

# Van Buren Youth Fair

## Swine Tagging Information 2021

Starting for the 2021 Van Buren Youth Fair swine projects will be required to have two tags: a fair tag and an official identification (ID) tag. The Large Livestock Committee will be selling the fair tags as in the past. Swine tags are \$2 each, you can obtain fair tags by contacting Bev Rajzer, 269-423-8688 or blrajzer@hotmail.com. The \$2 covers the cost of the fair tag and the swine flu vaccine. A youth may tag up to 5 pigs.

Exhibitors are strongly encouraged by MDARD to request that tags are placed in the pig before purchasing it. Currently there is no requirement for in state breeders to provide official ID or USDA 840 tags; instead, this is a service that the breeder can provide for their customers.

### Frequently Asked Questions (adapted from [Updates to Official Identification for Exhibition Swine 2021](#))

- **If the purchased animal is not tagged with a USDA 840 tag by the breeder, where can youth purchase USDA 840 tags?**

USDA 840 tags can be purchased from an approved supplier. The premises identification number (PIN) of the farm or location where the animal is housed must be used to purchase official ID tags.

- **When purchasing USDA 840 tags, you have the option of selecting electronic (EID) or non-electronic tags. Which should you select?**

MDARD recommends that exhibitors purchase USDA 840 electronic identification (EID) tags for use in their exhibition pigs. If they choose, fairs or exhibitions can purchase an EID tag reader to use during their event.

- **Where can exhibitors get a Premises Identification Number (PIN)?**

If an exhibitor would like to register their premises with the state of Michigan, they should call MDARD at 1-888-565-8626 to complete this process. *It is important to remember that PINs are assigned to a physical address; not an individual.* If a person moves locations, their PIN does not remain the same.

- **What do I do if I lost my Premises Identification Number (PIN)?**

If you need to be reminded of your PIN, please call MDARD at 1-888-565-8626.

- **Who are approved suppliers of USDA 840 tags?**

- USDA 840 tags are sold by multiple distributors and can be ordered from your company of choice.
  - The following companies are approved to manufacture USDA 840 tags for swine: Allflex, Destron Fearing, EZid (Leader Products), Shearwell, Temple Tag, Y-Tex.
  - Tags can be ordered in bulk from approved distributors listed on each manufacturer's website.
- Most Michigan livestock markets will sell single USDA 840 EID tags to exhibitors.
  - Exhibitors are encouraged to call their local livestock market to inquire if they sell single USDA 840 EID tags for use in swine.
- Additional retailers are approved to supply single EID USDA 840 tags.
- Markets and businesses that will supply single EID USDA 840 tags can be viewed on the [MDARD website](#).

- When purchasing an USDA 840 tag from ANY supplier you will need to have the PIN for the farm or location housing your animals.
- **What expense will the exhibitor incur when ordering USDA 840 tags?**  
USDA 840 tags are approximately \$1 to \$4.50 each; however, many suppliers require that tags are ordered in sets of 25.
- **Who is responsible for tagging the animal with a USDA 840 tag?**  
Tags may be applied by the exhibitor, parent, or a responsible party. Van Buren Youth Fair will not be applying USDA 840 tags. Please note tag applicators will not work for all tags.