



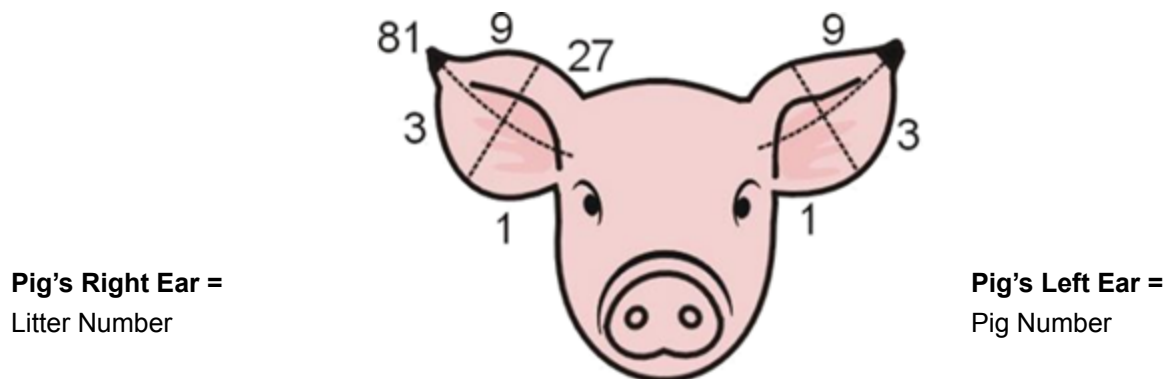
Swine ID 101

Background

Swine identification (ID) is an important management tool. Identification can be used to record performance measurements, track treated pigs, ownership and movement and disease outbreaks. In the 4-H Swine project, IDs are necessary when verifying members' project pig(s).

When identifying 4-H Swine project pigs, two forms of identification are needed, ear notches and ear tags. Why is this? Ear notching is considered permanent while ear tags are considered temporary identification in pigs. Ear tags are an easy way to ID pigs because tags can be easily read from a distance, but can be easily ripped out of the ear, leaving no identification. Therefore, ear notches are needed to ID a pig with a missing ear tag.

Universal ear notching system



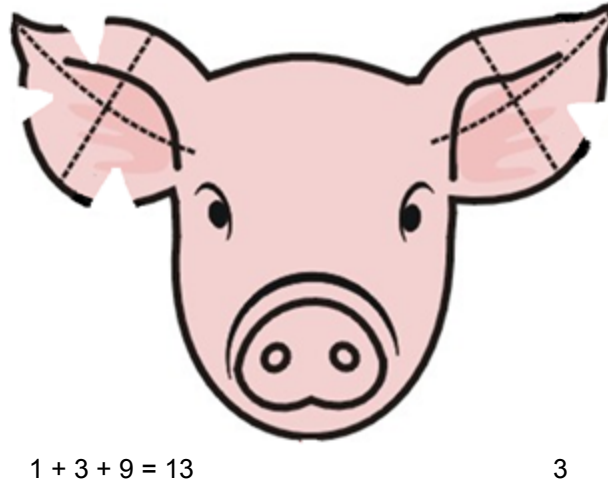
Ear Number Values

- Think of the ear divided into 4 quarters (quadrants). Like pictured above, imagine a line drawn horizontally through the middle of the ear starting at the tip of the ear to the pig's head, then vertically halfway through the ear from the top of the ear to the bottom.
- Each quadrant of the ear represents a number value (see diagram above):
 - Lower inside quadrant = 1
 - Lower outside quadrant = 3
 - Tip = 81 (only on pig's right ear because litter sizes are generally smaller)
 - Upper outside quadrant = 9
 - Upper inside quadrant = 27 (only on pig's right ear because litter sizes are less than 27 piglets)

- Except for the tip, up to two notches can be placed in each quadrant.

Notches on the pig's right ear are added up to equal the litter number. Notches on the pig's left ear are added up to equal the pig number. See *ear notching example on the reverse side and watch a video at z.umn.edu/ReadingPigsEarNotches*

Example



Litter number 13.

Pig number 3.

Pig's ear notch ID: 13 - 3

(When writing a pig's ear notch ID, the litter number is always written first, followed by the pig number, with a hyphen separating the two numbers)

Registered Pigs

Registered pigs are a result of parents that are of the same breed while crossbred pigs come from litters where parents are not the same breed. Registered pigs have a name, registration number, and pedigree that is recorded with a breed association registry. If you purchase a registered animal, make sure that the seller transfers the registration papers to you by sending the original papers back to the breed association. Once the transfer is complete the breed association will send you, the new owner, updated papers. Registration papers should be transferred, or in the pending process at the time of enrollment on May 15th. If you receive your registration number after May 15th, visit your local county office to have the information updated in 4-H online.

For breed information on Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace and Yorkshire visit the National Swine Registry:

<https://nationalswine.com/pedigree/pedigree-main.php>

For breed information on Chester White, Hereford, Poland, and Spot visit Certified Pedigree Swine:

<http://cpsswine.com/>

For breed information on Berkshire visit American Berkshire Association: <https://americanberkshire.com/>

Premise ID

A premises identification number (PIN) is a 6 digit (for MN only IDs) or 7 digit (for national IDs) unique code that will be composed of letters and numbers that are permanently assigned to a single physical location. PIN registration is administered by each State and allows animal health officials to quickly and precisely identify where animals are located in the event of an animal health or food safety emergency. Minnesota 4-H recommends that you request both a Minnesota and a National Premises ID.

Be aware that registrations may take up to a week to process. Once a Premise ID Number has been assigned to you, this number will remain yours permanently and will be used for all livestock being housed at the address listed on the assigned Premises ID. For leased livestock, exhibitors should use the Premises ID that is assigned to the location where the animal is being housed.

To request a Premise ID for a location in Minnesota: <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/register-your-premises/>

To request a Premise ID for a location in North Dakota:

<https://www.nd.gov/ndda/sites/default/files/legacy/resource/54250LocationPremisesReg.pdf>

To request a Premise ID for a location in South Dakota:

<https://aib.sd.gov/pdfs/SD%20AIB%20Premises%20Application%20Fillable.pdf>

To request a Premise ID for a location in Iowa:

<https://www.iowaagriculture.gov/animalIndustry/pdf/premiseIDapp2.pdf>

To request a Premise ID for a location in Wisconsin:

https://wiid.org/premises_registration/