

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 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

