

2017 State Fair of Virginia Swine Nomination Requirements

Due to concerns regarding the spread of PEDv (Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus) in swine, the State Fair of Virginia nomination process for all swine will be conducted as it has been for the past 3 years. There will not be any official nominations sites for hogs; please see below for the **REQUIRED** method of nominating hogs to be eligible for show at the State Fair of Virginia. It is the **4-H member's RESPONSIBILITY** to complete all necessary steps by August 1, 2017. **We will not accept any late nominations.**

1. To obtain ear tags please **email** Joi Saville (joi.saville@vt.edu). Include in your email the number of tags required and the date planned for tagging the hogs. We will forward your request to a local Extension office and let you know where to obtain your tags. If youth/parents are uncomfortable with tagging the hogs, we will facilitate you working with your local Extension agent or closest site coordinator to make arrangements to tag swine.
 - a. **TAGGING REQUESTS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 15, 2017!**
2. Members/parents must apply one tag to one ear of each hog.
 - a. **ONLY** Allflex ear tag applicators will work. The local Extension office has a limited supply of taggers that may be checked out for a period of 24 hours. Please **disinfect** taggers and return them to the Extension office in a timely manner so that another family may use them.
 - b. An Extension fact sheet on how to properly apply an ear tag is available at <http://bit.ly/1ibNSTD>.
 - c. A YouTube video is also available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XMFdFUG2N0>.
3. **Two** photos of each hog nominated will need to be taken. Photos should be e-mailed to joi.saville@vt.edu (**NO LATER THAN August 1, 2017**). Photos may also be printed, **in color**, and mailed along with your nomination form.
 - a. **Please see the web site on acceptable pictures and proper format!**
 - b. One picture needs to show that the ear tag was properly applied. Make sure that the picture clearly indicates the ear tag number and as much of the hog as you can include.
 - c. The second picture needs to show a profile of the hog, so that all markings are clearly identified. This picture will be used in the event the hog loses its tag. IF THE HOG CANNOT BE IDENTIFIED (either by ear notch or picture), THEY WILL BECOME INELIGIBLE TO SHOW AT THE STATE FAIR OF VIRGINIA.
 - d. If the hog has ear notches, and a picture can easily be taken, please include a picture of the notches, along with the other two pictures.
 - e. **PLEASE REMEMBER – Only one hog should be in each picture.** Each hog needs to be individually identified (i.e. if you have 3 hogs you will send us at least 6 pictures).
4. The nomination form will need to be filled out in its entirety, including ear notches, home tag, color, and any visible markings.
 - a. Submit the nomination form along with pictures, to Joi Saville with a postmark date no later than **AUGUST 1, 2017.**
 - b. Failure to submit nomination information by this date will result in **ineligibility** to exhibit swine at the State Fair of Virginia.

If you have any questions or concerns about the swine nomination method, please contact:

- Your Local Extension Agent
- Joi Saville – joi.saville@vt.edu; (540) 231-2257

Some key points about PEDv: *(information excerpted from porkcares.org and other sources)*

- PEDv is NOT a human health issue. Pork remains completely safe to eat.
- Currently there is no vaccine available to cure or prevent PEDv.
- The best guess is that the virus is spread by manure.
- PEDv only affects pigs. It poses no risk to other animals, humans or food safety.
- PEDv is not a new virus; it's been found in countries worldwide.
- The USDA, State Animal Health Officials, the American Association of Swine Veterinarians and veterinarians at the National Pork Board and the National Pork Producers Council are actively engaged in monitoring and continuing to manage this disease.
- Baby pigs are most affected by PEDv (death), although older pigs may exhibit flu-like symptoms with PEDv, along with potentially stunted growth.

Always practice safe biosecurity measures for your market hogs and all other project animals.

- Do not wear the same shoes and clothing around your pigs and those of someone else's.
- Monitor who visits your farm/home/pig housing area and make sure visitors follow the same precautions as above. This includes veterinarians, salesmen, service providers, etc.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect equipment, supplies, etc. that come onto your farm.

Additional information about PEDv and biosecurity measures is available from the National Pork Board. Web link: <http://bit.ly/1dNeOr3>.

A special fact sheet for exhibitors and/or sale animals is available <http://bit.ly/1dRtk5L>