



Here's what to look out for in the upcoming month!

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Office Update:
The Extension office will be closed on *Friday, April 25* in observance of Arbor Day.

Spring has sprung in Colfax County! School programming is currently underway in several locations, so some of the 4-H'ers might have spotted Erin visiting their school recently. Baby chicks and butterflies will be hatching in classrooms soon - a sure sign of spring!

As a reminder, all club leaders should have their enrollment and volunteer screening completed by now. If not, please do so right away. Members should also be getting enrolled and selecting projects so they can get started. Feel free to contact the office about any project questions or issues with 4-H Online and we will try to help out.

If you have new families in your 4-H club, please submit their contact info (names, email, mailing address) to the extension office so we can add them to our mailing list.

Upcoming Events:

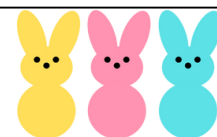
April 15th: NAYI registration deadline

April 20th : Easter holiday

April 25th: Extension Office closed in observance of Arbor Day

April 29th: Colfax County Ag Literacy Day, Leigh fairgrounds

May 13th: 4-H Council meeting, 7pm @ Howells Library





4-H Enrollment

Youth and volunteers can now enroll in 4-H for the new year. When re-enrolling, do not create a new account. Use your email address and password from last year to log in and start your re-enrollment for this year. The link to 4-Honline is: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

If you need assistance with completing your registration, please contact Brenda by calling the Extension office at (402) 352-3821 or email bdolezal2@unl.edu. You can also find some helpful resources to help you through this process at this link:

<https://4h.unl.edu/enrollment/>

When reviewing your information, please be sure your email address is one that your family regularly checks. This email address is where all your 4-H, newsletter, county fair, and state fair information is sent. Be sure to select Colfax County.

The enrollment fee is \$10 for both Clover Kids and traditional age 4-H members, which can be paid online with a credit/debit card or in the office with cash or a check. Please enroll as soon as possible.



Projects

A simplified project list is available for the new enrollment year. Please remember that this is for project enrollment, NOT fair entries.

A project is centered around a topic of interest for member(s) and should include a series of learning experiences. When you enroll in 4-HOnline be sure to complete your project enrollment. This information assists us with providing members with information they will need to complete their 4-H projects.



Kindness Matters

Nebraska Extension is participating in a "Kindness Matters" campaign and Colfax County is using this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our awesome 4-H community! We're starting with Renae Vogel. Renae is with the Howells 4-H Hustlers and has been involved with 4-H for 30 years as a club leader, fair superintendent, and 4-H Council member. She loves getting involved with the Clover Kids at the county fair and seeing their enthusiasm to show off their hard work. She also enjoys seeing her grandson get involved now. Thanks Renae!

Local Events & Opportunities



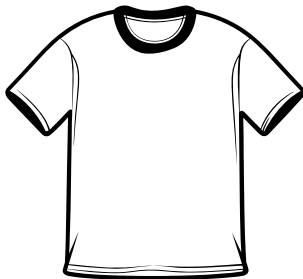
Summer Workshops

We are excited for a summer filled with fun learning opportunities! We are working on scheduling our Summer 2025 workshops in a wide variety of project areas. Please be sure to watch for an informational flyer with all of our summer workshop dates and topics. It will be sent out via email, Facebook, and in the May 4-H Newsletter.



Diamond Clover Recognition

Colfax County 4-H'ers can be recognized for their accomplishments and life skill development through the Diamond Clover program. This is available to all 4-H'ers, regardless of age. A short form needs to be completed at enrollment and the rest will be completed in September. Club leaders have received 4-H Diamond Clover Recognition Program information. Contact the office for more information.



2025 T-Shirt Orders

This year all NEW members will receive a free t-shirt from the 4-H Council. Returning members can buy shirts at a reduced price of \$7 as the 4-H Council has agreed to help cover the costs. Parents, leaders, and other adults can purchase shirts as well.

\$10.17 for youth sizes and adult S, M, L, and XL. Adult 2XL will be \$12.31 and Adult 3XL will be \$13.38.

Orders can be placed through the Extension Office, due by **May 20th**.



Livestock Judging Contest

The 2025 Colfax County Livestock Judging Contest will be held on May 29th at the fairgrounds in Leigh. Registration will begin at 8:30am.



