



2009 Swine Information Sheet

Prepared by the 4-H State Fair Swine Show Committee and the Center for Youth Development. This information sheet gives details on the rules for this year's Minnesota State Fair 4-H Swine Show. Although some counties may follow slightly different guidelines, these rules will apply at the state level.

NEW Premise ID numbers will be REQUIRED in 2009.
Information or online registration of premises can be found at:
<http://www.bah.state.mn.us/bah/nais/nais.html> or call (651)201-6816

Ownership Requirements

- All swine exhibited must be owned solely by the member or member's family. The family includes the 4-Hers parents or guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animals may be owned by grandparents with the 4-Hers parents actively involved with and working on the farm.
- Market barrows and market gilts must be owned and identified by May 15. Breeding gilts must be owned or leased and identified by May 15.

Leasing Program

- Market barrows and market gilts may not be leased.
- If a 4-Her cannot own their own swine, breeding gilts may be leased.
- 4-Hers exhibiting a leased breeding gilt must complete and turn in a "Minnesota 4-H Breeding Swine Lease Agreement" by May 15.

Birthdates

- Breeding gilts must be farrowed on or after January 1 of current year.
- Market barrows must be farrowed on or after February 1 of current year.
- Market gilts must be farrowed on or after February 1 of current year.

Identification Details

- All swine must be tagged with a Minnesota 4-H ear tag and identified by May 15.
- All swine must be ear notched in both ears using the universal ear notch system by May 15.
- Information about ear notching can be found on the "Minnesota 4-H Swine Identification Affidavit" (SwIDA).
- 4-H families are asked to place official 4-H ear tags in swine. Ear tag disbursement should be carefully monitored by 4-H staff. ALL TAGS need to be accounted for. The numbers of each tag should either show up on an ID affidavit or the tag should be returned to 4-H staff. Any 4-H ear tags that are "destroyed" during an attempted application need to be returned to 4-H staff along with all unused tags. It is the role of county ID Teams to review all incoming affidavits by May 15 assuring that all swine identified have an assigned ear tag listed on the ID and ear notches for both ears. It is also critical that ID Teams review each ID affidavit to make sure the animal birthdate, gender and physical description is completed. If a set of ear notches is duplicated, there must be a different sex, breed or color listed for each hog.
- Some counties may require a beginning weight, but this is not a state requirement. For counties that require a beginning weight, hogs must be weighed before May 15.

Dates of State Fair 4-H Livestock Encampment & Show Times

- 4-H Livestock Encampment ~ Wednesday, August 26 – Sunday, August 30
- Show day and time ~ Friday – 8:30 a.m.

Weight Guidelines

- For market barrows and market gilts to qualify for a purple ribbon at State Fair, they must weigh at least 220 pounds and not exceed 300 pounds.
- Market barrows and market gilts weighing less than 220 pounds will show in their own class "Super Lightweights" and those 301 pounds and over will show in their own class "Super Heavyweights" and will be eligible for blue, red or white ribbons. These classes may be combined with others at the discretion of the committee. Exhibitors of these animals are still eligible to be Interview and Showmanship winners.

- All market barrows and market gilts receiving a purple ribbon will be weighed back as they exit the show ring. All market barrows and market gilts must be within 5% of their entry day (Thursday) weight. All market barrows and market gilts not meeting the 5% criteria will be lowered from a purple ribbon to a blue ribbon **and will not be eligible** for the 4-H Auction or live show special awards, but are still eligible to be Interview and Showmanship winners.

Purebred Swine

- To show in the registered breed classes, swine must meet the registration requirement for that breed.
- All 4-Hers exhibiting registered swine must present the original or photocopied registration papers at the time of verification on Thursday.
- All registered animals must be registered in the exhibitor's name and/or the exhibitor's family name.
- There will be a class for registered market barrows. There will need to be at least four barrows to hold a separate breed class. Otherwise they will be shown in an "Other Purebreds" class. Market gilts will not have a registered purebred division.
- There will be a class for registered breeding gilts. There will need to be at least four head to hold a separate breed class. Otherwise they will be shown in an "Other Purebreds" class.

State Fair Health Requirements (as set by State Fair Veterinarian for 2009)

- All swine must:
 - have a negative official Pseudorabies test conducted within 30 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition; or
 - originate directly from a qualified Pseudorabies-negative herd; or
 - originate (born) directly from a Stage IV or V county or area.
- Swine which must be tested must be individually identified by ear tag number, tattoo number, registry number, or other identification satisfactory to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health.

Marketing of Barrows and Gilts

- This is a terminal show for all market barrows and market gilts – no exceptions.
- Breeding gilt exhibitors are given the choice of marketing them at State Fair or taking them home.

State Fair Interviews ~ Age Divisions: Intermediate = completed grades 6-8, Senior = completed grades 9-10 & Advanced = completed grades 11 & up

- To qualify for any awards above and beyond a blue ribbon, exhibitors must participate in the Swine Interviews.
- Interview Finalists will be called back for a second interview and all Finalists will be recognized.
- Awards Winners will be selected from the Finalists.

State Fair Showmanship ~ Age Divisions: Intermediate = completed grades 6-8, Senior = completed grades 9-10 & Advanced = completed grades 11 and up

- There will be separate showmanship contests for breeding gilts, market barrows and market gilts.

State Fair Herdsmanship

- See "Herdsmanship" section of the State 4-H Premium Book for information and rules.

Show Order

- Two rings will be used – west ring for breeding gilts followed by market gilts and the east ring for market barrows.
- Breeding gilts will be shown by birthdates and breed.
- Market barrows will be shown by weight classes with classes for purebreds and crossbred lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight divisions. Market gilts will be shown by weight classes from light to heavy with no divisions.

Auction

- For market barrows, the judge will be asked to select a purple ribbon group in each weight class. These market barrows will be eligible for the Auction class.
- Purple ribbon animals are not automatically in the Auction, but compete in the class to select Auction animals.
- At least one purebred barrow will sell in the Auction.
- The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market gilts will be in the Auction along with a percentage of total market gilts shown.