



2018 Animal Science Project ID Information

May 15 Deadline

April 1, 2018

TO: Minnesota 4-H Animal Science Project Members – Enrolled in:
Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Market Goat, Lama, Poultry

FROM: David Foley, Interim 4-H Program Coordinator

RE: **IMPORTANT** - Animal Identification Process

Thank you for enrolling in a 4-H animal science project. We hope you find your projects fun, challenging, and rewarding. This letter outlines the **online animal identification process**.

Minnesota 4-H uses its online enrollment system, 4HOnline, to record all animal identifications and ownership data. Online animal identification reduces inaccuracies and inefficiencies that were a part of our past paper system. More information and a 4HOnline user guide can be found at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID.

The process that will be followed in 2018 is as follows:

1. 4-H Family completes the ID worksheet available at: www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID.
2. 4-H Family self-enters information and **prints entry report for personal record**. If an animal is leased (Breeding Animals ONLY!), the lease agreement must be scanned and uploaded in 4HOnline (bring hard copy to County Extension Office by May 15 if unable to scan. The lease form is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID. A copy of the “Minnesota 4-H Animal Science Lease Program Fact Sheet: is available at: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/docs/AnSci-Project-Lease-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

NOTE: This does not apply to Dairy; see below for specific Dairy lease instructions

3. Existing project animals that are being carried over from last year to this project year must be re-activated by May 15. Eligible animals are Dairy⁺, Dairy Goat, Lama, Rabbit, Beef Spring and Fall calves, and Cow/calf⁺⁺. Instructions can be found in the document *Animal ID Data Entry by Families*, page 5, at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID. NOTE: New lease forms should be completed each year for all species except dairy. Once a dairy animal is identified and a lease is submitted, the lease must be renewed each year. Details to renew existing dairy leases is found further in this letter.

⁺ special rules regarding first freshening apply – see dairy informational sheet

⁺⁺ calf data needs to be updated

NOTE: Animals need to be identified May 15. Data entry into 4HOnline, must be completed by 11:59 pm, May 15, 2018; you will not be able complete identification after that point.

If your family cannot self-enter the ID information: 4-H Family brings in or mails completed ID worksheet and other required items, including signature(s), to County Extension office, on or before close of business on May 15. This ID worksheet will be kept on file in the Extension office. Within one week, Support Staff or designated volunteer enters info online into your family's 4HOnline account. After that, your family may view the information in 4HOnline to check for accuracy. The user guide, *Reviewing and Printing Animal ID Data*, is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID to walk you through the process.

Online ID'ing (4HOnline) user assistance and support

- A user guide is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID.
- For assistance with the online ID process, contact David Foley at: djfoley@umn.edu OR (507) 328-6217
- In addition, an ID helpline will be available on the following days:
 - Sunday, May 13, 3:00 - 7 pm, 507-438-6898
 - Monday, May 14, 4:30 – 8 p.m., 218-232-5174
 - Tuesday, May 15, 4:30 – 12 midnight, 218-232-4975

Additional pieces of project information you should review include:

- 2018 Animal Science Identification Requirements for Minnesota 4-H details specific dates and requirements unique to each animal science project area.
- 2018 Information Sheets for the species your family is currently enrolled in, which have been compiled by 4-H State Committees and includes processes, procedures and information unique to the specific projects at the Minnesota State Fair.

On rare occasions, 4-H animals will lose the official Minnesota 4-H ear tag or other identifying tags. If this occurs, you will need to contact David Foley immediately at (507) 328-6217 so that the tag can be verified and replaced. Do not wait until county fair if this occurs.

SPECIES SPECIFIC INFORMATION....

Beef, Sheep, Swine & Meat Goats:

1. 4-H Family picks up MN 4-H ear tags and tag applicator from the County Extension Office.
2. 4-H Family puts tag in animal's ear by May 15 and completes the information worksheet.
3. Family returns ALL damaged eartags to their extension office.

