

2018 Burt County 4-H & FFA Livestock Updates

The biggest change this year will be our county fair dates! We will be two weeks earlier (July 20-24) so that may impact the size of the animal you select and identify or how you feed them to be ready for these earlier dates.

Please read through the changes listed here and also on the other links on this website. This has a lot of information to help you in the month ahead get your project animals properly identified for Burt County Fair, Fremont 4-H Expo, Nebraska State Fair, and AKSARBEN.

I want to apologize now for all of the changes. Most of these are being put in place at the state level, I or your 4-H leaders and superintendents had no choice in the matter. A lot of this will put more responsibility on the exhibitor and/or their families to get things properly entered, particularly for State Fair or AKSARBEN. That's why you'll also find step-by-step instructions and frequently asked questions on this website about the online nomination process.

ALL ID SHEETS FOR ANY LIVESTOCK THAT WILL BE SHOWN AT COUNTY FAIR, FREMONT 4-H EXPO, STATE FAIR OR AKSARBEN MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE BY JUNE 15! (MARKET BEEF ENTRIES WERE DUE APRIL 15.) ENTRIES NOT MEETING THIS DEADLINE WILL BE DROPPED ONE RIBBON PLACING AT THE BURT COUNTY FAIR.

Exhibitors wanting to nominate any animals for State Fair or AKSARBEN must do this online and will have until midnight on Friday, June 15. Animals not nominated by this deadline will not be eligible for State Fair or AKSARBEN. This includes market and breeding animals as well as feeder calves. We cannot do this for you, it must be done by the exhibitor or their family.

DNA must be collected on any market beef, market sheep, market swine or market meat goats and envelopes returned to the Extension office by April 15 (market beef) and June 15 (market sheep, swine & meat goats).

EXHIBITOR must submit all information regarding animals from which DNA was collected online and also pay the fee for the DNA collection online by the deadlines above (April 15 or June 15).

There is no breeding nomination card (BNC) for breeding heifers in 2018. Tattoo number and animal information must be submitted online by the exhibitor by June 15.

EID tags (\$2.00) will be required for market beef and market swine going to State Fair and/or AKSARBEN.

Scrapie tag number and animal information for breeding sheep and breeding meat goats must be submitted online by the exhibitor by June 15.

ALL market and breeding sheep and ALL market and breeding meat goats must be identified with a scrapie tag. Exhibitors must order these, I cannot order them for you. There is a file with the procedure to order these tags. It will help at tagging day if you have these tags ordered and placed in the ears of your project animals. I do not have the taggers to install these tags. It requires a different tagger depending on the style of tag you order. Maybe a club or chapter will want to go together to get a tagger or two that they can share so everyone doesn't have to get one.

Ear notches are acceptable identification for market swine only going to County Fair or Fremont 4-H Expo (Fair).

Regular 4-H (\$1.00) or FFA (\$0.00) tags are acceptable identification for market beef, feeder calves or bucket calves only going to County Fair or Fremont 4-H Expo (Fair). Any animal with either kind of tag (4-H or FFA) can be shown as 4-H at Fremont and FFA at Oakland or vice versa, as long as the member is enrolled in both organizations.

We will again have classes for homegrown market beef, market lambs, market barrows and market gilts. Indicate on the ownership affidavit if an animal qualifies as home grown. See 2018 Livestock Identification Requirements for Burt County Fair for directions. Market beef exhibitors need to contact the Extension Office with this information since your ownership affidavits (ID sheets) have already been turned in and we will add that information for you.

A heifer, identified as a market heifer earlier this spring (deadline was April 15) can also be identified as a breeding heifer (by June 15) as long as it also has the necessary identification for a breeding heifer (tattoo). It can be shown either way at shows up until State Fair... if it was properly nominated for State Fair. How it is shown at State Fair determines how it must be shown at AKSARBEN (if it was shown as a 4-H exhibit). If it was shown as an FFA exhibit at State Fair, it cannot switch back to 4-H for AKSARBEN.

Breeding heifers must be identified with a tattoo. A calfhood vaccination tattoo is not acceptable identification. A copy of the registration papers must accompany and be recorded on the ID sheet. (If pending, indicate that on a sticky note on the ID sheet and submit a copy when you get it.) Any breeding heifer without registration papers will be shown with the commercial breeding heifers.

All market animal (beef, feeder calf, bucket calf, meat goat, sheep & swine) exhibitors need a premise ID number. There is a link on the website that explains how to get one of these. Each exhibitor does NOT need a premise ID number, only the site where animals are kept needs a number. So a family with several siblings only needs one premise ID number for the site where livestock is kept. If another family keeps livestock at the same location, they all use the same number. A premise ID number identifies the location, not who is keeping livestock at that location.

Tagging (or verification) day for sheep, meat goats, feeder calves or bucket calves will be held on Saturday, June 9, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., at the fairgrounds in Oakland. Remember, all sheep and all meat goats must have a scrapie tag and that exhibitors must order these (and a tagger to put them in). We cannot order these tags for you. It will really speed things up if all scrapie tags are in the animals before you bring them that day.

CHANGE FOR 2018: An exhibitor may bring any number of any livestock entries. Hopefully this will bring a few more animals to the fair, but remember to be realistic in the number of animals you can care for and exhibit.

With the potential for more animals per exhibitor, it will be more important than ever to make sure you have extra people to bring animals to the show ring or take them back to the barn if you have another animal in the next class.

Preliminary show programs are posted the day before the show so you will know if you have more than one animal in a class. You will have time to line up another exhibitor to show your second animal in that class.

All exhibitors must be Burt County 4-H or FFA exhibitors. No parents, pee wee showmen, or friends who are not in 4-H or FFA may show an extra animal when you have two in the same class. They are expected to follow the same dress code as 4-H and FFA exhibitors.

There has been some problems with this in the past, but there is even more potential for this to be a problem this year. We want to keep the show moving smoothly and your cooperation with this will be greatly appreciated!

We recommend this every year, but it will really help on entry day at the Burt County Fair if you can have your entry cards filled out before you bring market animals to the scale. If you have an animal that doesn't require being weighed in (breeding animals and cow-calf pairs), you still need to complete your entry card and give it to the superintendents weighing animals for that species no later than 10:00 a.m. on entry day.

Swine exhibitors need to complete their Hormel Affidavit, have it signed by the exhibitor and parent, and turn it in at the livestock office no later than 10:00 a.m. on entry day.

There will only be a beef clinic at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, July 23. There will not be clinics for other species.

This is not a change, just a reminder, an exhibitor may enter one animal in the livestock auction. They must select an animal that falls in the specified weight range for that species. If all their entries in one species are too light or too heavy, they must select an animal in a different species (if they have one) that falls within the specified weight range. For example, if all of an exhibitor's hogs were all too light, but they had a market lamb or market steer that was in the specified weight range, they would need to select the lamb or steer to enter in the livestock auction.