

2024 Cherry Co. 4-H Fair Livestock Show Pre-Fair Planning Guide

SET UP

Sunday, August 4th starting at 1:00 pm CT

All families needed for Fairground set-up/clean-up! It is going to be hot, so the more hands we have the quicker it will go! Plus, if you help, you can make sure your pens are reserved the way you would like!

CHECKING IN/WEIGHING IN THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

- In lieu of an exhibitor meeting, we are putting together information packets, so PLEASE READ ALL THE INFORMATION INSIDE CAREFULLY WHEN YOU CHECK IN. Pick up your livestock packet with your backtags, stall cards, forms, reminders, etc. at the scale from a Livestock Committee member.
- Clover Kids – let us know when you arrive! Check in with Eve, Michelle or a Livestock Committee member. Clover Kids will show at the beginning of each 4-H show, by species.
- **We will be tight on space this year!!! The Ag Society/Livestock Committee is asking families to limit to one blocking chute in the barn and it must be on the concrete on the West Side, then place additional chutes outside. We will have to use the East Wing for cattle this year as we want the nearly 15 breeding heifers to be on display along with approximately 63 market beef!!!** All pens are assigned on Sunday, August 4 during set-up time. If you haven't already made a request, please visit with the livestock committee as they work on pens that day. We group clubs together by species and fill in independents around that. It would also be helpful to have you double-check your tie out pen assignments on Sunday.
- ***NEW*BEDDING OPTION!!** As a reminder, no straw bedding is allowed. Wood chips are available at the fairgrounds in a big pile and if those are utilized, you will NOT have to clean out your stall (other than hay/manure) after Fair! These wood chips will be needed in the barn for next year's high school rodeo.

WEIGH INS FOR MARKET Hogs, Goats/Sheep, Beef

- Market Livestock Reminder: **You may only weigh in 3 market animals from your ID list. You may only show up to 2 animals per class. You may only sell up to 2 units.** We will not have the same, large scale as last year, but we will be using a portable scale. It will sit in the same spot as last year, between the tie out pens and the beef barn. Pull your rig around to the south side of the beef barn, then pull on through to the west as soon as you are able. **Trailer parking is in the "Gass lot" on the northeast corner of the Fairgrounds – NOT THE CAMPER AREA TO THE EAST OF THE BARN.**

Since we haven't worked with this specific scale before, we won't have an exact schedule, but we would like the species to stay within these timeframes as much as possible on a first-come, first-served basis.

Goats/Sheep: 6:30 am – 7:00 am (reminder – you are showing Thursday afternoon this year!!!)

Beef: 7:00 am – 8:30 am

Hogs: 8:30 am – 9:30 am *ONLY ONE FAMILY/CLUB MAY UNLOAD AT A TIME, please do not unload hogs into pens prior to weigh-in*

For MARKET projects, fill out the "Ethics Affidavit & Statement of Disclosure" and **return it SIGNED to the weigh-in crew ASAP.**

NON-MARKET LIVESTOCK

Should check in before noon on Thursday August 8 at the livestock scale unless they are breeding heifer calves, feeder calves, cow/calf Pairs, or Sandhills Production beef that have requested Saturday entry.

CHECKING IN/WEIGHING IN SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

- Feeder Calves should weigh-in between 7:00-7:30 am. We will utilize the scale in the hog barn for this.
- All breeding beef and Sandhills Production arriving Saturday morning should be checked in by 8:00 am.
- Shows will begin promptly at 9:00 am.

SHOWS

- Normal fitting expectations (NOT blow and go).
- Hogs will have temporary pens next to the ring during the show to increase efficiency. All hogs must be in these pens at least 10 minutes prior to show time. After the hog show is concluded (including Pen of 2, hogs may then return in an orderly fashion to the hog barn).
- **Herdsmanship** will be judged again this year. See the premium book for details.
- We are very excited to announce that nearly all market beef contestants have opted to participate in the **NEW Carcass Contest!** Please keep in mind that may cause the team fitting contest to begin at a slightly later time than originally planned. Please be patient as we work through this new experience. It will be a simple process – a squeeze chute will be set up and we will simply run all the cattle through and the judge will announce results as soon as possible after the ultrasounds have been evaluated. I am guessing we will start team fitting while he evaluates, then announce everything after that – listen for instructions that afternoon.
- **Team Fitting and Round Robin Showmanship** will happen as usual this year. Every beef showman will be automatically entered in team fitting this year unless you have a *good* excuse for Craig, lol!
- **Sandhills Production** interviews will be Thursday, August 8, starting at 2:00 pm **AT THE CHERRY COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE.** Please turn in your record books (hard copies ONLY) to Michelle by 5:00 PM on [Wednesday, Aug. 7.](#)
- **Bucket Calf record books** – please turn a hard copy in to Michelle by [5:00 pm on Wednesday, Aug. 7.](#)
- **CHERRY CO. PREMIER LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR** – Will be announced prior to the Livestock Sale on August 10. Please note that we have moved up Friend of 4-H and other award announcements to 3:30 so the sale can start promptly at 4:00 pm. Applications will be accepted up until [Wednesday, August 7 at 5:00 pm.](#) Please hand deliver a hard copy to Michelle.

SALE & CLEAN UP

- Brochures are available on the website or at the Extension Office to assist with marketing efforts. They also explain options for buyers (premium vs. premium+meat, splits, add-ons, etc.)
- We encourage you to promote your market livestock on your social media platforms! Contact Eve Millar 402-389-0119 with questions or if you would like to share your posts on the UNL Extension Facebook page.
- Locker space has been reserved for the week+ after Fair, like normal. Keep in mind there will be special instructions and a schedule for market beef as it will take more than just the weekend to work them through. You may need to take your animal back home for a few days.
- Animals that aren't shown (remove promptly after weigh-in) or sold are the responsibility of the family.
- We need as many youth as possible to serve as runners when not handling livestock for the sale.
- Don't forget to THANK YOUR BUYERS!!!
- **We need more people to stick around after the sale to help with tear-down.** You **MUST** clean out your own stalls/pens **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SALE** (this includes breeding stock). Remember, if you use the wood chips provided by the Ag Society, you only need to remove manure and hay!

SEE ATTACHED FAIR SCHEDULE for a list of all activities!

Watch the private Facebook group to receive quick updates!

For **SHOW** questions, contact Michelle Garwood at 402-389-1655 or mgarwood3@unl.edu.

For **SALE** questions, contact Craig O'Kief at 402-376-4133.

For **general Fairgrounds/logistical/penning** questions, contact Craig or Andy Dawson (Ag Society President) at 402-322-1437.

Livestock Committee Members:

Shalee Arendt
Bodell Bachelor
Connor Barnes
Brenda & Rob Brawner

Josh Delaney
R.J. Luthy
Brent Nollette
Craig O'Kief

Sherry Slagowski
Eve Millar