*Animals showing as Registered Breeding Beef & Registered Breeding Sheep do not need a MN 4-H ear tag

Dairy:

1. 4-H Family completes the ID worksheet for all NEW project animals. All dairy animals must be identified with an official form of identification: Official Breed Assn. Ear Tag, Official Breed Assn. tattoo, State 4-H ear tag (available from Extension Office), USDA tag, Copy of the Breed Assn. ID paper and/or photo (if exhibits distinct markings). Registered animals with pending breed association registration information by May 15 must update this information as soon as registration numbers are received. If you enter as "pending", you will need to provide updated information to your local Extension Office to update prior to County Fair. If an animal is leased, the lease agreement must also be scanned and uploaded in 4HOnline (bring hard copy to County Extension Office by May 15 if unable to scan). The lease form is available at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID. If using a photo as an official form of identification (because the animal has distinct markings), you will upload the .jpg file of the photo in 4HOnline no later than May 15.

2. EXISTING project animals that are being carried over from last year to this project year must be re-activated by May 15. Instructions can be found in the document Animal ID Data Entry by Families, page 5, at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID. Existing dairy animal leases must also be renewed annually by May 15 – you cannot use past year’s lease agreements without having them resigned. Download existing lease, renew and bring to your local extension office no later than May 15 so they can upload it. You will not be able to upload the renewed lease

NOTE: Existing dairy animal ID’s can be viewed but not edited because of the “first freshening” rule. If changes are needed to a dairy animal (including changes to the associated exhibitor/member) contact your local Extension Office.

Dairy Goat: 4-H Family completes the ID worksheet (enclosed) for all NEW project animals. Registered animals with pending breed association registration information by May 15 must update this information as soon as it is received. If you enter “pending” you will need to provide updated information to your local Extension Office to get it updated prior to the County Fair.


Lama: One lama can be ID’d by multiple family members. In those cases, the same animal should be entered under EACH member ID’ing that animal.

Poultry: NEW IN 2018 – all pigeons and doves need to be officially ID’d through the 4HOnline system using a permanent leg band by May 15. The 4-H family is responsible for obtaining permanent bands and banding the birds. Again, this is only for pigeons and doves.

- For all other poultry (chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, guineas,) there is no identification worksheet or information that needs to be submitted.
- Leased poultry projects - a “2018 Minnesota 4-H Animal Science Lease Form” must be turned in to your County Extension Office by May 15. The form is available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/animal-ID/docs/lease-fillable.pdf> or at the county office.
- Be sure to read the Poultry Information Sheet. It contains info on hatch dates and health requirements.

NEW: Updated Livestock Quality Assurance Training Options: Minnesota 4-H supports livestock quality assurance and animal science ethics. All youth participating as a state fair 4-H livestock exhibitor in beef, dairy, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbits, meat goat, dairy goat, and lama must complete livestock quality assurance training.

- Certification is required for state fair grade/age-eligible youth. Must be completed before their home county fair qualifying show.
- The training accommodates multi-levels of learning for all ages. The level of training required is determined by the grade/age of the youth at the time the training takes place.
- Counties that have a swine marketing agreement with a packer that requires livestock quality assurance certification may require swine members (grade 3-13) to certify.
- Minnesota 4-H youth must participate in one of the training options to be eligible for Minnesota 4-H state fair shows. Beginning in 2018, Minnesota 4-H will have two training options.

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1. A face-to-face 3-hour livestock quality assurance and ethics training from Minnesota 4-H. These will be offered in multiple locations statewide. This certification is valid for three fair seasons. Cost is set by county/regional host.
 2. An online 1-hour youth quality care of animals training offered via distance learning. This certification is valid for one fair season. Cost: \$12; pay at registration with a credit card. (This is a national program and registration fee pays for the national training system.)

Trainings promote responsible care of animals, making informed decisions in animal care and providing safe consumer food products. Youth will receive a certificate of completion.

Cloverbud Animal Science Specifics

- Cloverbuds may show their own animal or another 4-H'ers animal.
- Cloverbud animal should not be identified in 4HOnline (unless it is to be shown by another 4-H member).
- The Minnesota Board of Animal Health requires all animals at exhibitions to have official ID (tag or tattoo) this includes Cloverbuds, however this information should not be included in 4HOnline.
- Cloverbud entries may be included in county fair pre-registration for stalling/penning purposes.

If you have any questions about the change to online animal identification or anything else in this letter, please contact David Foley at (507) 328-6217 OR djfoley@umn.edu.

IMPORTANT - All ownership and registration papers **WILL BE** checked at the 2018 County Fair.