Market Animal Self Identification Procedures: LAMBS

March, 2014

Attention all potential market animal exhibitors! The 2014 Wisconsin State Fair is scheduled for July 31st to August 10th!

Exhibitors wishing to exhibit junior market lambs at the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair will need to self-identify their animals with an official RFID identification tag and submit a DNA hair sample between April 1st and May 12th. Animal identification request forms are available on www.wistatefair.com. Request forms must be sent or delivered to Wisconsin State Fair with proper fees. Upon processing identification requests, Wisconsin State Fair will send RFID (Allflex) identification tag(s), identification documentation and DNA sample submission envelopes to each exhibitor. The exhibitor must self-identify his/her animals by placing the official RFID ear tag in the animal's ear, collecting a DNA sample (hair) and completing the animal identification documentation form. DNA samples with the identification documentation must be postmarked by May 12th or returned to Wisconsin State Fair no later than 4:30 pm on May 12th.

Lambs must be identified in the exhibitor's name or in immediate family member names. If lambs are identified in the immediate family name only one form needs to be submitted along with correct fees; however, **all siblings' names MUST appear on the top of the form**. **Cousins are not considered immediate family and may not co-identify the same lamb.**

There is no limit to the number of market lambs which may be identified by an exhibitor; however, exhibitors are limited to entering and bringing no more than 2 market lambs to the Fair.

The cost for each animal to be identified is $15 which includes a Wisconsin State Fair RFID tag and a DNA envelope. Allflex ear taggers ($20) and needle nose pliers to extract hair DNA ($5) may also be purchased from Wisconsin State Fair if needed.

Performance lambs must be identified with a Wisconsin State Fair RID ear tag and have a DNA sample submitted between April 1st and May 12th. See below for details regarding weigh-in locations.

Identification Timeline:

April 1st – April 30th	DNA request forms available at www.wistatefair.com. Wisconsin State Fair will send identification supplies via mail.
May 1st – May 12th	DNA request forms available on website but identification supplies will only be available by pick up at Wisconsin State Fair.
May 12th at 4:30 pm	DNA samples are due. Must be postmarked or delivered to Wisconsin State Fair Park no later than 4:30 pm, on May 12th.

Performance Division Identification Sites:
Exhibitors wishing to enter the performance division must take their lambs to an identification site May 17th, May 18th, May 24th or May 25th (9 – 10 am) to get weighed. Performance lambs must have been identified by May 12th with an official RFID ear tag and have submitted a DNA sample. There are no minimum or maximum weight requirements for eligibility.

May 17th – 9 to 10 am

Sheboygan County Fairgrounds - Plymouth
Contact: Walter Taylor 920.980.7865

Wisconsin Valley Vet Service – Wausau
Contact: Kevin Schmoll 715.370.2064

Jackson County Fairgrounds – Black River Falls
Contact: Rick Olson 715.896.3771

Green County Fairgrounds – Monroe
Contact: Brian Bolan 608.576.7312

Polk County Fairgrounds – St Croix
Contact: Ed Dittbrenner 715.419.1952

Arlington Agriculture Research Center – Arlington
Contact: Todd Taylor 608.332.4914

May 18th – 9 to 10 am

Grant County Fairgrounds – Lancaster
Contact: Brian Bolan 608.576.7312

May 24th - 9 to 10 am

Mint Gold Ranch - DePere
Contact: Dale Dobberpuhl 920.864.7732

Waupaca County Fairgrounds – Weyauwega
Contact: Randy Loehrke 715.281.8101

May 25th – 9 to 10 am

Rock County Fairgrounds – Janesville
Contact: Al Thorson 920.344.1235

Do NOT go to Performance Weigh-In Sites without an official RFID tags placed in the lamb(s) ear(s).

Reminder: Junior exhibitors will submit all entry information and fees directly to State Fair either online or via the mail. Local County Extension Office/4-H Leader will still be informed of State Fair youth programs but will not be involved in the entry process. Junior exhibitors must be a member in good standing with an approved youth organization by March 1st in order to be eligible to participate in Junior Fair programs.

ENTRY DEADLINES

June 4th (1st Wednesday of June) postmark for those wishing to enter by submitting a paper entry and pay fees with a check/money order.

June 18th (3rd Wednesday of June) for those wishing to enter online and pay with a credit/debit card.

After the June 18th entry deadline, Wisconsin State Fair will verify participant eligibility with the respective approved youth organization and local County Extension Agent or Fair Boards.

Entry information has been posted on www.wistatefair.com. Questions regarding entering the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair can be emailed to: entryoffice@wistatefair.com or call 414.266.7000.

See you at the Fair!

Overview of the Entire Self-Identification Process

Step 1 (April, 2014) - **Potential Exhibitor**

- Exhibitors interested in showing a market lamb at the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair must complete and submit a "Wisconsin State Fair Market Animal Identification Request Form" located on www.wistatefair.com.
- Mail the completed request form with proper payment to Wisconsin State Fair.
- Request forms and payments MUST be postmarked no later than April 30th. ***Please submit request forms prior to the deadline!*** **Request forms received after April 30th will be processed but there are no guarantees you will receive the follow up information prior to the DNA submission deadline.**

Step 2 (April, 2014) – **Wisconsin State Fair**

- Once Wisconsin State Fair receives your request form with proper payment the following supplies will be sent to you in a timely fashion: RFID ear tag(s), sample DNA envelope(s) and a "Wisconsin State Fair Market Lamb RFID Tag and DNA Sample Documentation" form.

Step 3 (April, 2014 up to May 12, 2014) – **Potential Exhibitor**

- Upon receipt of State Fair materials place the ear tag(s) in your lamb(s) ear(s) and pull DNA hair samples(s); see instruction sheet which will be sent with the ear tag(s).
- Complete the "Wisconsin State Fair Market Lamb RFID Tag and DNA Sample Documentation" form, DNA hair envelope with and return to Wisconsin State Fair postmarked NO later than May 12th. ***Please submit materials before the deadline!*** **Documentation and samples submitted after the deadline will be ineligible.**

Step 4 (April and May, 2014) – **Wisconsin State Fair**

- Wisconsin State Fair will send a confirmation stating your sample was received and all required information has been recorded.

Step 5 (May 17th, 18th, 24th or 25th, 2014) – **Potential Exhibitor**

- Interested in participating in the Performance Division? (We sure hope so! It's a really cool opportunity!) Be sure to have your lamb(s) weighed at one of the designated performance sites on May 17th, 18th, 24th or 25th). Do not go to the performance weigh in site without the official RFID tag placed in the lamb(s) ear(s).

Step 6 (May, June 2014) – **Potential Exhibitor**

- Do not forget to enter the Fair! (Online at www.wistatefair.com or print out a paper entry form and mail it in). Purchasing RFID tags and submitting DNA samples is **NOT** an entry in the Fair.