

# Ear Tags & Animal ID

## Why folks like our tags...

### ✓ Custom or blank = same price!

#### A. Select any Premier tags.

In general, light colors imprint the best. The darker colors are less readable. Tags are listed in order of readability.

#### B. Decide what to imprint.

- **Consecutive numbers** — Can include repeating farm or ranch names.
- **Logos/brands** — One time \$25 setup fee. Logos **DO NOT** laser in color.
- **Single names or numbers** — Cost is \$2.50 per tag (call to place order for single tags).

#### C. Decide imprint location.

Print on the male side (has the pin), female side (has the receptacle) or print on both sides.

### ✓ Very fast printing!

**It's what we do!** Custom tag orders often leave our door within **2 days**, while our competitors' turnaround time is often **2 weeks or longer**.

### ✓ No minimum requirement!

Sold in packages of 20 or 25 for most styles. We also imprint replacement tags (call us to order at \$2.50 per tag).

### ✓ Low prices!

For some sizes our tags cost only half as much as similar tags from others. How are we able to do this? Most tag sales occur during Premier's "slow" months—so we price the tags accordingly because our staff has more time then. It's a win for us and for you.

### ✓ Preview your tags online!

When ordering ear tags online from Premier, you will now see a visual preview of your customization before the tags are imprinted.\*

- MiniTags • Q-flex 1,2, 1.5, 3 & 5 • 7X • Z Tags

## How tags can help you...

### 1. To indicate sex

**Benefit:** Allows rapid sorting by sex while animals are penned.

#### To do this:

- Insert the primary tag in left ear of males, right ear of females.

### 2. To indicate year of birth

**Benefit:** A tag can tell you the age from 25 ft away, allowing for faster decisions when sorting.

#### Two ways to do this: (we do both):

- Use a different color each year.
- Begin series with year of birth. Ex: tag 24275 indicates lamb is the 275th lamb tagged in year 2024.

### 3. To indicate sire (and dam)

**Benefit:** No need to check records.

#### Three ways to do this:

- Use a different color second tag for each sire (blue tags = Sire XYZ; purple tags = Sire ABC).
- Have sire name printed on the tag. Apply tags to its progeny.
- Handwrite the ewe's tag number with a marking pen on the lamb's tag. If space is limited, write it on the tag's inner surface.  
**Note:** Tags can be lost, so use 2 sire/dam tags (one in each ear).

### 4. To indicate problems

**Benefit:** Allows rapid, positive culling of animals with foot problems, mastitis, prolapse, etc.

#### Two ways to do this:

- Insert a tag that says "cull".
- Use an ear notcher.

### 5. To indicate single, twin or triplet

**Benefit:** Speeds up sorting process for breeding and sale purposes. Reduces need to consult records.

#### To do this:

Use a different color for each lamb type and repeat colors yearly.

Premier's color code is:

- blue = single
- green = twin
- orange = triplet

Female Side Male Side

2 Line - Text/Sequence

LINE 1 2/13  
PRIMA FARMS

LINE 2 - STARTING # 2/6  
1234

Range: 1234 - 1253

**\*Online Customization Preview**



# How to tag

# To avoid ear tag loss...



Insert the male side of the tag into the applicator.



Insert the female side of the tag into jaw.



Apply SuperLube to ease insertion.



Place and insert tag near the center of the ear.

## 1. Place tags in ear's center.

- The tissue nearest the skull is too thick for the space between male and female tags. The wound heals slowly (infections occur).
- The thin flesh near the tip of the ear increases the potential for the tags to tear out.

*Note: One-piece loop tags for sheep and goats only fit in the lower red spot (see diagram).*

## 2. Avoid the large veins in the ear.

**Why?** Tissue around damaged veins heals slowly—so it's prone to infection (see diagram).

## 3. Don't use cheap tags as long-term tags.

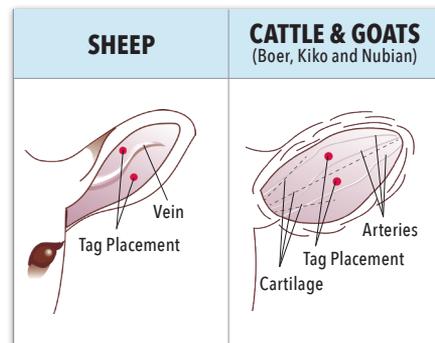
**Why?** They're often made of inferior plastic that may become brittle from UV light.

## 4. Avoid double-button round tags.

**Why?** They're more likely to snag and rip free on shrubs and fences.

## 5. Avoid low-fiber diets. **Why?**

Animals are desperate to chew on anything, even ear tags.



## Male/Female Tag Insertion

*In our flock of over 800 head, we have found no retention difference between having the female cap on the inside or outside of the ear.*

## 6. How do I keep track of an animal if a tag falls out?

- Install 2 tags (one per ear)—with the same number. Official tags can't be duplicated—but you can use the same individual animal number on the second tag *if you don't add a flock or premise number.*
- Tattoo the animal. No animal ID is more permanent.



USDA  
Scrapie Tags

## General Tag Cost Comparison

Sheep Tags	Cost per pkg 20	Imprinting per tag	Imprint Logo	Lead Time
Premier Q-flex 3	\$18.00	FREE	\$25	2 days
Destron Fearing	\$21.49	15c	\$31	2 wks
Allflex	\$19.75	15c	\$31	2 wks
Ketchum	\$20.50	13c	n/a	2-3 wks

## Premier Tag Comparison Chart

Tag name	Size	*Cost per tag	# per pkg	# of colors	Scrapie approved	Imprint area	Applicator
Qwik Tag	1.5" x 0.38"	32.5c	20	7	no	13 characters 1 line	Qwik Tag
MiniTags	1.1" x 1.1"	60c	20	6	yes	9 characters 2 lines	MiniTag Allflex
Q-flex 1.2	1.625" x 0.44"	50c	20	14	no	13 characters 1 line	Q-flex Allflex
Q-flex 1.5	1.88" x 0.56"	65c	20	14	yes	13 characters 2 lines	Q-flex Allflex
Q-flex 3	1.63" x 1.5"	90c	20	14	yes	13 characters 3 lines	Q-flex Allflex
Q-flex 5	1.63" x 1.88"	\$1.00	20	14	yes	15 characters 3 lines	Q-flex Allflex
7X Tag	2.2" x 2.9" (female) 2.2" x 2.5" (male)	\$1.10	20	7	yes		X Tag Allflex
One-Piece Calf	2.5" x 3.25"	\$1.28	25	10	no		Z Tag
Long Neck Calf	2.5" x 3.75"	\$1.44	25	10	no		Z Tag
One-Piece Cow	3" x 4.5"	\$1.72	25	10	no	Z Tag	

\*Cost per tag refers to packaged price. Call Premier for individual replacement tags.