL RULES

- An individual may identify up to five (5) pigs on the Larimer County Market Swine identification form and exhibit no more than three (3) of those pigs at the 2020 Larimer County Fair.
- Barrows and/or gilts are eligible.
- There is a \$5.00/pig fee for ear tags. Checks should be made payable to Larimer County Extension.
- Each pig may only be tagged under one child's name.
- In the case that an ear tag is lost prior to the Larimer County Fair, you must call the Extension Office and report lost tag numbers. The Extension office will provide you at that time with the lost ear tag protocol which must be followed for the animal to remain eligible.
- The 2020 Larimer County Fair Market Swine show weights will be 225 - 285 lbs.
- **IDENTIFICATION RULES: (See additional documents for proper identification procedures)**
 - Pigs must have a county ear tag in **their right ear** with the button of tag on the inside, **so the number is on the back (outside) of the ear.**
 - **Pig(s) must be ear notched with the ear notch identification information** and recorded on the form provided.
 - It is **required**, that all market pigs shown at the Larimer County and Colorado State Fair, have proper ear notches and a Larimer County ear tag.
 - Each pig must have different notches. You **cannot** duplicate the exact same notching sequence within individual family owned pigs.
 - **NEW THIS YEAR:** Each pig identified must have 3 photos taken (one right-side view, one left-side view, and a face shot showing the ear tag in place and the ear notches of the pig) and turned in with the identification form. If more photos are needed to show ear notches, that is fine. Photos must be scanned, printed (or emailed), and submitted on one 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper turned in with identification form. Do not attach the photos to nomination forms.
 - **Keep the photos for your records with the yellow copy of your identification form.**
 - **Pig identification will be verified at the Larimer County Fair. If the animals ID at check-in does not match (by ear notch and by ear tag), you will not be allowed to show the pig.**
- Please list the following on the Larimer County Market Swine identification form provided: **(All sections of this form MUST be completed for eligibility)**
 - The owner's name and address
 - 4-H Club name
 - **Ear notches, tag number, and 3 photos** (right-side view, left-side view, and one face shot) scanned on one 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper for each pig being identified
 - Pig color/markings/sex (barrow or gilt)
 - Signature of 4-H member at the bottom of the page
 - Signature of person tagging the pigs at the bottom of the page
- Return the identification form white copy, photos, and fees to the Extension Office **by May 1, 2020.**
 - Members are to keep the yellow copy of the identification form and a copy of their photos.
- If you plan to show Market Swine at the 2020 Colorado State Fair, you must fill out a Colorado State Fair Market Swine nomination form separately. These are available at the Extension Office. 4-H members **must write** their Premises ID number on their nomination form when entering the State Fair.

All County Fair Market Swine must be tagged and papers returned to the Extension Office by Monday, May 1, 2020 by 4:30 p.m.!

No pigs will be allowed to be tagged after the deadline.

Larimer County 4-H

Market Swine Identification Procedures

Pig identification will be verified at the Larimer County Fair. If the animals ID at check-in does not match (by ear notch and by ear tag), you will not be allowed to show the pig.

EAR TAG INSTALLATION

1. Sanitize all equipment you are using both before and after use.
2. Ensure the tag is properly oriented in the tagger. (See pictures and directions below)
Place the number panel (male part) of the ear tag firmly on the applicator pin.



Push the button (female part) of the ear tag under the tongue into the jaw of the applicator.



Make sure the parts line up correctly on the tagger and will lock together when correctly fitted.

3. Ensure the animal is properly restrained for placement to ensure safety during tagging process.
4. Place the tag. Insert tag in the **pig's RIGHT EAR** with the button of tag on the inside **so the number is on the back (outside) of the ear**. The tag should be positioned approximately halfway between the head and the tip of the ear and between the ridge of cartilage in the ear avoiding any obvious veins. Avoid placing the ear tag towards the tip of the ear as retention rate drops dramatically.
Very Important: Be sure the tag number (panel) is facing backward and the button is inside of the ear. This way it can be read from the rear of the pig easily, as they are moving away or if their head is down.
5. Make sure you squeeze the tagger completely shut. Many ear tags are lost because one end of the tag has not been properly seated into the other side. However, do not squeeze the panel of the tag up tight to the ear with the thought that this will make tag stay on better. All this does is promote infection in the wound as the air cannot get around the tag to promote the healing process.
6. Rotate the tag to the right and the left to ensure free movement.
7. Disinfect the tagger when finished. Use rubbing alcohol or another strong disinfectant.
8. Sanitize the tagger between uses on each pig to help avoid infection. Be sure to sanitize all equipment when finished.
9. Be very careful and do not go from one swine herd to another. If you do, take proper precautions by changing clothes, sanitizing your shoes, etc. If you have breeding swine stock, be cautious about allowing visitors on your property.
10. Check the ears after a few days and apply disinfectant if necessary.

Return tagging and notching supplies as well as any extra tags as soon as you complete tagging as there will be a waiting list for check out.

Larimer County 4-H Market Swine Identification Procedures

Pig identification will be verified at the Larimer County Fair. If the animals ID at check-in does not match (by ear notch and by ear tag), you will not be allowed to show the pig.

