BOAH

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ANIMAL HEALTH ADVISORY
Use of Swine PIN Tags at Markets
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Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, many major U.S. pork packers and processors will require a USDA-approved, official premises identification number (PIN) swine tag on all breeding swine they purchase.

Livestock market operators and dealers may encounter swine presented for sale without a PIN tag. (These tags are not the same as 840 official ID tags.) The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) offers the following to clarify handling of hogs without a PIN tag:

- Swine going directly to slaughter may be moved with a backtag in lieu of a PIN tag. However, some packers may not accept those hogs.
- PIN tags should be applied to each individual animal prior to arrival at the market or packing plant with a tag for the farm-of-origin. The number on the tag must reflect the premises ID of the site where the animal was raised. PIN tags are the responsibility of the hog owner.
- Dealers may accept non-tagged swine, but are not obligated. Dealers need to be aware of potential market limitations (rejection at the packer or loss of value at sale).

To date, packers/processors that have announced a PIN tag requirement in all breeding swine include: Johnsonville, Hillshire Brands, Calihan Pork Processors, Bob Evans Farms, Wampler's Farm Sausage, Pine Ridge Farms, Pioneer Packing Co., Pork King Packing, and Abbyland Pork Pack.

ABOUT PIN TAGS

PIN tags are applied to breeding stock prior to going to slaughter as a means to do a post-slaughter trace. Tags are considered official ID, and must not be removed at any point in the life of the animal. Application of the PIN tags is the responsibility of the producer. The number on the tag coincides with the farm's premises ID number. In Indiana, the premID number is issued by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health.

Tags may be ordered with custom management numbers and a variety of colors. A list of approved PIN tag suppliers is available via the National Pork Board at:
http://www.pork.org/programs-and-events/swine-id/pin-tag/approved-pin-tag-suppliers/

More information about industry standards for use of PIN tags is online at:
http://www.pork.org/programs-and-events/swine-id/pin-tag/