Camp Scholarships

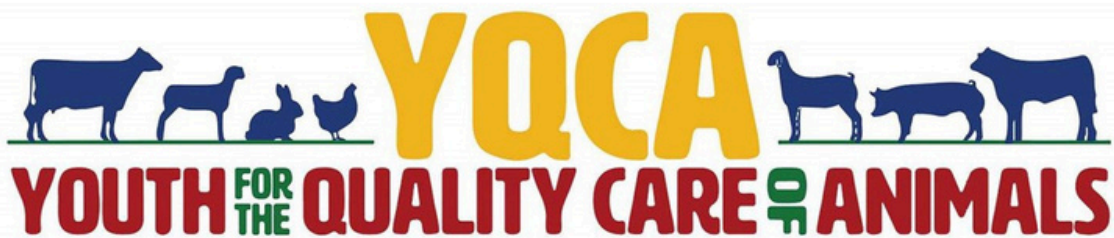
4-H youth are encouraged to apply for a camp scholarship sponsored by the 4-H Council. The 4-H Council will provide 2/3 of the camp cost and would like for you to complete the application for a 4-H Camp Scholarship that is included at the end of the newsletter and return it to the Extension Office. Some camp options are:

- Nebraska 4-H Summer Camps
- Livestock Judging Camp, Lincoln
- Big Red Summer Academic Camps

4-H'ers who did not receive a camp scholarship in 2024 will have first priority. To see full camp descriptions and to register online go to:

4h.unl.edu/camps-summer

Deadline for camp scholarships is **June 2, 2025**.



YQCA Training

State 4-H rules require that all 4-H members age 8-18, who are enrolled in the following livestock projects (beef, sheep, dairy, swine, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry, and rabbits) be certified in Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA).

Blake Wert in Platte County will be offering Face to Face YQCA training & certification. Blake will be conducting one training session in Colfax County on May 27th at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

There is a pre-test and enrollment that must be completed prior to the Face to Face trainings. Here is the link to enroll: yqcaprogram.org Please refer any questions to Blake Wert at bwert3@unl.edu.

Face to Face YQCA Training Dates:

Tuesday, May 27th, 6:30pm @ Colfax Extension Office

Platte County Training Dates:

Monday April 14th @ 6:30pm

Monday April 28th @ 6:30pm

Monday May 12th @ 6:30pm

Friday May 23rd @ 3pm

If you cannot attend any of the Face to Face trainings, you can still complete the YQCA requirements online. Face to Face trainings are \$3 per person and online training is \$12. The YQCA training completion deadline is **June 2, 2025**.

Please notify the office if you attend a training in another county.



Nebraska State 4-H Camps

The Nebraska State 4-H Camp is returning to Chadron and Burwell for 2025 **What's the Buzz?** season. of the Nebraska State 4-H Camp will share the importance of pollinators in Nebraska - why they're important, how they impact agriculture, and what youth can do in their own communities to support the various native pollinators we have in Nebraska. It's going to be a week full of learning and fun!

Youth new to camping can attend a shorter 4-H Camp 101, youth ages 10-14 can choose one of two 4-H camp sessions, and high school youth can attend Leaders in Training to focus on developing leadership skills.

Registration is now OPEN. More information on sessions, dates, and registration can be found at 4h.unl.edu/camp.



4-H Plant and Insect ID Contests

If you like plants and/or insects, Platte County is hosting the 4-H Plant and Insect Identification Contest on Thursday, June 26th at the Ag Park Exhibit Hall Club Room in Columbus. 4-H'ers can build skills and participate in any of the 4 events: Entomology ID, Grass and Weed ID, Tree ID, and Horticulture Judging and ID. Registration is due by Tuesday, June 24th. See the attached flyer for more info.



NAYI

The 54th Annual Nebraska Annual Youth Institute (NAYI) will be held July 7-11 2025 on UNL's East Campus. It is a weeklong experience for students across Nebraska to learn more about career opportunities within agriculture. Current high school juniors and seniors interested in attending can apply at: <https://nda.nebraska.gov/navi/> The deadline to apply is **April 15th, 2025**. Contact Christin Kamm at christin.kamm@nebraska.gov with questions.



Online Horticulture Judging Contest

The Nebraska 4-H Online Horticulture Judging Contest provides youth an opportunity to test their knowledge of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, and ornamental plants. The contest will be available from June 10-24th. For more information: <https://4h.unl.edu/statewide-events-opportunities/online-horticulture-judging-contest/>



Big Red Academic Camps

Big Red Camps are residential career exploration camps held at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln on June 8-13, 2025. During the week long camps, participants will work alongside UNL faculty and industry professionals to explore their topics of interest. Big Red Academic Camps are open to youth going into grades 9-12 during the 2025-2026 school year. Space is limited, so reserve a spot right away. <https://4h.unl.edu/statewide-events-opportunities/big-red-summer-academic-camps/>



2025 Tractor & Equipment Safety Training

The 2025 Tractor & Equipment Safety Training schedule is now available. Federal law restricts youth under 16 from using certain farm equipment unless their parents or guardians own the farm, however 14 and 15 year olds can earn an exemption by completing a two-day certification course. Please see the attached flyer for dates and locations.



