



# Nebraska Extension in Colfax County

## 4-H Newsletter March 2017

### Announcements:

#### Office Help Needed

We are looking for one or two individuals who would be willing to work in the Extension Office on an AS NEEDED basis. The hours would be sporadic and never more than a day or two at a time. Duties will include answering the phone and taking messages, helping customers when they come in, and other duties as assigned. Please call the office for information or if you have any questions.

#### New Families

If you have new families in your 4-H club, please submit their names and mailing address to the Extension Office so they can be added to our mailing lists and help them with the enrollment process.

#### 4-H Enrollment

All 4-H members must enroll on the 4-H Online system using **Google Chrome**. Instructions can be found on our website at <http://colfax.unl.edu> or you can call the Extension office. These instructions will take you step by step through the process. Please contact the office if you have any problems or questions at 402-352-3821. You are welcome to stop in the office sometime and use one of our computers to enroll if you wish. Enrollment fee is \$5 for both Clover Kids and traditional age 4-H members. This enrollment fee can be paid online with a credit/debit card or paid in the office with a check or cash. Enrollment deadline is March 31st, 2017.

Remember when enrolling in 4HOnline use Colfax County when enrolling, not the county you live in. Also **PLEASE DELETE** any projects you are not enrolling in for 2017. Thank you.

### 4-H Updates:

#### Quality Assurance Training

State 4-H rules require that all 4-H members who show beef, sheep, dairy, swine, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry and rabbits be certified in Quality Assurance (QA). Each youth wanting to show livestock at county or state fair needs to complete 3 modules. There is a \$5 dollar fee.

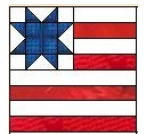
4-H Members age 8-11 are required to complete annual training. Members age 12-14 may complete training or take intermediate test and be certified until age 15. Members 15 and older may complete training or take the senior test and be certified for the rest of their 4-H career.

In Mid March a new QA System will be in place. We do not know what the new system will look like yet or how the modules will differ. We do know there will be a price increase to **\$12 dollars** within the new system. We encourage **ALL OF YOU** to try and complete your QA training as soon as you can! You can complete your training at: <http://campus.extension.org>

The Colfax County 4-H Council has decided to reimburse \$5 dollars again to all who complete QA training.

#### Sewing Saturdays

Calling all 4-H sewers and quilters! Colfax County will be creating another Quilt of Valor for 2017, sponsored by Colfax County FCE Council. Quilts of Valor are quilts created with Americana fabric and are later donated to service members touched by war.



We will be hosting Sewing Saturdays to cut, piece, and sew the quilt together and prepare it for fair. Sewing Saturdays will be:

- March 18th

- April 22nd
- June 3rd

All meetings will be at the Extension office from 9:00 am –12:00 pm. We hope to see you there! Please call the office to register.

### Camp Scholarships

4-H Youth are encouraged to apply for a camp scholarship sponsored by the 4-H Council. The 4-H Council would like for you to complete the Application for 4-H Camp Scholarship that is included in this newsletter and return to the Extension office. The 4-H Council will provide 2/3 of the camp cost. Some options are:

- Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center, Gretna
- Natural Resources & Leadership Camp, Halsey
- Livestock Judging Conference, Lincoln
- Unicameral Youth Conference, Lincoln
- Big Red Summer Academic Camps

4-H'ers who did not receive a camp scholarship in 2016 will have first priority, but all 4-H'ers are encouraged to apply. Your 4-H leader has a supply of camp brochures or you can pick one up at the Extension Office. The Deadline for camp scholarships is June 1st, 2017.



### 4-H Camps and Centers Camperships

Once again this year the Nebraska 4-H Foundation has donated funds to provide camperships to individuals. Camperships are available in the amount of \$100 and must be requested prior to registering for camp. Below is the information that will be needed in order to award a campership to an individual.

To apply for a campership, please submit the following information to Lindsay Shearer by email or mail. Allow 7-10 business days for response to campership request. Please note that single day camp sessions are not eligible for Camperships. Campership requests must be received and approved prior to registration for a camp session. A request for campership support from the parent/guardian. Please be sure to include the name, age, and gender for each camper and the session each camper would like to attend. A brief statement from the parent or from the camper expressing why they would like to attend camp this summer.

