Nebraska Extension in Colfax County 4-H Newsletter
March 2016

4-H Updates:

4-H Enrollment Changes
All 4-H members must enroll on the 4-H Online system using GOOGLE CHROME. Instructions for enrolling will be given to your leaders, they can also be found on our website at http://colfax.unl.edu or you can call the Extension office for a hard copy to be mailed to you. 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. Enrollment deadline is APRIL 15, 2016.

T-Shirt Design Contest
The 4-H Council has decided to provide t-shirts for all 4-H members this year. They are holding a contest to allow Colfax County 4-H’ers to design the logo for the shirt

Attached as part of this newsletter is a sheet that can be used to draw your design. You may also send in designs that were drawn on the computer on a normal sheet of paper. Designs need to be sent to the Extension Office by April 15th, so start working on your designs now!

A prize will be given to the 4-H’er whose design is chosen as the winner by a committee of 4-H council members.

The chosen design will have to be approved by the State 4-H Office before being declared the winner.

We will be collecting t-shirt sizes in the Office. Please contact us with your sizes as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact the Extension office.

Bake &Take Days
The Nebraska wheat Growers Association is again Sponsoring Bake &Take Days on the last weekend in March. Stickers and recipe pamphlets are available at the Extension Office.

Bake & Take Days encourages youth and adults to bake and take item to a neighbor or shut-in. While delivering the item, take time to visit with the person. Bake & Take is an excellent community service project.

Cattlemen’s Classic Results
We would like to congratulate our Colfax Cattle Showing Teams for placing both 9th and 10th place in the Cattlemen’s Classic. Great job everyone!

Team # 1 Members (9th Place)
Trevor Zulkoski
Jacob Eisenmann
Abigail Lutjelusche
Riana Grotelueschen
Team # 2 Members (10th Place)
Dalton Zulkoski
James Grotelueschen
Makenna Lutjelusche
Grace Eisenmann

**Shooting Sports:**

**New Archery Club**

The first meeting of the new Archery club will be on March 20 at 4 p.m. at Andy Cada's (1712 Road 12, Clarkson, NE—formerly 1R School). The meeting will consist of forming and deciding on a club name, election of officers, schedules, and fund raising. All who are interested in archery are welcome to attend!

**Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Program Leader Certification Workshop**

Make plans to attend the upcoming Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Workshop. The workshop will be held at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Arlington, Nebraska on April 16 and 17. The workshop is a great opportunity to network with other 4-H volunteer shooting sports instructors from across Nebraska. Participants will share and learn techniques and knowledge which will develop your ability to effectively lead a local shooting sports program; learn to use shooting sports to develop youth of strong character who possess effective skills for living; gain certification in one of the following disciplines: Shotgun, Hunting Skills, Rifle, or Archery; and learn under expert instruction and learn to develop your skills as an instructor.

Registration deadline is **APRIL 5** and must be done online by going to: [https://goo.gl/qWPfSJ](https://goo.gl/qWPfSJ). Registration fees are $100 for first-time certification and $90 to add a discipline for previously certified instructors. A paid registration guarantees participant a spot. Fee includes program materials and three meals; lunch on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner on Saturday. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements. Registration on Saturday runs from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.

For more workshop information and registration link, go to the Nebraska 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Calendar at [http://4h.unl.edu/nebraskashootingsportsinstructorcalendar](http://4h.unl.edu/nebraskashootingsportsinstructorcalendar), contact the Nebraska Extension in Washington County Office at 402-426-9455, or contact Extension Educator, Steve Pritchard at 402-395-2158 or 308-536-2691.

**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 28th in Columbus. The contests will begin at 6:30 p.m. 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 18th by calling the Extension Office.

**Regional Interview Contest**

Nebraska Extension’s Eastern Nebraska District would like to invite you to participate in a special area Interview Contest competition. All the same rules and requirements will remain in place. The Interview Contest will take place at the Norfolk Life-long Learning Center.

- Reserve the Date: May 26th
- Interview Contest resumes and Cover letters will be due: May 1 to the Extension office.
- Ribbons and Trophies will be awarded.
Intermediate and Sr. Division eligible.

**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 2015 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.

**Livestock:**

**Free Chicks!**

Once again thanks to Tom Messing’s generosity, Colfax County 4-H’ers are eligible to receive 10 free broilers for showing at the Colfax County Fair. These chickens are free of charge with the only requirement being that you show whatever chickens are still alive at the times of fair. This could mean showing in 4-H or in open class in the case of Clover Kids.

A couple of things to remember, first is that 4-H’ers showing poultry need to have Quality Assurance Training to show at fair and secondly, you will need to enroll in the poultry project. The deadline to sign up for the free chicks is April 21st. Please sign up by calling into the office at 402-352-3821.

