



Sheboygan County Meat Animal Sale

P.O. Box 115 • Plymouth, WI 53073 • (920) 459-5900

TO: BEEF, SHEEP & SWINE PROJECT MEMBERS & LEADERS

RE: DRUG WITHDRAWAL FORM & COOL AFFIDAVIT

Enclosed please find a copy of the Meat Animal Sale Drug Withdrawal and the Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) Affidavit Form and COOL factsheet. **Please bring the completed and signed form with you at the time of the final weigh-in at the Sheboygan County Fair.** If you have any questions with regards to either form, please do not hesitate to contact a Meat Animal Sale Board member.

Drug Withdrawal Form

The market animals exhibited at the county fair will soon enter the food chain as a meat product for the consumer. To ensure a safe-wholesome meat product is entering the food chain, exhibitors must follow all withdrawal periods of any animal health product administered to their project animals. *As indicated in Rule #8 in the 2010 Meat Animal Sale Rules, the drug withdrawal form must be completed (including drug and date administered) prior to selling in the Meat Animal Sale.*

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

As of March 16, 2009, the United States Department of Agriculture's rule on "Country of Origin Labeling" (COOL) took effect. This rule provides consumers with the knowledge as to where their food originated. The rule has been in place for fruits and vegetables and has been in effect for meat products since early spring. To comply with the new ruling, exhibitors must perform the following two steps:

Step 1-At time of purchase of project animal: At the time of purchase, it was the **EXHIBITORS' RESPONSIBILITY to request a bill of sale/receipt or complete a "County of Origin Affidavit/Declaration"** as proof of purchase/proof of origin. The 4-H General Livestock Committee and the Sheboygan County Meat Animal Sale will NOT request this information. It is recommended to keep the bill of sale/receipt or the declaration with your project records. This affidavit/declaration is an important record keeping tool in case of a USDA audit with regards to the origin of the animals entering the food chain. A copy of the form is located on the Sheboygan County 4-H General Livestock Webpage at <http://www.sheboygan.uwex.edu/4h/SheboyganCountyBeefSheepSwineProjects.html> under "Additional Resources".

Step 2-At county fair time: Each exhibitor/parent will need to complete and sign a "**Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration**" indicating the animal(s) being shipped is (are) of "United States of America Origin". This form is attached to the bottom of the enclosed "Drug Withdrawal Form". Information to be included on this affidavit collected by the Sheboygan County Meat Animal Sale will be the name, address and phone number of the exhibitor. The original signed "Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration" will go with the animal to wherever it is shipped/sold to at the close of the fair. A copy will be maintained by the Sheboygan County Meat Animal Sale Committee for two years, as required by the USDA COOL ruling.

This affidavit/declaration **has no bearing on qualifying for the Meat Animal Sale.** However, animals will not be shipped on behalf of the exhibitor to slaughter facilities without a completed "Continuous Country of Origin Affidavit/Declaration". If you have any questions with regards to the "Country of Origin Labeling" ruling or the affidavit/declaration, please visit the USDA website at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool>.