Allflex
THE Electronic Identification SYSTEM THAT WORKS

Application Instructions for Allflex Electronic Identification Ear Tags

Apply Allflex Electronic ID Tags with the Red Universal Total Tagger.

Use the **red** blunt pin and **remove** the black **insert** from the base of the jaws for *beef* and *swine* EID Tags. **Use** black **insert** for **new, lightweight small ruminant EID tags with vented cap** (*sheep* and *meat goat*).

1. To load, depress spring clip and insert the female EID tag. Ensure that the raised portion of the tag, which encloses the transponder chip, is placed in the open portion of the jaws.

2. Slip the male tag completely onto the blunt applicator pin. Squeeze the jaws together lightly to ensure the male shaft is in line with the female.

3. Dip the jaws of the applicator holding the tag into an antiseptic or disinfectant solution.
   Suggestions:
   Iodine Solution
   Nolvasan
   Vetericyn

Recommended EID Tag Placement

Application site must be free of foreign debris prior to placement of tags on the animal. Review application instructions prior to tagging.

IMPORTANT: Caution, "Free Air Space" is critical for proper healing and retention. Inspect placement after tagging to ensure there is sufficient space between ear and EID tag. It is recommended to pull tag pieces apart for proper healing.

For CATTLE—Left Ear Only

1. The EID tag should be placed in the middle of the ear between the two cartilage ribs close to the head.
2. The female (EID) portion of the tag should be on the inside of the ear.

For SWINE—Left Ear Preferred

1. Place the EID tag in the middle or thicker part of the ear.
2. The male tag should be on the outside of the ear and the female (EID) should be placed on the inside of the ear. Tag retention is improved when male tag lays flush against the back side of the ear.

IMPORTANT: Tag application may vary based on breed type and ear size.

For SHEEP & MEAT GOATS—Left Ear Preferred

1. Use black tagger insert for lightweight, vented cap small ruminant EID tags.
2. Place the EID tag in between the cartilage ribs of the ear, near the first third of the ear (closest to the head).
3. The female EID portion of the tag should be placed on the inside of the ear.

   IMPORTANT: Disinfect tags prior to tagging and spray for 3-5 days post-tagging to reduce the opportunity for infection.

Kansas 4-H Swine, Sheep, & Meat Goat Tagging Guidelines and Tips for EID Tags

Tagging protocols are established to maximize retention and minimize complications with the identification process. We realize that sometimes "stuff happens", but we can often trace a tag replacement issue to the application procedure. While it is impossible to have 100% tag retention, it can be increased by following these instructions and tips.

Instructional videos for appropriate Allflex EID application may be found here:
https://www.allflex.global/na/support/

Applicators – for the EID tags, you MUST use the red **Allflex Universal Total Tagger** with the red blunt pin. The black plastic insert needs to be removed for swine tag application, just as it was for the beef tags. The new gray, Allflex UTT3S taggers distributed in 2023 may also be used. The blue clip must be removed for swine and beef EID application using this tagger. For sheep and meat goat tags issued prior to 2024, remove the insert and tag using the same protocol as swine and beef. **For the new, lightweight small ruminant EID tags <u>issued for sheep and meat goats in 2024,</u> USE the black or blue plastic insert, depending on tagger type.**

Application of the tags – As you can see in the instructions, the tags are to be put in the ear with the EID button facing to the front (inside the ear). It is preferred that they be placed in the left ear (as you look at the animal from the rear). They should be placed close to the head (1/3 to 1/2 of the ear length out from the base), in the middle of the ear vertically. **DO NOT** put the tags in an existing hole in the ear. Doing so will greatly increase the chance of loss. Pulling on both sides of the tag to increase air flow around the tag and turning the button will verify correct application and ensure there is appropriate space between the tag and the animal's ear.

Use disinfectant to dip the tags and applicator in. It is recommended that you use a product such as Nolvasan, Vetericyn, or an iodine solution. They are effective, non-irritating products that can be purchased from the local vet or vet supply store. Using a disinfectant will help the tag site heal and it will provide lubrication for easier tag application. ***It will also reduce the opportunity for infection and is imperative to use disinfectant when <u>tagging meat goats and sheep!</u>*** Using a product that irritates the ear (alcohol, bleach, etc.) will cause the animal to do more rubbing of the ear and increase the chance of losing the tag.

After Application – Grasp both parts of the tag and pull on them. This will insure that the stem is completely in and it will create room for air flow around the tag to promote faster healing.

Keep the matched EID button and 4-H visual tags together – The tags are packaged with the EID and visual 4-H numbers matched as they are paired in a database available from Allflex USA. If for some reason the tags should get separated, you can use the sheet of labels to match them back up. Allflex has been working on their website over the past few years. If you are unable to download your tag data and need it, contact Lexie.

Using the labels – ***Make a copy of all the barcode sticker labels in each bag and put them in a safe place!*** These can be used as a last resort in the event your labels should get misplaced or damaged. Each bag of tags has 2 sets of labels that have the EID tag, a barcode of that 15-digit number, and the visual 4-H number on it. You can use one set of labels for county tagging if you wish. You should keep one set of labels in a file to be used later for any state nominations.

Weigh-In Card - A template of a county weigh-in card can be downloaded from the KSU YLP website.

If the animal already has a EID 4-H tag – It is unlawful to remove an 840 tag from any specie of livestock, as it is their official (ADT) identification. An animal may also only have one EID. The Kansas 4-H EID tags are official 840 EID tags for beef and swine. Sheep and meat goat tags are 982 EID tags. Please contact Lexie if you need to tag a 4-H/FFA project with an existing 840 EID tag. Any non-840 tags may be removed and replaced with the Kansas 4-H EID tag.

Questions – Can be directed to Lexie Hayes, KSU Youth Livestock Program Coordinator:
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