

Swine ID Requirements

Table 1. Official Identification Numbers for Individual Animals

National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES)	<div>8 character</div> <div>23 AB 4574</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Swine and other species (except sheep and goats) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 2 numeric State or Tribal code o 2 alphabetical series o 4 digits in a numerical series - Sheep and goats (exclusive to scrapie program) <div>PA AB 4574 or PA A2 4574</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 2 alpha postal abbreviation o 2 alphabetical or alphanumeric series o 4 digits in a numerical series
Animal identification number (AIN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 digits; 840 are the first three digits (numeric code for USA) <div>840 003 123 456 789</div> <div>Note: ICAR manufacturer codes or "USA" can be used as the first three characters for tags manufactured before March 11, 2014 and applied to the animal before March 11, 2015.</div> <div>900 152 123 456 789 USA 000 097 499 999</div>
Location-based number³ <i>With the herd management number</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Either a premises identification number (PIN) or location identification number (LID) with a unique herd management number PINs have 7 character and LIDs may have 6, 7 or 8 characters and the herd management number may have up to 6 characters. <div>006ER2A 4275</div>
National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) Tags (See Tables 4 and 5.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commonly referred to as "Silver" or "Brite" tags. - Historically used for disease testing and interstate movement. - VS Memorandum 578.12 revised March 15, 2011 to allow distribution to producers through State and Tribal authorities.
Premises identification number (PIN) tags – Slaughter swine (See Table 9.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imprinted with premises identification number. Various tags approved through authorized manufacturers.

Table 6. Animal Identification Number (AIN) “840” Tags

Tag Information	Description
Program use	Applicable for all official identification requirements
Material type	Plastic: With or without RFID
Color	Various colors
Species used on	Various sizes and shapes. Eartags are approved separately and specify for which species they can be used. Either ear application, but left ear recommended to avoid conflict with placing of brucellosis calfhood vaccination tattoo in right ear of female bovine/bison eligible calves.
Information on the tag For describing 2-piece tags, the designation of “Tag Piece A,” is the piece attached to the inside of the animal’s ear (visual from the front of the animal). “Tag Piece B” is the piece attached to the outside of the animal’s ear (visual from behind the animal).	<p>Tag Piece A: Inside of ear; visible from the front of the animal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official eartag shield - 15-digit code with 840 as first 3 digits (numeric code for USA) - Manufacturer’s logo or trademark (printed or impression of) - 2D symbology code representing the AIN (tags printed after July, 2013) <p>Tag Piece B: Outside the ear; visible from behind the animal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official eartag shield - UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE - Imprinting the AIN on Tag Piece B is optional. If this is the case, the tag set is packaged so that the tag pieces stay together as a pair before being applied. <p><i>Note: Print specification for swine tags is different due to species anatomical differences in providing functional visibility of information imprinted on swine tags.</i></p>
Additional printing specifications	<p>All tags have minimum print size specifications for required information imprinted on the tags. Other information, most applicable to the panel tags, may be imprinted on the tag if it does not reduce the readability of the required information.</p> <p>Tags with RFID must have all 15 digits of the AIN printed on the tag pieces that contain the transponder.</p>
Issued/distributed to	<p>USDA approves all “840” AIN devices and allocates AINs only to authorized manufacturers that use the numbers on approved devices.</p> <p>AIN manufacturers distribute tags through AIN managers with whom they have an agreement and directly to State/Federal animal health officials. AIN manufacturers may be AIN managers.</p>
Distribution records/reporting	<p>The entity (animal health officials or AIN manufacturer or managers) that provides the tag to the producer is responsible for having the distribution records entered/submitted to the Animal Identification Management System (AIMS). Likewise, if the tag is distributed to an AIN distributor, the distribution record is to be submitted to the AIMS. When issued for sheep and goats, the tag record must be administered through the scrapie program tag application of AIMS.</p> <p>A premises identification number (PIN) or Location Identifier (LID) of the farm or ranch is required and is used for reporting the distribution record to the Animal Identification Management System.</p>
Other comments	Tag pairs displaying the same AIN (duplicate AINs) are available for application

	to the same animal only (combination of visual tags or visual and RFID).
How to obtain	Producers and State Animal Health Officials may purchase AIN tags from AIN managers representing authorized AIN tag manufacturers (contact AIN manufacturers for information on their AIN managers). See listing at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/AIN_device_list.pdf

AIN Tags with 840 prefix

AIN Panel Tag (Visual Only)	AIN RF Button Tags	AIN RF Panel Tags
		
Example of "Industry Logo" AIN Tag	Paired AIN Visual/RFID Tag Set	
		

AIN Tags with ICAR Manufacturer Code and “USA” prefix


Mfr Code and USA Prefix AIN Tags	AIN Tag with Mfr Code	AIN Tag with “USA” Prefix
<p>AIN Tags that use the manufacturer codes (900 series) or the “USA” prefix are official for tags manufactured before March 11, 2014 and applied to animals before March 11, 2015.</p> <p>These tags do not have the Official Eartag Shield imprinted on the tag.</p>		<p>Photo Not Available</p>
AIN tags with “USA” and Truncated Animal Number		
<p>APHIS has recognized as official a variation of the AIN with the USA prefix.</p> <p>Eartags imprinted with “USA” followed by the 8- or 9-digit number applied to animals before March 11, 2015 are recognized as official for the life of the animal.</p> <p>For example, the 15 character number, “USA 000 097 499 999” may have USA 97 499 999 imprinted on the tag.</p>		

Table 9. Premises Identification Number (PIN) Tag for Slaughter Swine

Tag Information	Description
Program use	Swine
Material type	Plastic
Color	Various colors (contact tag manufacturer)
Species used on	Slaughter swine
Information on the tag For describing 2-piece tags, the designation of "Tag Piece A," is the piece attached to the inside of the animal's ear. "Tag Piece B" is the piece attached to the outside of the animal's ear.	<p>Tag Piece A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official eartag shield - UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE <p>Tag Piece B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State postal abbreviation or Tribe 2 character alpha code ¹ - PIN - Official eartag shield - UNLAWFUL TO REMOVE - Manufacturer's logo or trademark (printed or impression of) - Barcode of corresponding PIN on the reverse side.
Additional printing specifications	All tags have minimum print size specifications for required information imprinted on the tags. Other information may be imprinted on the tag if it does not reduce the readability of the required information. The herd management number is optional.
Issued/distributed to	Swine producers
Distribution records/reporting	Manufacturers report distribution of tags by product code to APHIS VS.
Other comments	If a PIN tag includes a unique within-herd management number that is imprinted by the manufacturer to ensure its permanency, the tag it qualifies as an official eartag for interstate movement of individual animals.
How to obtain	Producers may obtain directly from authorized manufacturers. See listing at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/swine_device_listing.pdf



Tag Piece B²
(Back of ear)



Inside of Tag Piece B²
(Not in View while tags is on the pig)



Tag Piece B³
(Inside of ear)

¹ State postal abbreviation imprinted on PIN tags shipped from manufacturer after August 1, 2009. Since Tribes do not have postal abbreviations, APHIS will reserve a 2 character alpha code upon request.

² The piece attached to the outside of the animal's ear

³ The piece attached to the inside of the animal's ear