

Nebraska Extension



Webster County 4-H News



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.....**STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSES MOUTH**

**Duane A. Lienemann, Nebraska Extension Educator – Webster County
May-June 2016 Edition**

Wow, can graduation be upon us already? Of course that means that the end of school and the start of Summer activities are only a few weeks away? As we go through the end of Spring, I would bet that many of our exhibitors are directing their attentions to working on their projects, finding lambs, hogs, goats and perhaps breaking their beef to lead. It doesn't seem possible that the school year is just about done and fair time will be upon us!

ALL LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS PLEASE NOTE!!

GETTING READY FOR FAIR.....

Livestock Identification Sheets Due June 15: ID forms must be completely filled out and signed and submitted to our office. All breeding beef, bucket calves, feeder calves, rabbits, sheep, goat exhibits, and swine exhibits have to be identified on the appropriate forms at that time. If you don't have a form, please stop by or give us a call. You may want to note that **all breeding animals that are to be entered at the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben must also have a nominating card (available from our office) turned in by June 15!** Also don't forget that all breeding heifers—purebred or commercial must have legible tattoos in their ears and be identified as such on their ID forms. Purebred heifers need to have a copy of their registration paper attached to the final entry form.

Number of Beef, Sheep, Goat and Swine Entries per Exhibitor: “Any livestock exhibitor may show up to 10 animals of any particular species in the project area they should choose show.” That means that you can show up to 10 animals in each species. So if you choose to take 3 market beef, 2 stocker-feeders and 5 breeding beef or any combination, you would be in compliance. Another example may be swine. You could take conceivably 2 “pen of three” of market hogs and four breeding gilts or any combination up to 10 head of swine - should you choose to go that route. The same would apply to sheep, goats, chickens and rabbits. Remember that this rule is species specific, so you are not limited to a total of 10 animals.

Clarification on Pen of Three: Exhibitors should be aware of what consists of Pen of Three such as we have in market swine, market goats and market lambs: “**The exhibitor must identify the three individual animals that will show in the pen of three even though they may have more than three market animals at the fair.**” That means that you have to identify at weigh-in which lambs, chickens, goats or swine that will make up your each “pen of three”. You cannot choose after the judging.

Youth Livestock Quality Assurance: All 4-Her's enrolled in swine, beef, sheep, dairy goat, dairy cattle, meat goat, rabbits or poultry need to complete Livestock Quality Assurance, and you must have a current YLQA card to show at county and state fair.

Again this year, you can use the on-line module course at <http://campus.extension.org/enrol/index.php?id=527>. Youth are required to complete 3 modules in their appropriate age division by July 1, 2016. Each youth is required to have their own email address to participate in the on-line module course. You are to use the same user name and password that you used in 2015 for 2016. Please note – the enrollment key is: “Nebraska”. Also, make sure you are including “Webster” as your County when asked. Please Note: A more detailed document is on our website at <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/webster/> on how to “Moodle YLQA!”.



Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.
The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the non-discrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.



The Webster County Extension office will be conducting a free Youth Livestock Quality Assurance class that will take the place of the in-line method of obtaining your YLQA card. This training will be held just before the Webster County Sheep and Goat Clinic that is being offered by area sheep and goat producers. The class will start at 3:00 pm at the Webster County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall on May 19. Any youth livestock exhibitor may attend this session. Please note that if you are an FFA member, you can qualify for YLQA through your Ag Ed/FFA Advisor. You will need to have your ag teacher contact our office indicating that you have completed the requirements.

Pork Quality Assurance Plus: If an exhibitor is planning to go to the Nebraska State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben you must take a special Pork Quality Assurance Plus class. Exhibitors must this year go beyond the County Youth Livestock Quality Assurance provisions and get a PQA Plus card. Please contact our office for further information.

Nebraska Master Showmanship Contest: This will be the 11th year of the Nebraska Elite Showmanship Contest that includes representatives from each county who have won their County Fair Round Robin Showmanship Contest. The Elite Showman Competition is very similar to our county "Round Robin" contest, however the participants will not only need to demonstrate their beef, swine and sheep showmanship skills but also take a written test and be interviewed in the ring about the livestock industry. The contest is open to both 4-H and FFA competitors; however there may be only one exhibitor per county. We will once again send our winner this year to the State Contest. You can find more information at <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/showman/index.html> As you may recall, the participant that goes to the state competition must be exhibiting an animal at the Nebraska State Fair (hogs, cattle or sheep). So if the winner of our county competition is not going to the State Fair, then that right to represent our county moves to the next place competitor on down the line.



BEEF EXHIBITORS:

Beef Showmanship: Beef Showmanship will be held at 1:00 pm on Thursday afternoon this year. It continues to be separated from the regular beef show. **Remember:** The top two Senior and Intermediate Beef Showman will come back for the Grand Champion Showmanship Drive at 8:00 am on Friday morning (the same morning as the Market Beef Show)

Breeding Beef Registrations: Breeding beef registration papers are due in our office by June 15 and the registration must be in the name of the exhibitor, family or farm name. If we don't have papers, or at least an affidavit that proves that "Registration is Applied For", then the heifer in question will be entered automatically as a commercial heifer. All breeding heifers will be checked for tattoos at the chute that will be set up for this purpose right next to where we will be weighing in market beef. Tattoos of registered animals will be checked against the papers sent in to the office. Breeding beef exhibitors - Don't forget Junior Beef Herd. Request your herd book now. **Remember that all breeding beef that are to be entered at the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben must also have a nominating card turned in before June 15!**

Beef Registration Certificates: The registration certificate must indicate the current owner of the animal to be one of the following: (1) the name of the exhibitor (2) the name of the exhibitor and/or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family or (3) the family or ranch name or parent's name. Immediate family is defined as members of a household, including parents, brothers and sisters, and youth in care of the head of the household. Copies of the registration certificate must be submitted with entries. Original registration certificates must be presented at check-in at county fair and/or state fair. Animals whose registration papers are not approved for a specific breed division will show in the AOB class at the discretion of the Beef Superintendent.

