1947

Ear Tagging 4-H Beef: Extension Circular 2-67-2
1. Tag goes in the left ear.

2. Location of tag is as shown in the above diagram. The tag should be placed in the top of the left ear about half way between the base and the tip.

3. Insert the tag so the number can be read from the back or outside of the ear. The word Neb. 4-H-47 should show on the inside surface of the ear.

4. An identification card should be filled out for every calf kept in the county office. This information should be copied on form 2-67-2 and mailed to the central office as soon as the calves are tagged and not later than June 20. Supplementary list for Denver Show only may be filed on or before July 15th.

5. Cards should be filled out completely. If the exact calving date is not known indicate the month.

6. If the animal is from a registered sire or dam, be sure to fill in the information on the back of the card and copy it on the back of Form 2-67-2. This information must be supplied for several of the breed special awards.

7. Ear tags are furnished without charge to counties where complete reports are received at the Central Club Office before June 20. Certification will be made by the state club office to interstate shows only where reports are received before June 20, except for Denver where report must be filed by July 15.
Suggestions for Procedure on Tagging Calves
(Taken from Cir. By K.C. Fouts)

The tagging of calves should be done as quietly and gently as possible. Snubbing of the calves may result in retarding the response of the calf to training.

Probably one of the most convenient methods for tagging is to crowd three or four closely together behind a strong gate or panel. After the calves are securely crowded together a halter or throw rope should be used to hold up the head of the calf being tagged. Have one calf between the person doing the tagging and the calf being tagged.

Needless bleeding can be prevented by avoiding the cutting of the larger blood vessels. These blood vessels can be located by holding the ear toward the sun or against a flashlight.

The pliers, or tagging tool, should have a thong (a long leather boot lace is good) fastened in the end of the handle of that jaw having the shorter bit. This will enable the pliers to be withdrawn from the ear with little or no chance of tearing it.

The steps of tagging are quite simple. First, check the number on the tag and place the pliers so that that number will be on top. Second, select the spot in the ear which is free from large blood vessels. Third, put the longer bit of the pliers on the chosen spot, allowing 1/2 inch of tag outside the ear. (If the tag is placed over the ear as far as it will go, it will curl the ear in closing and be too tight). Fourth, close the tag quickly and completely with one firm grip and then just as quickly, drop the pliers and giving the calf his freedom at the halter. Usually the calf struggles, the pliers follow him until he shakes them off. Do not try to hold the pliers. This means torn ears and less ease in handling the calf in the future.

Calves handled singly should be haltered and led outside their stalls so that an unpleasant experience is not associated with strangers handling them in the stall. An extension should be put on the lead rope. The holder grabs the lead near the calf's head with the left hand and the end of the lead with his right, keeping his feet free from the slack rope. When the tag is placed, the left hand promptly releases the lead while the end of the lead is pulled up gently. After the calf shakes off the pliers the job should be checked.