Once a request for a campership has been approved you will receive notification from Lindsay

Shearer and receive an authorization code for registration that can be entered online or documented on a mail-in registration form. Following any campership support, we do ask that the camper send a thank-you note to donors sharing a highlight from their summer camp experience. Thank you notes can also be sent to Lindsay Shearer either by mail or email.

### Request can be sent to:

Lindsay Shearer  
State 4-H Office  
114 Agricultural Hall  
Lincoln, NE 68583  
Or via email to:  
lshearer2@unl.edu

### Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute

NAYI is a five-day summer program for high school juniors and seniors to learn more about agriculture and the agriculture industry, as well to discover career opportunities available within the agricultural sector. Due to generous sponsors this event is free of charge to students attending.

Students that are interested should go online to <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/nayi.html> to download the application. They do ask that you type your responses, then mail in the application. All applications must be postmarked by April 15th.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact Christin Kamm by calling 402-471-6856.

### Photography Themes



The 2017 Photography theme is: **Nebraska Exhibit Print:** Reflect your definition of rural Nebraska. Capture rural living in your Nebraska county through your camera lens. Use your photo to express what rural means to you, why you value rural life or how rural life is changing. This is your story to tell. Unit II and Unit III will include this Class.

### 4-H Diamond Clover Recognition

Colfax County will recognize 4-H'ers through the Diamond Clover program. 4-H'ers will be recognized for their accomplishments and life skill development. This is a non-competitive program and is available to all 4-H'ers, regardless of age. There are six levels of recognition. A short form needs to be completed when you sign up for 4-H this year and the rest of the form will be completed in September. For more information, contact the Extension Office. Club leaders have also received information on the 4-H Diamond Clover Recognition Program.

## **Bake & Take Month**



March is Bake & Take month, a time when wheat organizations encourage others to bake a wheat good and share it with family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and shut-ins. In honor of the month, the Nebraska Wheat Board (NWB) is again sponsoring recipe cards and stickers for any 4-H groups or other organizations that wish to participate. This year's recipes include rocky road cake in a cup and caramel chocolate pretzel bars. The Extension office will have a supply of recipes soon! Stop in to get yours.

## **Livestock:**

### **Free Chicks!**



Tom Messing will once again offer free chicks to 4-H'ers interested in showing them at the Colfax County Fair. Each 4-H'er that signs up will receive 10 broiler chicks, with the expectation that they show them at fair. Remember you must enter all chickens, still living, in the fair. Please call the Extension office to reserve your chicks by **April 1**.

### **Aksarben Stock Show is Moving**

The Aksarben Stock show will be moving in 2017 to its new location in Grand Island. The show will take place September 28 - October 1, 2017 at Fonner Park.

### **Youth Livestock Projects and the VFD Regulation**

Effective January 1, 2017, all livestock producers that use antibiotic medicated feeds to prevent, treat or control animal health issues will be required to get a written order or directive from a Veterinarian to purchase and feed these feeds. The regulation will only affect antibiotics administered in feed or water for livestock.

Antibiotics are important to both human medicine and animal health, to reduce the risk of antibiotic resistance in both areas; producers must follow the FDA Approved Labels. These labels determine what animal health issues can be treated with that specific antibiotic, dosage and proper administration.

The first step youth producers should take is to develop a Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship by visiting with their veterinarian. Within this discussion, producers need to review their herd/flock health plan and evaluate vaccinations and treatment plans for the animals they care for. If you determine that medi-

cated feeds should be used, plan on how to acquire a VFD Order from the veterinarian.

Copies of the VFD must go to you and your feed supplier/dealer before you can purchase or feed these feeds. Youth Livestock Participants may visit with their feed supplier/dealer to plan a nutrition/feed program prior to getting their project animals to discuss if medicated feeds should be used and if a VFD is required.

For more information visit the Nebraska BQA VFD Webpage at: <http://bqa.unl.edu/veterinary-feed-directive> Or Contact Rob Eirich, Extension Educator/Director of Beef Quality Assurance via email at: [reirich2@unl.edu](mailto:reirich2@unl.edu)

### **2017 State Fair Livestock Fees**

On December 9, the Nebraska State Fairboard voted to add a bedding fee onto the entry fee for all livestock exhibitors; the fee will be \$15 for beef and dairy and \$5 for sheep, goats, and swine. The State Fair board also voted to add a \$3 per head fee for 4-H & FFA market animals to help defray the costs of drug testing. These costs are in addition to the existing entry fees that will stay the same for 2017.