Rules for Breeding Beef Breed: To be eligible to show in a registered class a breeding animal must be owned by the exhibitor by June 15 the current year and be registered by the official breed association. Breeding heifers must be recognized as registered and eligible to show by their respective state breed association to show in the registered classes. **There is no limit to the number of breeding animals that an exhibitor may bring as long as the total number of beef does not exceed 10.** A clarification of the breeding beef classes are as follows:



A. Angus Breed- Heifers must be registered in the American Angus Association.

B. In the Charolais Breed, heifers must have an AICA registration certificate and must be 100% purebred Charolais. All Charolais Percentage Heifers will be included in the AOB Class. These heifers must have a AICA Charolais-Cross Record and must be at least ½ blood or more charolais influence, i.e. be sired by a registered purebred Charolais bull or be out of a registered purebred Charolais female.

C. In the **Chianina** Breed, heifers must be registered in the American Chianina Association. Also includes Chimaine, Chiangus, or Chiford .

D. In the **Hereford and Polled Hereford** Breed, heifers must be registered with the American Hereford Association.

E. In the **Maine Anjou** Breed, heifers must be registered with the American Maine-Anjou Association and must be ¾ blood and above. Chimaine are not accepted.

F. In the **Shorthorn** breed, heifers must be registered with the American Shorthorn Association and must be 15/16 registered purebreds.

G. In the **Simmental** Breed, heifers must be registered with the American Simmental Association and must be ½ blood or higher (can be non-Simmental sired).

H. In the **Red Angus** breed- heifers must be registered with the Red Angus Association of America.

I. Heifers not meeting these requirements may be entered in the “**All Other Breeds**” (AOB) class i.e. Shorthorn Plus, Maintainer, or any registered purebred heifers not offered by Nebraska 4-H. Heifers entered in the AOB class must have appropriate registration papers.

Breeding Beef – All Other Breeds Classification: There has been some question on what is considered “All Other Breeds” or AOB in the breeding beef show. Here is a quick definition: “*All Other Breeds*” as listed in breeding beef classes are registered heifers for which a separate division is not listed. These heifers must meet their State or National Breed Association's criteria for exhibition. Registered animals in traditional beef breeding classes that do not have enough animals to complete a class may also be moved to AOB.”

Cow/Calf & Stocker Feeders at County Fair: The stocker feeder male may be a steer or a bull and may be shown with a cow in the Cow/Calf class and/or Junior Beef Herd. The Stocker Feeder Male division will be divided into two classes – steers and bulls. Note: **There is a special affidavit for Cow/Calf Pairs.** If you use the calf for both the Cow/Calf Pair and for Stocker Feeder the calf needs to be listed on two affidavits. (Cow/Calf + Stocker Feeder). It is preferred that the Cow/Calf Pair be exhibited throughout the fair, however because of the nature of dealing with a pair, the exhibitor may elect to take the pair home after completion of the show. Don't forget that all **stocker-feeder calves identified for Ak-Sar-Ben must be entered with DNA hair samples before June 15.** No bull calves are allowed at Ak-Sar-Ben.

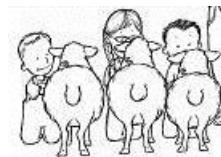
Long Yearling Heifer Class: Don't forget that we added a class for fall born breeding heifers. It allows those individuals with fall calving to be able to show their heifers. Always before, the earliest class of heifers was those born between January 1 and June 1 of the previous year. We will now allow heifers born between September 1 and December 31 of the year prior. Please remember that you can exhibit a heifer calf born a year ago this past fall (2015) at the county fair as a long (or fall born) yearling. They will be able to compete against the other classes for championship.

SHEEP AND GOAT EXHIBITORS:

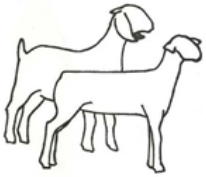
Weigh-in/Tag Day for Sheep & Goats: We will have a tag/weigh-in day for all sheep and goats that will be shown at county fair, State Fair, or Ak-Sar-Ben. This includes both breeding as well as market animals. It will not be mandatory if the sheep or goats are only going to our county fair. We will once again have a sheep rate of gain contest much like the beef, as well as a market goat rate of gain contest. In order to compete, you must **weigh in at the Webster County Fairgrounds on May 19 from 5:00-7:00 pm.** Or you may make arrangements with our office before June 12th for other considerations. Also, don't forget Junior Sheep Breeder's Flock. Request your flock book now. We have them in our office.



