April 27, 2015

Dear 4-H Sheep, Swine and Market Goat Project Member,

It is that time of the year where you have or are purchasing your projects for 2015. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY!!!

Market lambs and market goats will be tagged and weighed on Monday, June 1st from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Market hogs will be tagged and weighed on Saturday, June 6th from 7:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M.

Below are directions and instructions regarding the paperwork that needs to be completed and the procedures for both tagging days. Please read carefully.

**MARKET LIVESTOCK REGISTRATION FORMS**

- Enclosed is your 2015 Market Livestock Registration form(s). Please complete the form(s) and return by Tuesday, May 26, 2015 to the Howard County Extension Office. Please use one form(s) per 4-H’er and specie. Extra forms are available from the 4-H web site (www.howard4-h.org) under the Animal Science link or they may be photocopied. Animals cannot be transferred among family members once they are registered and tagged.

- The back of each form needs to be signed by the 4-Her and a parent/guardian, which contains the Maryland 4-H Animal Science Code of Ethics.

- Each 4-H’er is limited to a maximum of ten market lambs, ten market pigs and ten market goats. **YOU ARE LIMITED TO SHOWING SIX (6) OF EACH AT COUNTY FAIR.**

- All market animals registered and tagged **must** be housed at your home place from June 1st through project termination. Animals housed not at your home **must be approved ahead of time.** 4-Hers need to make a written request that includes the following: housing location, reason why they cannot be kept at your home, plan to feed, water and take care of animal projects. No matter where your animals are housed, they need to be under the direct care of the 4-Her according to the Maryland 4-H Animal Science Code of Ethics.

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to any person and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression.
BRED & OWNED ANIMALS means that you owned the dam last year prior to being bred, were enrolled in the breeding sheep, goat, or swine project, completed a project record for that breeding project, had the animal under your direct daily care, and housed at an approved location. You needed to be enrolled in the breeding project for 2014 (when you bred the animal) and in 2015. Siblings cannot have bred and owned animals that are from the same animal.

CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION (CVI FORMS)/HEALTH PAPERS

- Health Papers can be completed for all exhibitors who do not have breeding animals at home. You cannot have health papers done if you have breeding animals of that species.

- This year, the health paper form (CVI Form) is a triplicate form. If you need additional forms, please call the Extension Office at 410-313-2707.

- If you would like your sheep and/or goats inspected on Monday, June 1st, please complete the CVI form(s) that are enclosed and return them with your registration form! The cost to have sheep and/or goats inspected will be $20.00 per family.

- If you would like to have your market swine health inspected, then you need to complete a separate CVI form them. They CANNOT be on the same form as the sheep or goats. Cost will be $20.00 per family for swine health inspections. PLEASE NOTE-DUE TO A TIME CONSTRAINT WITH THE VETERINARIAN, IF YOU ARE HAVING SWINE HEALTH INSPECTIONS YOU MUST BE IN LINE NO LATER THAN 8:30 A.M. FOR YOUR HEALTH INSPECTIONS TO BE CONDUCTED.

- Completing the CVI form(s) means you need to complete as much of the form as possible. A sample form has been included. Please review! If you are completing a CVI for swine and you have market hogs with the official USDA number, you MUST include this number on the form in the personal tag number column.

- Your health papers will be sent to you with the follow-up letter after June 6th.

- Health papers must come to every fair with your animals. Animals from one family can be placed on the same form.

TAG INFORMATION

- All animals that will be exhibited at Maryland shows must be tagged. Tags will cost $5.00 each. You must submit payment along with your registration forms. Lost tags will cost $10.00 per tag to replace.

- IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SWINE TAGGING- This year all swine (breeding and market) must be tagged with an official USDA tag as well as a 4-H tag. If you have market swine that do not have the official USDA tag, we will tag those swine with a 4-H tag that also is an official USDA tag on June 6th. If you have swine that already have the official USDA tag, then they will be tagged with a regular 4-H tag.

- If you have commercial sheep or goats that can't be registered with a breed association, you are welcome to bring them on June 1st to be tagged. If you are bringing commercial sheep or goats to be tagged the tags will cost $5.00 as well.
There is a place on the invoice form to indicate they are being tagged and add that amount to your total. In addition, you will need to submit a livestock registration form for these animals.

PAPERWORK THAT NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN

- The following paperwork needs to be turned in to the Howard County Extension Office by Tuesday, May 26, 2015: Market Livestock Registration Form(s), CVI Forms (if you are having health inspections), and payment form.

- In addition, all monies (vet fees and tag fees) are due May 26, 2015. Make checks payable to the Howard County EAC. In the memo section of your check please write 4-H Livestock Tagging. We will not be handling money on June 1st or June 6th.