Premier Animal Science Event

The Nebraska 4-H Premier Animal Science Event (PASE) features a variety of state-level animal science contests. Youth have the opportunity to explore issues related to the animal industry, discover college and career opportunities, work with other youth from across the state, and compete in contests. PASE will take place **June 17-18** in Lincoln. Participation in the PASE Livestock Judging Contest will not be tied to the Colfax County Livestock Judging Contest. Pre-registration is required by **May 23rd**, anyone interested in attending should notify Brenda in the Extension office right away. The first 8 youth to register in each division will form a team, other participants can attend as individuals. For more information: <https://4h.unl.edu/statewide-events-opportunities/livestock-program/pase/>

Livestock Project Information

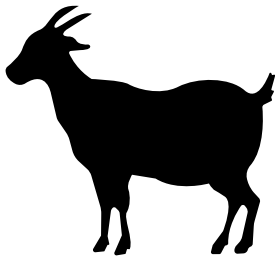


2025 State Fair Livestock Nominations

Show Stock Manager is open for livestock nominations for the 2025 Nebraska State Fair. All livestock in contention to exhibit at the State Fair will be required to complete an online nomination with payment through Show Stock Manager and submit a DNA collector envelope with a hair sample. All 4-H and FFA livestock nominations are due **June 15th, 2025.**

<https://showstockmgr.com/>

Contact the Extension Office at (402) 352-3821 with questions.



Sheep & Goat Tags & DNA

Market and Breeding sheep and goats will need scrapie tags and DNA samples pulled in order to be shown at the Nebraska State Fair.

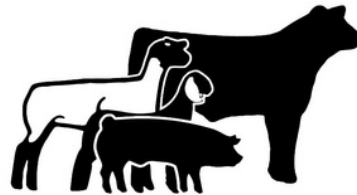
The deadline to have DNA samples to the Extension office is **June 13, 2025.**

County only market sheep and goats will need a scrapie tag to be eligible to show at the Colfax County Fair.



State Fair Tags and DNA Testing

All beef and swine animals to be shown at the 2025 Nebraska State Fair must have an EID tag installed and hair pulled for DNA samples. Registered breeding beef will continue to use a tattoo. EID tags will cost \$3.75 and DNA testing costs \$7.00 per animal. Contact the office to get animals tagged and the hair samples pulled.



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 and specify which animal(s) you are interested in. The information about Progress Shows will be sent only to those who request it. We do not carry names over from last year's list, so if you want to receive progress show information you must request it every year.

Livestock Nomination & ID Requirements

The 2025 updated versions of all livestock I.D. Requirements for the Nebraska State Fair and the Colfax County Fair are attached at the end of the newsletter.

Please contact the Extension office if you have any questions.



Important Dates:

April 15: NAYI registration deadline

April 20: Easter

April 25: Extension Office closed in observance of Arbor Day

April 29: Colfax County Agriculture Literacy Day (for participating 3rd grade classes)

May 13: 4-H Council Meeting at Howells Library, 7pm

May 20: New T-shirt orders due

May 23: PASE Pre-registration deadline

May 26: Memorial Day, Extension Office Closed

May 27: YQCA Training at Extension Office, 6:30pm

May 29: Colfax County Livestock Judging Contest, Leigh Fairgrounds

June 2: Camp Scholarship Deadline, YQCA training deadline, Colfax County Fair Livestock I.D. sheets due to Extension office by 4:30pm

June 10: Platte County Livestock Judging Contest

June 13: State Fair Livestock DNA envelopes due to Extension office by 4:30pm, County Fair Pre-Entry deadline for Livestock and Static exhibits due to Extension office

June 15: Nebraska State Fair Livestock Nominations Deadline in Show Stock Manager

June 17: 4-H Council Meeting at Clarkson Library, 7pm

June 17 - 18: PASE, Lincoln

June 19: Extension Office closed, Juneteenth holiday

Thank you for reading!