Adopt a Lamb for Fair: You still have time to participate in the Webster County “Adopt a Lamb Project” program this year. The idea is to promote 4-H and FFA youth to try their hand at something new. Here is how it works. Any 4-H or FFA youth who is interested in trying the market lamb project can contact the extension office to make application for up to three lambs. I suggest that you get more than one lamb, since sheep are gregarious animals and need to be in a flock (3), or at least a pair. If it is going to be put with other lambs with another exhibitor, then one would be acceptable. The Webster County Youth Foundation will buy the lambs, and then provide those lambs on a loan basis to interested youth. The exhibitor will feed and care for the lambs, either on their own place, or at another location, which could include another sheep exhibitor or a family willing to help them out. The new sheep exhibitor would then show the lamb(s) at the Webster County Fair, and then reimburse the Foundation for the original cost of lambs, after the lambs are sold at the livestock premium auction. Please contact our office at 402-746-3417. Your application for lambs is **due no later than May 15!** So if you are interested in the project contact our office!!



ID Rule for Sheep and Goats: Sheep and goats are now required to have two forms of identification. A 4-H or FFA tag plus, either a scrapies tag, or a **Nebraska 840 EID tag for those market animals that may go on to Nebraska State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben.** Currently only female and intact males need scrapie tags, but now all sheep and goats will need a second form of identification. Any ewe and/or intact ram of the ovine species (sheep) and any doe of the caprine species (meat goat) must have a “scrapies” tag in its ear and be identified with this unique tag number in addition to the 4-H tag on the 4-H/FFA entry form. This scrapies tag counts as one of the two tags required. **“No tags will be handed to exhibitor or parents. They will have to be put in the animals by a leader, extension educator, or FFA Advisor, and no sheep or beef entries will be**



weighed without a 4-H and/or FFA tag. Each sheep or goat must have two identifying tags and registered as such on the affidavit.” The exhibitor must make arrangements with the proper authorities if they need to tag outside of the official weigh-in times. **Remember that all breeding sheep and goats that are to be entered at the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben must also have a nominating card turned in before June 15!**

Market Goat Show: I suggest that you try to find a goat that has at least half “Boer” goat genetics. There are several breeders that you can consult for project animals. Market Meat goats may be either does or wethers. Don’t forget that we have a **market goat breeding female show** to go along with the normal market meat goat show. We have entry forms, manuals and other information for you in our office. They need to be tagged with the same tags we tag the breeding ewes with, plus the second tag which can be either a Scrapies or EID tag. Remember that this is a “market goat” breeding female class. Only female market goats will be allowed to show in this class and classes will be divided on the number of animals entered. Of course we will still have the traditional Market Goat classes as in the past.

Dairy Goat Show: NOTE: We have reinstated the dairy goat show for those exhibitors that have traditional dairy type goats. The total number of goats allowed apply to both Dairy and Meat Goat projects. Classes will be breeding only and will mirror the class structure of the Meat Goat Breeding Female show. Dairy goats must have either USDA Scrapies tag or herd tattoo plus their individual ID or 4-H tag.

Please Note: An **exhibitor may bring up to 10 head of goats** to the Webster Co Fair. They can be market or breeding or a combination. An exhibitor may show more than one pen of three, but they must be identified during weigh-in/check in during fair. It must be noted however that only one unit (up to a pen of three) of market goats may be entered into the livestock premium auction. However, any and all goats may be put on the truck and sold to the packer for packer bid. **Don’t forget that there will be a “Best Dressed Goat” contest again this year.** Use your imagination. It could prove to be a fun and entertaining part of the fair.

SWINE EXHIBITORS:

Swine Identification: 4-H or FFA tags are required at Webster County and universal notches must be in the respective pig’s ears if they are going on to State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben and both need to be on the identification sheet prior to June 15. **Please note that any 4-H or FFA market hog that may go on to the Nebraska State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben must have a Nebraska 840 EID tag.** You will also need to obtain hair samples for DNA if the pigs may be going to State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben in 4-H. You will need to request envelopes and pull samples from your pigs before the June 12 date and get them to our office. State Fair will allow pigs previously exhibited at a county fair to be entered at State Fair. Remember though that any swine going beyond our County Fair has to be notched and identified as such on the ID sheet.



The exhibitor may show in market swine or breeding swine classes. Please consult your Webster County Fair Book for weight restrictions.

Breeding Gilts: **Please note:** You cannot enter the breeding gilts in the premium auction, but they may be either taken home or put on the truck with the market hogs. **Remember that all breeding swine that are to be entered at the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben must also have a nominating card turned in before June 15!**

Market Swine: An exhibitor may show more than one pen of three market swine, but they must be identified during weigh-in/check in during fair. It must be noted however that only one unit (up to a pen of three) of market hogs may be entered into the livestock premium auction. However, any and all hogs may be put on the truck and sold to the packer for packer bid

NOTE: If you elect to take your pigs at the state fair please read: “The following guidelines are required by Hormel for purchase of show pigs from the Nebraska State Fair. All exhibitors shipping animals to Hormel must: **1.** Be PQA+ trained by a certified PQA+ Youth trainer and assigned a PQA+ number which will be requested when state fair pre-entries are completed. **2.** Record the PQA+ number on the Hormel Swine Affidavit which is sent to Hormel at the time of shipping. **3.**

Provide a Premise ID number when completing pre-entries. **4. Complete all sections of the official Hormel Swine Affidavit and send it to Hormel at the time of shipping.** We have copies of the Hormel Swine Affidavit and Treatment Record in our office. **If you don't have your PQA number you need to get that done in this coming month!**

Webster County Youth Foundation Adopt a Swine Project: We want to congratulate three Webster County youth for applying for and receiving pigs this year. Ben and Gage Ely & Ethan Sharp all have received pens of three market hogs. We want to thank Wilson Alber for helping us with this project. He is the contact person for this endeavor.