### **EID Tags and DNA Testing for State Fair & AK-SAR-BEN**

Any market animal to be shown at the Nebraska State Fair or AK-SAR-BEN must have an EID tag installed and hair pulled for DNA samples. This includes market beef, swine, market sheep, and meat goats. Also, feeder calves need an EID tag and DNA sample to show at AK-SAR-BEN. DNA samples for market beef were pulled at weigh day along with EID tags. 4-H'ers with swine, sheep, or goats will need to work with the office to get animals tagged with EID tags and the hair samples pulled. EID tags will cost \$2.00. DNA testing costs \$6.00 per animal. The Colfax County Livestock Support Fund will again support 4-H'ers by paying for the first 3 DNA samples per species for exhibitors. So if you have any ideas of showing at the Nebraska State Fair or at AK-SAR-BEN, be sure to get EID tags and samples pulled. Call the Extension office for more information.

### **Breed Nomination Cards for State Fair and AK-SAR-BEN**

Any breeding animals that families show at State Fair or AK-SAR-BEN will need to be identified on a breed nomination card that will be available from the Extension Office. Breeding beef will continue to

use a tattoo in the ear for identification as well as breed papers. Breeding sheep or goats will use the scrapie tag identification number for ID.

County only breeding beef can use a tattoo or a 4-H tag. County only breeding sheep or goats can use a 4-H tag for id.

### **Market Lamb Tagging**



Market lambs for County Fair, State Fair, or AK-SAR-BEN do not have to be tagged in front of extension personnel.

County only market sheep and goats will need a 4-H tag to be eligible to show at the Colfax County Fair. If you are desiring to show at State Fair or Aksarben, market lambs and goats will need to have an EID tag installed as well as hair pulled for DNA. Tagging must be done by June 1st.

### **Livestock Progress Shows Mailing List**

All livestock exhibitors are encouraged to attend a Progress Show prior to the County Fair. This serves as good practice for both the exhibitor and their animals.

Contact the Extension office if you want to be on the mailing list for 4-H Livestock Progress Shows. The information about progress shows will be sent only to those notifying us that they want the information.

We do not carry names over from last year's list. So, if you want to receive progress show information, give us a call.

### **Contests:**

#### **4-H Speech & Presentation Contests**

Colfax County 4-H'ers are invited to participate in the 4-H Speech /PSA & 4-H Presentation Contest on April 27th in Columbus. The contests will begin at 6:30 p.m. Theme for PSA's this year is 4-H Grown. We will be joining Platte County 4-H'ers in these contests but Colfax County will have their own contest awards. Please pre-register by April 17th by calling the Extension Office.

#### **2017 INTERVIEW CONTEST**

Interview Judging Contest will be held May 25 at the Lifelong Learning Center at Northeast Community College Campus, 601 E. Benjamin Ave. Suite 104, Norfolk, Ne. 4-H members that are age 10 and older (as of January 1 of the current year) are eligible to enter this contest. Contact information: Kim

Bearnes, Ext. Educator Stanton, Co. phone # 402-439-2231 or Mary Jarvi, phone # 402-370-4021, ENREC District, project manager, Norfolk, Ne.

#### **What is an Interview Contest?**

The Interview Contest is an opportunity for members to practice the real-life skill of applying for a job. The contest involves a set of fictitious job descriptions that the members use to prepare for the process of applying and interviewing for a position. To enter the Interview Contest the member must:

- Pick one of the three job descriptions for a job the member has a potential interest in pursuing
- Develop a resume of their education and experiences that they believe make them a good candidate for the job selected
- Write an accompanying cover letter for their résumé
- Prepare for the interview
- Fill out job application the day of the contest for chosen position
- Participate in an actual interview where they are judged on all of the key elements in the process

Contest Resources: Preparing for the Job Search Guide available on the web at <http://www.unl.edu/careers/jobsearch/jobsearch.pdf>

GENERAL RULES: Each contestant will submit 3 typewritten cover letters and 3 typewritten job resumes to the NEREC District Office by May 10. Cover letters and job resumes should not exceed one page each.

Each participant's cover letter, resume and application will be the result of his or her own efforts. If a contestant's materials are found to not be their own original work, that contestant will be disqualified from the Interview Contest.

