

## Swine Health Producer Guide



# USDA Official Premises Identification Number Tags (PIN Tags) for Breeding Stock

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## Overview

Official identification is required for sows and boars entering harvest channels to meet USDA's requirements for pre-harvest traceability of breeding swine. Official PIN tags allow producers a method to identify breeding stock with an official tag that may also serve as a management tag for production purposes. Increased usage of official PIN tags by the U.S. pork industry will help satisfy pre-harvest traceability requirements of domestic and international customers. For these reasons, the National Pork Board encourages all producers to use official PIN tags in all breeding stock.

## Advantages of using PIN Tags

- Serves as a customizable tag for on-farm management, as well as official ID for harvest channels
- Distinguishes your sows and boars in market channels, thereby decreasing the risk of business disruption caused by a traceback initiated on co-mingled groups of insufficiently identified animals
- Provides a mechanism to associate breeding stock to movement, health, and treatment records required by PQA Plus®
- Improves national swine disease surveillance programs which are used by the industry and USDA to ensure early detection and demonstrate freedom from swine diseases that limit commerce and trade
- Enhances pre-harvest traceability and supports U.S. producers' competitiveness in international markets which in 2011 provided \$55 per head additional value to producers

## Requirements met by PIN Tags

- Meets USDA's requirement for official identification of breeding swine in harvest channels
- Meets sow packer requirements that breeding stock they purchase be identified with official premises ID number tags
- Meets the U.S. pork industry's Swine ID Program Standards requirement for identification of breeding stock in harvest channels

## How to Obtain Official PIN Tags

- Obtain a standardized Premises Identification Number (PIN) for each breeding farm
- If you need help with obtaining a PIN or locating an approved PIN tag supplier, contact the Pork Checkoff's Service center at (800) 456-7675
- Provide this number when you call an approved tag supplier. Approved suppliers can be found at [www.pork.org](http://www.pork.org) by clicking on "Programs" and then "PIN Tags" under the "Swine ID" heading

State postal code and USDA Shield

Management number



Standardized PIN of breeding farm