HORSE EXHIBITORS:

Horse ID's, District, State & Ak-Sar-Ben Shows: Please note that all horse ID's and entries for District and State Horse Shows are due to our office **by Monday, May 9** with no exceptions. ***PLEASE NOTE!!** All Level testing required for District and/or State Horse Show entry **MUST** be completed by the time entries are submitted to the County office on May 9th! The entry form for District and State Horse Shows are available in our office or website or from the UNL extension website at <http://www.animalscience.unl.edu/extension/equine/4H.html>



Horse Program Policy: 4-H Horse Leaders Please Note: The 4-H Horse Program implemented a new that all leaders who give the skills portion of the level 1 and 2 advancement level tests will be required to take a certification course in order to give these tests.

- Online course
 - The course is located at <http://campus.extension.org/>
 - Then once on that site search courses for: **Nebraska Advancement Level Youth Leader Certification**
 - Once you have located the course you will need to create a new account.
 - Start the course
 - You will need to watch all the videos, take the quizzes and then you will receive a certificate indicating the completion of the course
- If you are in the process of performing the skills test with youth please continue doing so we just ask that you complete the certification course before entries are due for the District and State Horse Shows.

2016 District Horse Shows: The District Horse Show sites have been set. This year they will be held at the following locations: June 13: Buffalo County Fairgrounds - Kearney, NE; June 14: Dawes County Fairgrounds - Chadron, NE; June 15: Kiplinger Arena at Red Willow County Fairgrounds - McCook, NE; June 16: Colfax County Fairgrounds - Leigh, NE; June 17: Knox County Fairgrounds, Bloomfield, NE; and June 21: Lancaster Event Center - Lincoln, NE. For entry forms and more information go on the web at: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>



2016 State Horse Exposition: Bad news for our county horse exhibitors. The dates for the 2016 Fonner Park - State Horse Show this year fall smack on top of our County Fair. We will of course work with any 4-H exhibitor that is planning to try to both County Fair and State Horse Show. The dates for this year are **July 10 -14, 2016**. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the event. <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>

Webster County Classic Horse Show: The Webster County Wranglers 4-H Club will once again be putting on the **Webster County Classic Horse Show on June 11th at the Webster County Fairgrounds in Bladen**. There are ribbons and prizes for the winners. You can contact our office or Sylvia Fink for more information. Contact our office for flyers and more information on this event.

Guide Rock Horse Show: The Guide Rock Horse Show will be held at the **Rockin' G Horse Arena in Guide Rock on June 19th**. This show is an annual show put on by the Guide Rock Warriors. You can contact our office for flyers or more information.

Horse Show Rule Clarification: The following clarification of rules for the horse show appears in this year's fair book. It is as follows: "Walk & trot classes are for beginning riders. If entered in walk & trot pleasure & horsemanship an exhibitor cannot enter reining, trail & speed events. If an exhibitor chooses to participate in the Walk & Trot they are excluded from all performance and speed events except halter and showmanship."



Conditional Level I Status: Since we do have a rule that a horse exhibitor must have a minimum of “Level I Horse Advancement Certificate” in order to ride all events at the county fair, it is imperative that equine exhibitors work to achieve at least that level. However, it will be up to the 4-H Horse leader to qualify if these exhibitors are full Level I or if they meet only a conditional Level I, in which the Leader designates what events that an exhibitor is qualified for. 4-H Leaders will indicate to our office on a check sheet which events that an exhibitor can participate.

Please note that some of you may have to take the time to update your levels. You can now access all of the information about the 4-H Horse Project Advancement Levels on the web. You will find the same information that is in the booklet, plus some "Helpful Web Sites" for members to find information while preparing for each Level. The web site is:

<http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>

Please check with our office if you are not sure which level you have achieved. Please do not wait until county fair time to get your levels taken care of. Here are the Horse Project Level Advancement classes and the requirements for each:

Junior Division: Pleasure Walk & Trot; Hunter Saddle Seat; English Equitation; Western Pleasure; Horsemanship Walk & Trot; Western Horsemanship; Trail; and Reining *all require a Level I Horse Advancement Certificates.*

Intermediate (Performance Classes): English Pleasure; English Equitation; Western Pleasure; Horsemanship; and Reining all require *Level I at County Fair* and Level II Advancement Level at State Horse Show: Trail - *requires Level II County Fair* and Level III at State Horse Show: Western Riding - *requires Level II at County Fair* and Level IV at State Horse Show.

Senior (Performance Classes): English Pleasure; English Equitation; Western Pleasure; and Horsemanship *all require Level II Advancement Certificate* at County and State Horse Show: Trail - *requires Level II at County Fair* and Level III at District and State Horse Shows: Western Riding - *requires Level III at County Fair* and Level IV at District and State Horse Show.

Junior (Timed Classes): Pole Bending and Barrel Racing *both require participants to be at Level I Advancement at the County Fair* and Level II at the District and State Horse Show.