Participants are encouraged to use examples related to their real 4-H experience whenever possible when preparing their cover letter, resume, and interview.

#### **Youth Crop Scouting Competition**

Youth interested in learning more about scouting crops should contact the extension office to learn more about the Youth Crop Scouting Competition. Last year a team of 4 youth from Colfax County competed at the 3rd annual Youth Crop Scouting Competition and placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall for the 3rd year in a row. They also traveled to Iowa to compete in the Regional Contest. The 2017 Youth Crop Scouting Competition will be held on August 2nd at the ARDC near Mead.



The Competition consists of both a written test and hands on questions about corn, soybean, or alfalfa plots.

Teams consist of 3 or 4 youth members (7th - 12th grade), so once I know who is interested we will have to see how many teams we can put together. I am willing to work with interested youth before the contest to help them learn more about agronomy and crops and prepare them for the competition.

### **Sixth Annual Innovative Youth Corn Challenge**

Do you enjoy being outside?  
Learning new things about crops?  
Considering a career involving  
crops, insects, diseases, soils, water  
or more? Do you want to help figure  
out how to feed our world's growing population in a  
sustainable way?

**Innovative Youth  
Corn Challenge**



Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board are offering the sixth Innovative Youth Corn Challenge contest. This contest, open to 4-H members (age 10 & older as of Jan. 1st) or FFA members (in-school members), guides participants through all aspects of corn production, as well as agricultural careers related to corn production.

As a team (2 or more participants), youth will be challenged to implement a production practice different than normal to determine if they increased their yield. Economics and sustainability of the practice will also be considered. Yields, cropping history, and production information will be collected in the Corn Yield Challenge management summary.

Cash prizes and plaques will be given to the first, second, and third place teams. First place will receive \$1,000, second place will receive \$500, and third place will receive \$250. Sustainability, crop scouting and "extra mile" awards will also be given, each worth \$150.

To participate in 2017, youth must complete and return an entry form by March 15<sup>th</sup> to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at [cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities](http://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities). For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at [brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu](mailto:brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu), Aaron Nygren at [anygren2@unl.edu](mailto:anygren2@unl.edu) or Amy Timmerman at [atimmerman2@unl.edu](mailto:atimmerman2@unl.edu).

### **4-H Clover Chase:**

Nebraska 4-H, in partnership with the [Nebraska 4-H Foundation](http://Nebraska 4-H Foundation), is celebrating

the [Nebraska Statehood 150](http://Nebraska Statehood 150) with the 4-H Clover Chase!

Between March 1 - August 15, 2017, Nebraska 4-H will be hosting a photo scavenger hunt for all 4-H members. Using an app, participants will complete challenges and submit photo entries on social media using #NE4HChase. After submitting photos and earning 150 points, participants will be eligible to receive a commemorative water bottle from their local Nebraska Extension Office and will be entered into a drawing to win a drone with video capability.

Complete details about the 4-H Clover Chase can be found at <http://4h.unl.edu/clover-chase>. Celebrate Nebraska's Statehood, and Nebraska 4-H, by participating in this fun-filled opportunity with your friends, club, or family!

### **Nebraska Beef Ambassador Contest**

The Nebraska Beef Ambassador Contest provides an opportunity for youth to become spokespersons and future leader in the beef industry. The contest will take place April 8th at 8:00 am on East Campus in Lincoln, NE.

Age Divisions:  
(by January 1, 2017)  
Senior 14-18 years old  
Collegiate 19-24 years old

Both division contestants will compete in three different areas.

1. Consumer Promotion – A mock consumer promotion event will be set up for contestants. Mock consumers will approach the contestant and ask questions testing the contestant's knowledge, capacity to perform in the field and ability to present the different cuts of beef in a positive light.
2. Media Interview - Contestants will participate in a mock media interview. The interview will have pre-determined questions to ask each contestant with the option to ask follow-up questions to extrapolate additional knowledge or clarify a point. Contestants will be judged on their knowledge, articulation, poise, and ability to tell the "beef production story" in a positive light.
3. Issue Response – Each contestant will be provided with a recently published negative news article regarding the beef industry. Contestants will be given 30 minutes to write a brief (250 words or less) response to the article. The article will be judged for accuracy, message, and ability to send the correct message for the industry.