EAR NOTCHING DIRECTIONS

1. If you are not familiar with ear notching pigs, contact a person who is qualified to do so.
2. If the pig has legible notches in both ears, no further notching is required. Most 4-H market pigs are notched when purchased.
3. Sanitize all equipment to be used. Be sure to use an ear notcher that is designed for notching pig's ears.
4. Be aware of how ear notches are read and be sure to know the correct placement of notches for the animal you are identifying **BEFORE** you begin notching the animal.
 - a. The pig's left ear is used for notches showing individual pig number in the litter. The pig's right ear is used for the litter mark. All pigs in the same litter must have the same ear notches in the right ear. When you write this out it will be Litter # - Pig #.
 - b. When notching, look at a pig's ear as if it was divided into quarters (four parts).
5. Ensure the animal is restrained for placement to ensure safety during the notching process.
6. Be sure the notches are the appropriate depth. Notches that are too shallow may fill in, heal over and be difficult to read. A notch that is too deep may result in a torn off ear.
7. Leave at least 1/4" between notches.
8. When making a notch on top of the ear close to the head, uncurl the ear with your fingers so you can make it deep into the cartilage (otherwise it might be unreadable after it heals).
9. You can have no more than two (2) notches in each quarter and only one (1) notch out on the tip of the ear.
10. It is recommended that you do not use more notches than is necessary to properly identify your market pigs.

Return tagging and notching supplies as well as any extra tags as soon as you complete the tagging as we have a waiting list.

NEW THIS YEAR - PICTURE IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

It is also a requirement that 6 photos be taken of each identified pig(s) (one right-side view, one left-side view, and a face shot showing the ear tag in place and the ear notches of the pig). If more photos are needed to show ear notches, that is fine.

- Pictures must **clearly** show ear notches and physical characteristics (side views) of the pig. These will be used for animal identification confirmation so be sure that the images are **clear**.
- Please print all photos and place on a single 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper to turn in with paperwork (you may also email the photos by following instructions provided in additional documentation). Do not attach the photos to the nomination form.
- **Keep the actual photos for your records.**

Larimer County 4-H

Lost Identification Protocol

Read all policies below as incorrect identification forms will result in ineligibility to compete at the Larimer County Fair.

If your livestock animal's ear tag is removed or lost (whether from falling out, being ripped out, etc.), the following protocol must be followed for the animal to maintain eligibility to compete at the Larimer County Fair. **Any animal arriving at the Larimer County Fair check-in missing identification, that has failed to be reported to the Extension Office, will not be eligible to compete and will be sent home.**

1. Report lost ID tag to the Extension Office at (970)498-6000 as soon as it is found to be missing.
 2. The Extension office will report the missing tag to the livestock Superintendents to identify an individual who will come out to the premise where the animal is housed to reidentify the animal.
 - a. The 4-H member and superintendent identified will be responsible for setting up a time to come reidentify the animal.
- To receive a new identification tag, there is a \$5.00 fee per animal. Checks should be made payable to Larimer County Extension.
 - If tags fall out before County Fair, ***you must call the Extension Office and report lost tag numbers.*** The Extension office will provide you at that time with the lost ear tag protocol which must be followed for the animal to maintain eligibility.

New for Swine I.D.



Profile of each side



Front and rear view






Pictures that show how the hog is notched. Hog in the picture is 6-7.

Right ear of the hog represents the Litter Number (in the hog pictures it is out of the **Sixth Litter**).



Left ear of the hog represents the birth order (in the hog pictured, it is **Seventh** in the **Birth Order**).

New for Swine I.D.

Larimer County Swine Identification Form (same as in years past).

<p>Date: <u>March 19, 2021</u></p> <p>Name: <u>Bailey Schilling</u></p> <p>Address: <u>1525 Blue Spruce Drive</u></p> <p>City / Zip: <u>Fort Collins, Co 80524</u></p> <p>Club: <u>Independent</u></p>	 <p>Draw ear notches accurately</p> <p>Ear Notch Number: <u>6-7</u></p> <p>Ear Tag Number: _____</p> <p>Pig Color / Markings: <u>Black Belted</u></p> <p>Circle One: <u>Barrow</u> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <u>Gilt</u></p>
 <p>Draw ear notches accurately</p> <p>Ear Notch Number: _____</p> <p>Ear Tag Number: _____</p> <p>Pig Color / Markings: _____</p> <p>Circle One: <input type="radio"/> Barrow <input type="radio"/> Gilt</p>	 <p>Draw ear notches accurately</p> <p>Ear Notch Number: _____</p> <p>Ear Tag Number: _____</p> <p>Pig Color / Markings: _____</p> <p>Circle One: <input type="radio"/> Barrow <input type="radio"/> Gilt</p>

New for Swine I.D.

 <p>Draw ear notches accurately</p> <p>Ear Notch Number: _____</p> <p>Ear Tag Number: _____</p> <p>Pig Color / Markings: _____</p> <p>Circle One: Barrow Gilt</p>	 <p>Draw ear notches accurately</p> <p>Ear Notch Number: _____</p> <p>Ear Tag Number: _____</p> <p>Pig Color / Markings: _____</p> <p>Circle One: Barrow Gilt</p>
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"I certify that all ear notches are recorded accurately on this sheet and that all ear tag numbers listed were placed in the same market swine as the ear notches recorded.

Bailey Schilling

Signature of 4-H Member

Bailey Schilling

Signature of Person Tagging