Intermediate (Timed Classes): Pole Bending and Barrel Racing *both require participants to be at Level I Advancement at the County Fair* and Level II at the District and State Horse Show.

Senior (Timed Classes): Pole Bending and Barrel Racing *both require participants to be at Level II Advancement at the County Fair* and Level II at the District and State Horse Show.

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POULTRY EXHIBITORS:

Poultry Rules: An exhibitor may enter in **both** broiler classes and production trio classes (3 laying hens or 2 laying hens and a rooster). Exhibitors must be present at time of judging, since poultry will be judged out of their cages. Weight standards for various breeds will be those as set by the American Poultry Association “Standards of Perfection”. Poultry must be grown in club member's current poultry project year after January 1, 2016 to be eligible to exhibit in age specific classes. To be eligible to exhibit in the aged poultry classes, the poultry must have been exhibited at the county fair in a previous year or raised in a previous year but too young to exhibit. Don't forget that the poultry were split into Bantam and Standard classes with classes respectively in Cockerel, Pullet, Trio, Aged Rooster, Aged Hen and Production Trio. There is a Duck Division followed by an All Other Poultry Division which would include species like guinea hens, turkeys, geese, pea hens, etc.

Poultry Clinic and Judging: The Southern Plains Poultry Clinic and Judging Day will held in Deshler, NE on Thursday, June 9th starting at 1:00 p.m. It is a great opportunity for any of you who want to excel at your poultry project or are interested in competing at the PASE completion in Lincoln. Contact our office for more information.

2016 NEBRASKA STATE FAIR & AK-SAR-BEN LIVESTOCK SHOWS

DNA Requirements: In 2016 all 4-H market beef, market lambs, market swine and meat goats are required to be DNA identified for the Nebraska State Fair, Ak-Sar-Ben as well as the American Royal. Any animal that you want to nominate for Ak-Sar-Ben, State Fair or American Royal must be identified, and DNA'd by the due date of the particular animal affidavit. DNA sampling costs \$6 per sample. All breeding animals that may be going to either the Nebraska State Fair and/or Ak-Sar-Ben must have **nominating cards turned in by June 15**. All market animals must have the proper Nebraska 840 EID Tag.

All 4-H Feeder Calves must be nominated by **DNA hair sample by June 15th** to be eligible for the 2016 Ak Sar Ben Exposition. Materials may be obtained by contacting our office. The cost to nominate by DNA for feeder calves is \$5 per head.

2016 Nebraska State Fair: It will not be long and we will be looking at making entries for the Nebraska State Fair. You may want to put the dates on your calendar. For you that are counting down, it is about 110 days away. Of course the State Fair runs for several days with most of the 4-H and FFA Exhibitor Livestock Events occurring over Labor Day weekend as usual. Please mark August 26 - September 5 on your calendar. The bulk of the 4-H and FFA portion will be held Labor Day weekend (September 2-5). You can access more information as well as 4-H and FFA sections by going on the web to: <http://www.statefair.org/> and specifically if you want information on 4-H and FFA portions of the fair got to: <http://www.statefair.org/p/getinvolved/4h-ffa>

2016 Nebraska State Fair Book –The 2016 Nebraska State Fair Book is available on the State 4-H Web page at: <http://4h.unl.edu/fairbook>. There are a number of changes being made to the Nebraska State Fair Book and these changes will be reflected in the 2016 Webster Co. Fair Book. If you have questions about any of the changes or additions, please call the Extension office.

Ak Sar Ben Dates: The CenturyLink Center in Omaha is the site of the 2016 Ak-Sar-Ben show. This is the 89th Edition of the show. It is scheduled for Sept. 22-25 with the bulk of the show on the weekend. All rules and a brief list of changes are posted on the Ak-Sar-Ben website at <http://www.aksarbenrodeo.com/p/events/stockshow> They no longer give out Ak-Sar-Ben books, but you can download them on web at this URL, or you can contact us and we can burn it to a CD.

Ak-Sar-Ben Swine: Ak-Sar-Ben will have Breeding Gilt classes again this year. Breeding Gilts must be identified with ear notches and a registration number (if they are purebred) **by June 15**. Individual exhibitors may exhibit a maximum of 3 breeding gilts at the show. You can download them at: <http://www.aksarbenrodeo.com/p/events/stockshow/entryinformation> Please note any pork exhibitor at Ak-Sar-Ben must hold a **PQA Plus card and any market swine must have the Nebraska 840 EID in place**. That means you have to go one step beyond our local Quality Assurance!!

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF OUR MEMBERS AND FAMILIES:

South Central Livestock Clinic & Judging Contest in Bladen: The Webster County Fairgrounds in Bladen will be the site of the South Central Nebraska Livestock Clinic and Judging Contest that will be held on **Wednesday, June 1**. Be sure to put it on your calendar as this is a chance for Webster County 4-H and FFA youth to have a major judging contest and clinic right at our doorstep! We have flyers and registration forms in our office. You will also be able to get them at <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/webster/>. You can enter as an individual or better yet put together a team and compete for team awards. We have some good livestock judges in Webster County, utilize this clinic and contest to sharpen your eye and it will help you get ready for other 4-H and FFA judging events. **HELP!** We need some help in finding some animals or groups of animals to make up the judging classes of breeding and market sheep, breeding and market beef, swine, and market goats. If you, or if you know anyone that is willing to help us line up animals for the clinic and judging contest, please give us a call. We will need some individual animals that can be used for the judging contest (4 in a class).



