

UNIVERSAL EAR NOTCHING SYSTEM

The **Universal Ear Notching System** is the most common method of permanent identification for swine. The following paragraphs and diagrams explain the Universal Ear Notching System.

Litter Mark (Right Ear) – The “R” on the Diagram

The right ear is used for the litter mark. All pigs in the same litter must have the same ear notches in this ear. The right ear is on the pig's own right side.

Individual Pig Mark (Left Ear) – The “L” on the Diagram

The left ear is used for notches to show a pig's individual number in the litter. Ear pig will have different notches in this ear.

When listing or reading ear notches, the litter number is listed first and the individual pig number is listed second.

Information Source: 4-H Swine Resource Handbook

