



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

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## Identification of Sheep and Goats Fairs and Exhibitions

The Code of Federal Regulations' [9 CFR, Part 79.2](#) combined with Florida Administrative Code [5C-4](#) require that all sheep and goats being shown at fairs or exhibitions must have official individual identification. Sheep and goats presented that do not meet the official individual identification requirements may not be allowed entrance into the fair. Lambs and kids under three months of age accompanied by their dam are exempt from the official identification requirement. The list of approved sheep and goat identification devices/methods includes:

### Registered Animals

- Scrapie tag in the ear. The tag number must be on the health certificate.
- Registry tattoo with copy of registration papers. The registration papers must be in the current owner's name and contain the tattoo number. The tattoo number must also be on the health certificate.
- An 840 microchip with copy of registration papers. The registration papers must be in the current owner's name and contain the microchip number. The microchip number must also be on the health certificate. The animal needs to be tattooed with a legible "E" if the microchip is at the base of the ear, or "ET" if the implant is in the tail fold.

### Non-registered Animals:

- Scrapie tag in the ear. The tag number must be on the health certificate.
- A tattoo of the information from a Scrapie tag issued for the animal along with the actual tag or a letter from USDA with the numbers from the tag on it. The numbers can be placed in the ears or, in the case of animals with absent or injured ears, the tattoo can be in the tail fold or the flank. The tag number must be on the health certificate.
- A tattoo of the Flock Identification Number and a unique individual number created by the owner with a letter from USDA with the numbers from the tag on it. Placement of numbers is same as above. Flock Identification number and individual number must be on the health certificate.
- An 840 microchip with a letter from USDA stating the microchip has been officially registered in the Scrapie program. The microchip information AND Flock Identification Number must be on the health certificate. The animal needs to be tattooed with a legible "E" if the microchip is at the base of the ear, or "ET" if the implant is in the tail fold.
  - A microchip reader is to be provided by the exhibitor if a microchip is used as Identification. Microchips applied after March 11, 2015 will be required to have the 3-digit country code "840" rather than a manufacture's code. A list of approved 840 implant and official ear tag manufacturers is maintained at [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/sheep-and-goat-health/national-scrapie-eradication-program/ct\\_to\\_order\\_ear\\_tags](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/sheep-and-goat-health/national-scrapie-eradication-program/ct_to_order_ear_tags)

## EXAMPLES OF OFFICIAL SHEEP AND GOAT IDENTIFICATION



*NUES Tag*



*Ear tag 1*



*Ear tag 2*



*Ear Tattoo*



*Tail Web Tattoo*



*Microchip*

### Registration with the Scrapie Program

- A Premises Identification Number (PIN) is required to obtain a Flock Identification Number from the Scrapie Program. Please contact the Division of Animal Industry (850) 509-8040 or [CattleForms@FDACS.gov](mailto:CattleForms@FDACS.gov) for assistance with obtaining a PIN.
- Call (866) USDA TAG (866-873-2824) or contact Alexandra Hobbs at [Alexandrea.Hobbs@usda.gov](mailto:Alexandrea.Hobbs@usda.gov) or (352) 538-5785, or Dr. Richard Austin at [Richard.Austin@usda.gov](mailto:Richard.Austin@usda.gov) or (850) 410-0953 to obtain a flock ID.
- For those who wish to purchase their own tags and have a flock ID, the following are the approved tag suppliers:

Alliance ID  
(800) 434-2843

Allflex  
(833) 727-2743

Premier 1 Supplies  
(800) 282-6631

EZid  
(877) 330-3943

National Band & Tag Company  
(859) 261-2035

Shearwell Data  
(320) 760-4696