Cash prizes will be awarded as follows:

- Senior Division  
1st-\$125, 2nd-\$100 & 3rd-\$75
- Collegiate Division  
1st-\$200, 2nd-150 & 3rd-\$125

Custom Belt Buckles will be awarded to division winners. Upon completion of the requirements, the Collegiate winner will receive a scholarship from the Nebraska Cattlemen's Foundation in the amount of \$1200.

For any more information please call 308-760-6464.

### **District Horse Show**

The 2017 Nebraska District 4-H Horse Show will be held on June 14th in Wayne for our district. All level testing required for participation in the 2017 District 4-H Horse shows must be completed by May 12, 2017. Entries are due to the county office by May 12, 2017.

### **Northeast Nebraska 4-H Horse Show**

The Northeast Nebraska 4-H Horse Show will be held this year on June 1st near Homer, NE. This is a great opportunity to help prepare for District Shows. The flyer and registration papers are attached and can also be found at: [https://unl.app.box.com/files/0/f/3363212624/1/f\\_135982707108](https://unl.app.box.com/files/0/f/3363212624/1/f_135982707108).

Early Bird Registration is due Friday, May 26, 2017 to the Thurston County Extension Office! If interested please contact Nebraska Extension – Thurston County 402-385-6041.

### **Rabbit Show!**

The Lancaster County Rabbit VIPS Committee will again be hosting a Spring 4-H Rabbit Show.

- Saturday, March 25
- Registration 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
- Show starts at 9 a.m.
- Lancaster Event Center - Exhibit Hall

This is a great show for youth new to showing rabbits! A very knowledgeable VIPS committee will be present, and more than happy to help answer any questions 4-Hers and their families might have. Also, a few good 4-H rabbits for sale at this show. To check out the flyer go to <http://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/rabbit/RabbitShowSpring17.pdf>

### **Learning Opportunities:**

#### **Tractor Safety Training 2017**

All youth aged 14 and 15 and working on a

farm or ranch other than their own MUST be certified through a Hazardous Occupations Course. Successful completion of the course will allow trained youth to operate an approximately 20 PTO horsepower tractor, or to connect or disconnect an implement or any of its parts to or from a tractor. Cost: \$60

For more information, contact Site Coordinator at an Extension office near you:

- Kearney Fairgrounds (308) 236-1235  
May 30 & 31
- Wayne Fairgrounds (402) 584-2234  
June 19 & 20
- Grand Island College Park (308) 385-5088  
July 10 & 11

### **Makin Bacon.. And a Whole Lot More**



The Nebraska Youth Pork Conference, "Makin' Bacon ... and a WHOLE Lot More!" has been rescheduled for Wednesday, May 31 through Friday, June 2.

Intermixed throughout the conference, youth will be engaged in interactive activities to enhance life skills including leadership and communication. There is no cost for any youth participants, as the conference is 100% funded by the Nebraska Pork Producers Association, the Nebraska Corn Board, and the Nebraska Soybean Board in addition to Animal Science and UNL Extension! As a result, we do ask that all potential youth participants apply online at <http://www.nepork.org>, then under the "youth" tab, select "Makin' Bacon .." Applications are due April 1, and we will notify those individuals selected to participate no later than April 15. All applicants must be 16 at the time of the conference.

### **Upcoming Events**

- March 15 - Innovative Youth Corn Challenge registration Deadline
- March 18 - Sewing Saturday 9:00 am -12:00 pm @ Extension Office
- March 21 - Master Gardener Training at the Life Long Learning Center in Norfolk
- March 25 - Rabbit Show at Lancaster Event Center
- March 31 - 4-H Enrollment Deadline
- April 1 - Deadline to claim your free chicks
- April 8 - Nebraska Beef Ambassador Contest on East Campus in Lincoln, NE
- April 15 - Application for Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute is due
- April 17 - Deadline to register for 4-H Speech & Presentation Contests



APPLICATION  
FOR  
4-H CAMP SCHOLARSHIP



(Deadline to apply June 1, 2017)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended 4-H camp before? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_

What 4-H camp are you planning to attend this year? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_ What is the length of the camp? \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR OWN HANDWRITING:

1. Why do you want to attend this camp?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What do you hope to learn or experience at camp?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How do you plan to share your camp experiences with others?