<p>466 ROAD 10 SCHUYLER, NE 68661</p>	<p>402-352-3821</p>
<p>https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/colfax/</p>	<p>Nebraska Extension in Colfax County on Facebook</p>

WHAT'S THE BUZZ? 2025



4-H CAMP 101

July 13-15, Burwell

4-H CAMP

June 22-26, Chadron
July 17-21, Burwell

**LEADERS
IN TRAINING**

May 28-31, Burwell

**APPLY FOR A
SCHOLARSHIP TODAY**
[GO.UNL.EDU/CAMPSCHOLARSHIP](https://go.unl.edu/campscholarship)



2025 TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT SAFETY TRAINING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! COST: \$60

Federal law restricts youth under 16 from using certain farm equipment unless their parents or guardians own the farm. However, 14- and 15-year-olds can earn an exemption by completing a two-day certification course, which includes a written test and a driving exam. Successful completion grants NSTMOP certification, allowing them to operate tractors and certain mechanized equipment on farms and ranches, and obtain a husbandry permit.

Youth under 14 years of age can attend Day 1 if accompanied by an adult but cannot drive equipment, attend Day 2, or become certified. Students under 14 must register but won't be charged a fee.



SUMMER 2025 SCHEDULE

Date(s)	Event(s)	Location
May 21	Day 1	West Point, NE
May 22	Day 2	
May 27	Day 2*	Weeping Water, NE
May 28	Day 1	North Platte, NE
May 29	Day 2	
June 3	Day 1	Gering, NE
June 4	Day 2	
June 5	Day 2*	Chadron, NE
June 9	Day 1	Grand Island, NE
June 10	Day 2	
June 11	Day 1	O'Neill, NE
June 12	Day 2	
June 17	Day 1	York, NE
June 18	Day 2	

LEARN MORE

Scan the QR code or visit

[go.unmc.edu/
tractor-safety-training](https://go.unmc.edu/tractor-safety-training)



*Those attending a location that only offers Day 2 must complete Day 1 at another location, OR complete the virtual module. Those attending a location that offers both days, but live 50 miles or more from the location, may complete the online module for Day 1. Day 1 (or online module) MUST be completed, with written exam, before attending Day 2.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT KELSEY IRVINE @ KEPALM@UNMC.EDU

Extension is a division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with counties and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Funding provided to Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health by NIOSH AFF Grant U54OH010142



#FarmSafety
#TractorSafety
#NebExt

EMAIL

County Fair I.D. Tag Requirements

Livestock Division	Form of ID	Deadline
Market Beef	4-H Ear Tag or EID Tag & ID Sheet	June 2 (Not eligible for rate of gain after April 15 th)
Breeding Beef	Tattoo, EID Tag, or 4-H Ear Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Feeder Calves	4-H Ear Tag or EID Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Bucket Calves	4-H Ear Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Market Goats	Scrapie Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Breeding Goats	Scrapie Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Dairy Goats	Scrapie Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Market Sheep	Scrapie Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Breeding Sheep	Scrapie Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Dairy Cattle	ID Sheet	June 2
Market & Breeding Swine	Ear notches or EID Tag & ID Sheet	June 2
Rabbit	Tattoo and ID Sheet	June 2
Poultry	No ID Sheet Required	
Horse	ID Sheet Drawing	June 2
Cats & Small Pets	No ID Sheet Required	

2025 4-H State Fair Animal Nomination/Identification Requirements

Project Area	Nomination Requirements	Nomination Deadline	Entry Deadline
Market Beef*	EID Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Registered Breeding Beef	Tattoo or identification type that is accepted by the breed association***, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Commercial Breeding Beef	Tattoo OR EID Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10- 8:00 PM CST
Feeder Calf	EID Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Market Swine*	EID Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Breeding Swine*	EID Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Market Sheep	Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Breeding Sheep	Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Market Goats	Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Breeding Goats	Scrapie Tag, DNA Envelope & animal information submitted online via Show Stock Manager database.	June 15	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Rabbits & Poultry	No nomination required. Rabbits will be required to have an ear tattoo by the show entry deadline.	-----	August 10 8:00 PM CST
Dairy Cattle	No nomination required. Refer to the Nebraska State Fair Open Class Entry Book for ID requirements.	-----	Refer to the Nebraska State Fair website.

*Review individual fairbooks for registered animal requirements as there are additional items required to be exhibited in a breed class at State Fair, but not to be nominated.

**The Nomination Deadline is when all tagging is to be finished, animal information should be submitted online via the Show Stock Manager database, DNA collected and complete DNA Envelopes should be in the possession of the County Extension Offices.