PROCEDURES FOR MONDAY, JUNE 1ST (6:00-8:00 p.m.)-MARKET LAMBS AND MARKET GOATS

- Prior to coming on June 1ST, please make sure your trailers have been cleaned and disinfected especially if you have hauled swine in your trailer.

- Tagging and weighing will be done in sequence. Follow the directions of the loading ramp crew. We have limited space to unload trailers and will move up trucks accordingly to keep things moving.

- As in past years, color coded cards will be distributed to you while waiting to unload. 4-Hers will be responsible for completing the cards while waiting. These cards will require you to write the 4-Hers name and animal identification information.

- This year we will have your animal’s weights to give you after you are finished. We are requesting a parent/guardian to verify the weights and tag numbers prior to leaving the grounds.

- YOU MUST LOAD AND UNLOAD YOUR OWN ANIMALS. DO NOT UNLOAD ANY ANIMALS UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN INSPECTED BY THE VETERINARIAN. YOU AND YOUR ANIMALS WILL BE DISMISSED FROM PARTICIPATING IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS.

- If multiple children have animals on one trailer, they need to either be sorted or marked for easy identification. You need to know ahead of time which animals belong to each 4-Her! We will be using the large scale in the Sheep/Swine Barn. Your cooperation and help will be greatly appreciated.

- All market lambs and market goats must be weighed and tagged. Make your hauling arrangements NOW!

- SHEEP/GOATS WITH SORE MOUTH OR FOOT ROT WILL BE DONE LAST!!!!!!!!! That means your trailer/vehicle will be pulled out of line and you will go last. Those animals will be unloaded by the scale and go directly on the scale and then immediately back onto the trailer. That does not mean walking around or going through the show ring!

- All market lambs/market goats must have a scrapie tag (from the animal’s original owner) in the ear on arrival at the fairgrounds.
When you return home it is highly recommended to clean and disinfect your trailer. This protocol should be especially followed if you also have swine projects.

PROCEDURES FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH (7:00-10:00 a.m.) - MARKET SWINE

- Prior to coming on June 6th, please make sure your trailers have been cleaned and disinfected.

- Market swine will be tagged and weighed on June 6th.

- Rate of gain requirements for Maryland 4-H Swine Shows including Howard County Fair will be in effect for 2015.

- Tagging animals is an important step in validating ownership of 4-H project market animals. As in the past, tagging animals will be supervised by UME 4-H faculty/staff or an appointed designee (referred to as the committee).

- We are asking that you limit the number of people traveling with you to the minimal number necessary to restrain and tag your animals as well as load/unload.

- When you arrive at the fairgrounds, you are asked to wait in line. While waiting in line, we request that you stay in your vehicle until the committee arrives for tagging. Please do not bring any dogs.

- All person(s) exiting vehicles will be asked to stay with the vehicle/trailer and not go to other vehicles/trailers while waiting.

- Tagging will be done on the exhibitor’s trailer by the exhibitor (family) and observed by the committee, on Saturday, June 6th at the Howard County Fairgrounds. If the exhibitor (family) does not feel comfortable tagging their own pigs, there will be a committee member available to tag animals. The committee member will wear plastic boots over their shoes or rubber boots that will be disinfected.

- We are asking that each family/trailer brings their own hurdles to use. We will not be supplying hurdles or other restraints to be used during tagging and weighing.

- If multiple children have animals on one trailer, they need to either be sorted or marked for easy identification.

- Once you are finished and back at home, it is highly recommended that you clean and disinfect your trailer. This is part of best management practices when dealing with biosecurity.

If you have any questions about any of this information, please call me at 410-313-1912 or email me at sherylb@umd.edu.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Bennett Dowdy
Extension Educator, 4-H

cc: Rick Hodiak, Chris Rein, Amy Brueckmann
PAYMENT FORM-RETURN BY TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

TAG INFORMATION

Number of sheep to be tagged

Number of meat goats to be tagged

Number of commercial sheep or goats to be tagged

Number of pigs to be tagged

Ear Tag Total

HEALTH INSPECTION

Please check the appropriate boxes.

Yes, we would like to have our sheep and/or goats health inspected on Monday, June 1st. $ 20.00

No, we do not need to have our sheep and/or goats health inspected on Monday, June 1st.

Yes, we would like to have our market swine health inspected on Saturday, June 6th. $ 20.00

No, we do not need to have our market swine health inspected on Saturday, June 6th.

Total amount due (ear tags and health inspection) $_______

Make checks payable to:
Howard County EAC
3300 North Ridge Rd., Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

In the memo section please write: 4-H Livestock Tagging

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