South Central Nebraska Livestock Exposition: The Webster County 4-H Junior Leaders will be sponsor a progress show for sheep, goats and beef. There is a nice purse available to exhibitors. There are discounted entry fees for exhibitors from Webster County. The **“South Central Livestock Exposition” will be held at the Webster County Fairgrounds at Bladen on Saturday, June 4**. This is an excellent way to get your livestock project ready for the fair, acclimated to the arena and barns and to see how you are doing in reaching the proper show weight and if they are properly broken or halter trained for show. Please contact Webster County 4-H Junior Leaders or our office for more information. We have flyers and registration forms in our office. You will also be able to get them off our website at <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/webster/>

PASE – Premier Animal Science Events---We are looking for individuals who want to be a part of one of the Webster County PASE teams. The 2016 event will take place on **June 19-21** at UNL, East Campus. Please mark your calendars for this event and please think about working towards being on one of the individual teams on Livestock Quiz Bowl, Skill-A-Thon, Livestock Judging, Meats Judging etc. Please let me know if you are interested. Please consider this and forward your name or names for inclusion on a select team in the following areas: **4-H Livestock Judging Contest (Intermediate and Senior teams), 4-H Meats Judging Contest team, 4-H or FFA Poultry Judging Contest team, 4-H General Livestock Quiz Bowl team and of course the Livestock Skill-A-Thon.**

Here is a chance to compete on the state level and perhaps qualify to represent Nebraska at Louisville, KY or Denver, CO, American Royal at Kansas City or other national contests – don't miss out! More information on each area is available on the web at: <http://4h.unl.edu/paselifechallenge> I have put together some good resources that you can use on the computer on all of the PASE events. It comprises of information in several different skill areas, each on a CD disk. Please contact me if you want this information and I will burn you a copy. Please reserve those dates on your calendar as we will be putting teams together in the next couple of months.

Livestock Judging Camp: Animal evaluation skills and livestock programs at a mini “boot camp” will be featured May 25 at the NCTA Standard of Excellence Livestock Judging Camp at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis. The camp for youth ages 8 to 18 will feature animal evaluation skills and oral reasons of beef, swine, sheep and goats. Judging Camp allows various levels of participation for partial registration, meals and overnight lodging at the NCTA dormitories, or a 2-day package to include Nebraska Extension's Youth Animal Science Field Day on May 26 (See on next page). Registrations are requested by May 18. For online registration and clinic schedule, see: <http://go.unl.edu/fi82> I will be in attendance for both the Camp and the Animal Science Field Day so if your parents can get you there—I can get you home!!

West Central Youth Animal Science Field Day: Activities on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) campus in Curtis will focus on the many different aspects of livestock production. Participants will gain important life skills such as communication, critical thinking, problem solving and teamwork. Youth (8-18) will also increase their basic understanding of science, ag literacy, and technology. They will be able to apply science skills to their 4-H projects and explore careers related to Animal Science. The event will begin with registration at 9:15 am and should finish by 4:00 pm. The event will involve people from the 20-county West Central District. Preregistration is due by May 18. There is a \$5 registration fee which will be collected at the door, and lunch will be provided. Organizers will combine youth into smaller age groups/teams who will be encouraged to work together throughout the day as they rotate through seven stations. Station topics include: Workshops include: Understand the Inside of a Horse; Explore the Life of a Vet Tech; Hands-on Sheep Processing; Live Meat Evaluation in Marketing; Know Your Cuts of Meat; Animal Quality Assurance; Animal Science Careers; and Animal Nutrition. The stations are designed to be learning experiences in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Parents and other adults interested in the livestock industry and in educating youth are encouraged to register and participate. Contact our office for a flyer, information or to register. Our office would like to take youth to this event so just let us know if you wish to go!

Calendar of Events: I have attached a Calendar of Events to the end of this letter that may affect our 4-H and FFA families. If anyone knows of other events that should be included, please email them to me at dlienemann2@unl.edu and we will add them. Enough from the “old hoss”---let's see what else is in the 4-H news and what Carol and Liz have for you!



Congratulations to our 2016 High School Graduates!
We wish you all the best in your future plans!

Webster County Fair Information: The 2016 Webster County Fair Books are in and we will hopefully be getting them to your leaders by the end of next week. Members can get their books from their 4-H Leaders and/or FFA Advisors. You can also access the fair book via internet by going to the Webster County Extension site at: <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/webster/4h/> We will also be including your final enrollment forms (which will be due back to our office by June 15th) and other entry forms.

Regional 4-H Public Speaking Contest Held



Sixty-seven 4-H'ers were awarded ribbons at the 2016 West Central Regional 4-H Public Speaking Contest, held April 30 in North Platte, NE.

In the Junior (10 years of age and younger), Intermediate (11 to 13 years of age), and Senior (14 to 18 years of age) division speakers were required to prepare an original speech on an aspect relating to their 4-H experience. The top four speakers in Senior division Speech and PSA will represent the region at the State 4-H Speaking Contest held during the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island. The contest is sponsored by the Nebraska Rural Radio Network.