***Registered heifer identification must correspond with the registration paper.

Family Responsibilities:

1. Exhibitors will be required to enroll in 4-H by the June 15 statewide enrollment deadline.
2. Exhibitors will review their species fairbooks.
3. Exhibitors showing market and/or breeding beef, feeder calves, market and/or breeding swine, market and/or breeding sheep or market and/or breeding goats at State Fair must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for DNA verification. **Every animal nomination (this includes all breeding animals and feeder calves) will require a DNA submission.** DNA must be turned into their county office and have completed the online nomination with payment in *Show Stock Manager* by June 15. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID. Contact the local Extension Office for details. (It is recommended that you make a copy or a photo image of the completed envelope you turn into your county.)
4. Exhibitors will be required to complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certificate by August 10.
5. Exhibitors will confirm that the ear tattoo and/or identification tag matches the animal nomination submitted by June 15 for confirmation of legibility and/or accuracy.
6. Exhibitors will notify the County Extension Staff of any retags that may occur up to time of check-in at the State Fair.
7. Exhibitors will select which animal nominations they have chosen to show at State Fair on the State Fair entry website by August 10. All nominated and validated animals will be automatically listed as a choice option for entry registration.
8. Exhibitors will be required to bring the breed registration association paperwork to check-in at State Fair for animals wanting to show in a breed class. **The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in Show Stock Manager. Family farm or ranch names will not be accepted.**

County Staff Responsibilities:

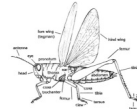
1. Submit an 840 EID tag order for beef and swine animal projects.
2. Schedule and publish weigh-in and/or tagging dates if offered in your county.
3. Request, distribute and collect DNA collectors for families. 840 EID tags should not be distributed without the premise ID being recorded in 4H Online. It is optional but recommended to record on the DNA envelope.
4. Inform families of the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training options available to them (in person and online).
5. Collect all beef, swine, lamb, and goat DNA envelopes by June 15. Families will submit payment online in *Show Stock Manager*. Copy all DNA envelopes for your county records and mail all completed DNA envelopes to the Aksarben Stock Show office by **June 20**.
6. Remind families to confirm that the ear tattoo and/or identification tag matches the animal nomination submitted by June 15 for confirmation of legibility and/or accuracy.
7. Collect Premises ID numbers from exhibitors and input those into 4H Online.
8. Review and validate all online livestock nominations in *Show Stock Manager* for each exhibitor by **July 1**.
9. Input nomination edits in to Show Stock Manager for your families. Edits will be corrected by the Show Coordinator. For retags, directly notify Brandy Schulze bschulze@unl.edu and/or input the change in *Show Stock Manager*.
10. Inform families that all nominations have been validated and are available for entry at the Nebraska State Fair entry website <https://www.statefair.org/> when the system is open.

Additional Information

- County offices can accept paper ID sheets for their own record keeping but these **will not be accepted as a form of identification for State Fair.**
- There are entry limits for each of the individual species. Exhibitors cannot exhibit more than the following for each species to State Fair: Beef (5), Swine (6), Sheep (4), Goat (4), Poultry (6), Rabbit (6).



4-H Plant and Insect Identification Contests



*If you like plants and/or insects, here's an opportunity to build skills and have fun too!
Attend to participate in one, two, three or all four contests!*

Your interest - your choice! Bring a friend too!

4-H'ers could earn a trip to a state and/or national contest!

Thursday, June 26, 2025

Agricultural Park Exhibit Hall Club Room, Fairgrounds - 822 15th Street, Columbus NE

(Entrance to Ag Park is at intersection of 10th Av. and 15th St.)

Approximate Times after Initial Contest

12:15 – Welcome and Instructions

12:30 PM – Entomology (Insect) Identification

1:30 PM - Grass and Weed Identification

2:30 PM – BREAK with Refreshments

2:45 PM - Tree Identification 0

3:40 PM - Horticulture Judging and I.D.

PLEASE BRING A CLIP BOARD TO USE DURING THE CONTEST

Identify plant/insect samples for each contest. For horticulture, there is also 2 judging classes (vegetables, fruits, flowers, or nursery stock). Informational materials available at <https://4h.unl.edu/fairbook/contests>. For

Clip & return registration by Tuesday, June 24th to: UNL Extension, 2715 13th Street, Columbus, NE 68601

2025 Horticulture / Tree / Insect / Grass & Weed Contests Registration

Name/s: _____ Age as of Jan. 1, 2025: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

County: _____ Birth Date: _____

I plan to participate in: (please check **one** division and **all** contests you plan to participate in)

Division: _____ 4-H _____ FFA _____ ADULT (for parents)

Contest: _____ Horticulture _____ Tree ID _____ Insect ID _____ Grass/Weed ID

Age Divisions (age as of Jan. 1, 2025: Clover Kids: 5 - 7, Junior: age 8 – 10; Intermediate: age 11 - 13, Senior: age 14 - 18)