

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR

Presented By  U.S. Cellular

Attention: 2014 Wisconsin State Fair Potential Market Steer Exhibitors!

December, 2013

Exhibitors wishing to exhibit junior market steers at the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair scheduled for July 31st to August 10th will need to self-identify their steers with an official RFID identification tag and submit a DNA hair sample between January 1st and February 10th. Animal identification request forms are available at www.wistatefair.com. Request forms must be sent or delivered to Wisconsin State Fair with proper fees. Upon processing identification requests, Wisconsin State Fair will send RFID (Allflex) identification tag(s), identification documentation and DNA sample submission envelopes to each exhibitor. The exhibitor must self-identify his/her animals by placing the official WSF RFID tag in the animal's ear, collecting a DNA sample (hair) and completing the animal identification documentation form. DNA samples with the identification documentation must be returned to Wisconsin State Fair no later than 4:30 pm on February 10th.

Steers must be identified in the exhibitor's name or in immediate family member names. If steers are identified in the immediate family name only one form needs to be submitted along with correct fees, however, **all siblings' names MUST appear on the top of the form. Cousins are not considered immediate family and may not co-identify the same steer.**

There is no limit to the number of market steers which may be identified by an exhibitor; however, exhibitors are limited to entering and bringing no more than 2 market steers to the Fair.

The cost for each animal to be identified is \$15 (includes WSF ear tag and DNA envelope). Allflex ear taggers (\$20) and a needle nose pliers to extract hair DNA (\$5) may also be purchased from Wisconsin State Fair if needed.

Performance steers must be identified with a Wisconsin State Fair RFID ear tag **and submit a DNA sample between January 1st and February 10th**. See below for details regarding weigh-in locations.

Identification Protocol:

January 1 st – January 31 st	DNA request forms available at www.wistatefair.com . Wisconsin State Fair will send identification supplies via mail.
February 1 st – February 10 th	DNA request forms available on website but identification supplies will only be available by pick up at Wisconsin State Fair.
February 10 th at 4:30 pm	Last day DNA samples may be submitted. Must be postmarked or delivered to Wisconsin State Fair Park no later than 4:30 pm, on Feb 10 th .

Performance Division Identification Sites:

Exhibitors wishing to enter the performance division must take their steers to one of the following identification sites to get weighed. **Performance steers must have been identified by February 10th with a WSF RFID ear tag and have submitted a DNA sample.**

March 1 st	Equity Livestock Contact: Neal Anderson	Richland Center 608.583.3092	9 to 10 am
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(Over)

March 1 st	Northeast Region of State: Specific location TBA <i>see www.wistatefair.com for location</i>		9 to 10 am
	Contact: Diane Jarvais	715.630.0811	
March 8 th	Equity Livestock	Altoona	9 to 10 am
	Contact: Brandon Boettcher	715.533.2470	
March 8 th	Milwaukee Stockyards	Reeseville	9 to 10 am
	Contact:	<i>TBA – see www.wistatefair.com for contact</i>	

Do NOT go to Performance Weigh-In Sites without official Wisconsin State Fair RFID tags placed in the steer(s) ear(s).

Overview of the Entire Self-Identification Process

Step 1 (January, 2014) - Potential Exhibitor

- Exhibitors interested in showing a market steer at the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair must complete and submit a “Wisconsin State Fair Market Animal Identification Request Form” located on www.wistatefair.com.
- Mail the completed request form with proper payment to Wisconsin State Fair.
- Request forms and payments MUST be postmarked no later than January 31st. ***Please submit request forms prior to the deadline! Request forms received after January 31st will be processed but there are no guarantees you will receive the follow up information prior to the DNA submission deadline.***

Step 2 (January, 2014) – Wisconsin State Fair

- Once Wisconsin State Fair receives your request form with proper payment the following supplies will be sent to you in a timely fashion: RFID ear tag(s), sample DNA envelope(s) and a “Wisconsin State Fair Market Steer RFID Tag and DNA Sample Documentation” form.

Step 3 (January, 2014 up to February 10, 2014) – Potential Exhibitor

- Upon receipt of State Fair materials place the ear tag(s) in your steer(s) ear(s) and pull DNA hair samples(s); see instruction sheet which will be sent with the ear tag(s).
- Complete the “Wisconsin State Fair Market Steer RFID Tag and DNA Sample Documentation” form, DNA hair envelope with and return to Wisconsin State Fair postmarked NO later than February 10th. ***Please submit materials before the deadline! Documentation and samples submitted after the deadline will be ineligible.***

Step 4 (February, 2014) – Wisconsin State Fair

- Wisconsin State Fair will send a confirmation stating your sample was received and all required information has been recorded.

Step 5 (March 1 or 8, 2014) – Potential Exhibitor

- Interested in participating in the Performance Division? (We sure hope so! It’s a really cool opportunity!) Be sure to have your steer(s) weighed at one of the designated performance sites on March 1 or 8. Do not go to the performance weigh in site without the official RFID tag placed in the steer(s) ear(s).

Step 6 (May, June 2014) – Potential Exhibitor

- Do not forget to enter the Fair! (Online at www.wistatefair.com or print out a paper entry form and mail it in). Purchasing RFID tags and submitting DNA samples is **NOT** an entry in the Fair.