Former 4-H'ers have said that participation in the 4-H Public Speaking program has helped them develop skills that have benefited them in high school, college and on the job. By learning how to present a speech youth develop organizational skills as well as communication skills. Being able to present your ideas effectively helps build confidence.

Webster County's own Libby Macklin of the Webster County Wranglers received a blue ribbon in the Junior Division Speech Contest. We are very proud of her! She represented our county very well!

Raising Nebraska to hold competitive food preparation event for youth

Raising Nebraska, the agricultural literacy exhibit open year-round at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds, is hosting a competitive food preparation event for youth ages 10-18. The Nebraska Mystery Foods Event is on June 3 at 1 p.m. in Grand Island.

The Nebraska Mystery Foods Event will provide a fun and safe environment for youth to take staple ingredients and create a dish highlighting Nebraska grown foods. Once the dish is prepared, each team of 2-4 will give a short presentation to the judges. Prizes will be awarded for best use of a mystery ingredient, best speaking presentation and best appearance of dish. "The event is a fun opportunity for any youth that may be thinking about a career in food, nutrition or food science," said Elizabeth Janning, extension educator with Nebraska Extension. "The event is centered on food, but it encompasses and engages 21st century skills such as teamwork and public speaking.

The entry fee of \$20 per team is due by May 23. Youth will be split up into two divisions; 10-14 year olds and 15-18 year olds. There is a limit of 10 teams per division. For complete rules and to download an entry form, visit www.raisingnebraska.net.



UNL Extension Tractor Safety Courses Offered Across Nebraska

LINCOLN, Neb. -- Nebraska Extension Tractor Safety/Hazardous Occupations Courses will be offered at seven locations in Nebraska during May and June. Any 14 or 15-year-old teen who plans to work on a farm other than his/her parents' should plan to attend.

Federal law prohibits youth under 16 years of age from working on a farm for anyone other than their parents or guardian. Certification through the course grants an exemption to the law allowing 14- and 15-year-olds to drive a tractor and to do field work with mechanized equipment.

Classes consist of two days of instruction plus homework assignments. Classes are from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day. Dates and locations include:

- May 23-24, Fairgrounds, Kearney -- May 26-27, Fairgrounds, McCook
- June 2-3, Fairgrounds, Valentine -- June 13-14, West Central Research and Extension Center, North Platte
- June 16-17, Legacy of the Plains Museum, Gering -- June 20-21, Fairgrounds, Wayne
- June 23-24, College Park, Grand Island -- July 6-7, Fairgrounds, Gordon

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged at least one week before a location's start date to the Extension Office at the course site. Cost is \$60, which includes educational materials, testing, supplies, lunches and breaks. For more information, contact your local Extension Office or Aaron Yoder at (402) 552-7240, aaron.yoder@unmc.edu or Ellen Duysen at (402) 552-3394, ellen.duysen@unmc.edu.

Carol & Liz

Explore the Outdoors

Adams/Clay/Webster 4-H Day Camp

Tuesday, June 7, 2016



Liberty Cove, Lawrence, NE
9:30am – 7:00pm
Open to all youth ages 8-12

Families are invited to join us during the last session for a pot-luck meal

Explore the great outdoors in this “**jammed packed day**” full of outdoor science exploration.

Sessions Include

Fishing
Outdoor Scavenger Game
Wildlife Tracks
Bugs
Grilling Safety



Cost of this 4-H Camp is \$10 per child. Youth do not need to be in 4-H to participate. To pre-register, contact the Webster County Extension Office at 402-746-3417 or email steve.landon@unl.edu
Registrations are due May 27, 2016.

