**2019 Polk County Quality Meats Swine Identification Process**

**Please read this information carefully and direct any questions to Tim Swenson (Chair) 715.491.8161 or Barry Elwood (Vice-Chair) 715.554.3783 or the Polk County Extension Office 715.485.8600.**

As in the past few years, ***there will not be a spring weigh-in for swine*, however a*nimals will still need to be self-identified***. **Animals will still need to be registered with Polk County Quality Meats tags and DNA samples taken.  Like last year, the Quality Meats program has ordered DNA registration sampling kits for all exhibitors.**  Exhibitors will not have to order their own DNA kit.  Swine exhibitors will tag their animals themselves, take DNA samples and mail those samples into Animal ID, Inc.  Polk County Quality Meats Tag numbers must be included with the samples submitted for DNA analysis.  **Tags and kits will be handed out during the following times only!!!**

* **Sheep and Goat Weigh-In – April 27 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Fair Park (DO NOT BRING YOUR PIGS TO PICK UP YOUR TAGS!!!)**
* **April 29, 30, or May 1,from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Polk County Extension Office.**

**$6.00 per kit will be required at the time of pick up.  Please make your checks payable to the Polk County Quality Meats Program.  If paying by cash, bring exact money.**

**Swine Registration Cards (Blue Card) are due to the Extension Office by May 15!!!**

**DNA samples must be postmarked by May 15, 2019**

* Additional copies of paperwork (education card, feed sheets, drug forms, buyer contact), they will be posted to the extension web site or can be picked up at the extension office.
* Weigh-in will be on **Wednesday, July 24, 2019** from 8:30 to noon. We will be weighing hogs in the new scale building. Hogs are to be unloaded into the scale house, weighed and then walked over to the hog barn.
* Because animals will be weighed off the trailer the **minimum weight** for market hogs has be reduced to **225#, this is a change from last year.**
* The state has maintained their stance on lightweight hogs. If a hog does not make weight, it can be loaded back on the trailer and taken home. However, once it enters the hog barn, it must go to slaughter.
* At weigh-in, we will be asking you where you want your hogs to be processed if they don’t make the sale. Please contact a local meat processor to make sure they have room to process your animal.
* We will again be offering a premier exhibitor event this year. Events will include live judging, written test, skillathon, showmanship and carcass judging. Live judging, written test and skillathon, will begin at 7 PM Wednesday night.

Tim Swenson & Barry Elwood

(715) 491-8161 (715) 554-3783

Polk County Quality Meats Swine Committee