Webster County 4-H Calendar of Events

May 6: Blue Hill FFA Banquet, 6:00 pm, Blue Hill Community Schools, Blue Hill, NE
May 9: Webster County Horse ID Affidavits Due to Extension Office
May 12: Webster County Fair Board Meeting, 8:00 pm, 4-H & FFA Exhibit Hall, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
May 15: Custer County Challenge, Custer Co Fairgrounds, Broken Bow, NE 308-870-1971 stbmr@aol.com
May 17: Shrine Circus, Adams County Fairgrounds, Hastings, NE www.adamscountyfairgrounds.com
May 19: Webster County Youth Livestock Quality Assurance Class, 3:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
May 19: Webster County Sheep and Goat Weigh-In, 5:00-7:00 pm, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
May 21: Deuel County Livestock Progress Show, Deuel County Fairgrounds, Chappell, NE spaisley3@unl.edu 308-874-2705
May 25: Barrel Racing, 7:00 pm, Webster County Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena, Bladen, NE sylvia_fink@hotmail.com
May 25: West Central NCTA Livestock Judging Clinic, UNSTA, Curtis, NE
May 26: West Central Animal Science Day, UNSTA, Curtis, NE
May 26: 2016 State Horse Evaluation, Pohlman Ag Complex, Northeast Comm College, Norfolk, NE mikesr@northeast.edu
May 27: Lively Livestock Sheep and Goat Progress Show, 2:30 pm, York County Fairgrounds, York, NE 402-366-1332
May 28: Lively Livestock Swine Progress Show, 7:30 am, York County Fairgrounds, York, NE 402-366-1332
May 28: Beef & Swine-Arama, Boone Co. Fairgrounds, Albion, NE <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/>
May 29: Goat & Sheep-Arama, Boone Co. Fairgrounds, Albion, NE <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/boone-nance/>
June 1: South Central Nebraska Livestock Judging Contest, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE ckumke2@unl.edu
June 3: Final Day for Registration for Premier Animal Science Events, Contact Carol Kumke at ckumke2@unl.edu
June 3-4: Cattlemen's Ball of Nebraska, Lienetics Angus Ranch, Princeton, NE <http://cattlemensball.com/>
June 3-4: SC Nebraska Livestock Expo – Sheep, Goat & Beef Show, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE ckumke2@unl.edu
June 3-5: Nebraska Junior Hereford Show, Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE www.nebraskaherefords.com/juniors/
June 4: Boots and Saddles 4-H Horse Show, Keith Co Fairgrounds, Ogallala, NE 308-284-6051
June 6-10: Nebraska Youth Range Camp, Halsey State 4-H Camp <http://www.nesrm.org/YouthRangeCamp.html>
June 7: Explore the Outdoors, Adams/Clay/Webster 4-H Day Camp, Liberty Cove, Lawrence, NE steve.landon@unl.edu
June 7-9: Winners Unlimited Livestock Judging Camp, Ani Sci Complex, East Campus UNL, Lincoln, NE bbennett8@unl.edu
June 8: Webster County Culinary Challenge, 7:00 p, Exhibit Hall, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE ckumke2@unl.edu
June 9: Webster County Fair Board Meeting, 8:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
June 11: Nebraska Livestock Judging Classic, Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE brian.bosshamer@unl.edu
June 11: Wranglers 4-H Club Fitting & Showing Clinic, Stanton Co Fairgrounds, Stanton, NE Jaci Bruhn 402-649-0697
June 11: Webster Co Wranglers Open 4-H Horse Show, Webster Co Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE Sylvia_Fink@yahoo.com
June 11: Bridle and Saddle 4-H/Open Horse Show, Cass County Fair Grounds, Weeping Water, NE sondra.buell@unl.edu
June 11-13: Winners Unlimited Livestock Judging Camp, Ani Sci Complex, East Campus UNL, Lincoln, NE bbennett8@unl.edu
June 12: Dawes County 4-H & FFA Goat, Beef, & Sheep Progress Show, Dawes Co. Fairgrounds, Chadron, NE 308-432-3373
June 13: Webster County Extension Board Meeting, 8:00 pm 4-H and FFA Exhibit Hall, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
June 13-21: District 4-H Horse Shows, Various locations: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>
June 15: Webster County Final Entry Day for all Sheep, Goats and Swine and Static Entries. Breeding Animal Nomination cards due.
June 15: Webster County Youth Council Meeting, 8:00 pm, Exhibit Hall, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
June 16-18: Nebraska High School Rodeo Finals, Adams Co. Fairgrounds, Hastings, NE www.adamscountyfairgrounds.com
June 18-25: National Junior Maine and Chianina Show, NE State Fairgrounds, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE
June 18: Perkins County 4-H Horse Show, Perkins Co. Fairgrounds, Grant, NE 308-326-4279 khilfer@nebnet.net
June 19: Rockin "G" Horse Show, Guide Rock, NE
June 19: Stanton FFA Beef & Sheep Progress Show, Stanton Co Fairgrounds, Stanton, NE Morgan Schwartz 402-640-6481
June 19-21: Premier Animal Science Events, UNL East Campus Ani Sci Bldg, Lincoln, NE
June 25: The Final Drive Sheep and Goat Progress Show, Fillmore County Fairgrounds, Geneva, NE 402-759-1885
June 25: 4-H Invitational Horse Show, Reg: 7:00 am Show: 8:00 am, Buffalo County Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE 308-236-1235
June 25: Wheeler County Beef Progress Show, Wheeler County Fairgrounds, Bartlett, NE Mark Landgren 308-654-3313
June 25: Barrel Racing, 12:00 noon, Webster County Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena, Bladen, NE sylvia_fink@hotmail.com
June 25: Cornhusker Classic Sheep and Goat Show, Webster County Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE Lee Dana 402-984-0132
July 1: Webster County Clothing Judging, Blue Hill Community Schools, Blue Hill, NE
July 2: Platte Valley 4 Paws Open Dog Show, Beef Arena, Lincoln Co Fairgrounds, North Platte, NE plattevalley4paws@gmail.com
July 3-9: National Junior Angus Show, Nebraska State Fairgrounds, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE
July 9-16: Webster County Fair, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
July 10-14: State 4-H Horse Exhibition, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE <http://animalscience.unl.edu/horse-4-h-and-youth>
July 19: Webster County Post County Fair Improvement Meeting, 7:30 pm. Exhibit Hall, Webster Co. Fairgrounds, Bladen, NE
Aug. 24: Webster County 4-H Static Exhibits to Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island, NE
Aug. 26- Sept. 5: Nebraska State Fair, NE State Fairgrounds, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE
Sept. 1-5: Nebraska State Fair 4-H and FFA Livestock Exhibits, Nebraska State Fairgrounds, Fonner Park, Grand Island, NE
Sept. 10-11: 67th Annual Norfolk Beef Expo, NCC, Pohlman Ag Complex, Norfolk, NE Norfolk Chamber of Commerce
Sept. 16-17: Nebraska Sheep Breeders Sale, Custer Co. Fairgrounds, Broken Bow, NE
Sept 22-25: Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Show, CenturyLink Center, Omaha, NE