Chicks will be available for pickup in early June at Tom Messing’s place. In addition, once you receive your free chicks we would appreciate if you could send a letter of thanks to Tom Messing, 1756 Road I, Rogers, NE 68659.

If you have any questions, please call the office.

**Quality Assurance Training is Required**

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. You will **NOT** be able to show at County Fair, State Fair, or AK-SAR-BEN unless certified.

4-H Members age 8-11 are required to complete annual training. Members age 12 to 14 may complete training or take the 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.

As with last year, Quality Assurance training will be conducted online. The online training is structured for the 3 age groups, with different modules on quality assurance tailored to each of the age groups and to different livestock species. Utilizing the on-line training will allow members to learn more about quality assurance for their specific species than is possible at trainings. For more information on taking the online training or if you would like to get an early start, please contact the Extension office.

Members may test out if they choose to. Practice tests are available on the web at [http://assuringquality.unl.edu/](http://assuringquality.unl.edu/). You will need to contact the Extension office to arrange testing.

**ALL TRAINING AND TESTING MUST BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1st!**

There will still be a $5.00 fee for taking the training. The fee was implemented to support the ongoing development of Quality Assurance modules and staffing at the state level.

This fee will have to be paid online before you can enter the training. However, the Colfax
County 4-H Council has voted to reimburse the $5.00 cost to all members who take the online training. Participants will be required to pay online themselves, and will then be reimbursed by the 4-H Council once we have a report stating that the member has completed the training. With over 90 youth completing quality assurance training last year, this a large commitment of funds from the 4-H Council to support 4-H youth and families.

**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 $1.25 for beef and $1.00 for swine, sheep and goats. 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 Aksarben**

Any breeding animals that families show at State Fair or Aksarben will need to be identified on a breed nomination card that will be available from the Extension Office for $2.00. 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**

In a change from last year, market lamb for County Fair, State Fair, or AK-SAR-BEN **DO NOT** have to be tagged in front of extension personnel. However, if you are interested we would be more than willing to come out to assist with tagging if needed.

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 Shows:**

**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.

**Agronomy:**

**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 Competi-
tion. Last year a team of 4 youth from Colfax County competed at the 2nd annual Youth Crop Scouting Competition and placed 1st overall for the 2nd year in a row. The 2016 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, so once I know who is interested we will have to see how many teams we can put together. Aaron will work with interested youth before the contest to help them learn more about agronomy and crops and prepare them for the competition.

Youth Horticulture ID Contest

The Northeast Nebraska Master Gardeners will be hosting a Youth Horticulture ID contest at their annual Plant Fair & Market. All Youth Ages 8-18 are encouraged to attend. Participation is free but all participants must preregister by April 22 by contacting the Nebraska Extension office in Madison County 402-370-4040. Prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in each of the age brackets. Contestants will be required to sight ID horticulture plants to the accepted common name. The list of possible plants and study guides are available at http://madison.unl.edu/theplantfair.

Contest Details:

Date: Friday, April 29, 2016
Time: Competition begins at 6:15 PM, Awards Presented 7:15 PM
Location: Chuck Pohlman Ag Complex, Northeast Community College, Norfolk
Age brackets: Junior - 8-11 years old / Intermediate - 12-14 years old / Senior - 15-18 years old

Fifth Annual Innovative Youth Corn Challenge

Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Corn Board are offering the fifth 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, 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 $200.

To participate in 2016, youth must complete and return an entry form by March 15th to the Fillmore County Extension Office in Geneva, NE. Forms can be downloaded at cropwatch.unl.edu/youth/activities. For more information, contact Brandy VanDeWalle at brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu, Aaron Nygren at anygren2@unl.edu or Amy Timmerman at atimmerman2@unl.edu.

Nebraska Range Short Course

The Nebraska Range Short Course is scheduled for June 20 to 24, 2016 on the campus of Chadron State College. The short course is sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Chadron State College, and the Nebraska Section Society for Range Management. It is designed to provide individuals who have a background in range management, natural resources, or agriculture an opportunity to increase their knowledge in the field of range management. The week-long course taught through a series
of classroom and field sessions focuses on underlying principles of range management for efficient, sustainable use of rangeland for multiple purposes. The diversity of course topics include plant identification, plant growth and development, rangeland soils, assessing range condition and health, prescribed burning, rangeland restoration, ecosystem services, wildlife management, grazing management, and range livestock production. The short course can be taken for credit through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or Chadron State College. Sixteen Continuing Education credits are available for the SRM “Certified Professional in Rangeland Management” program.

Applications are due May 20, 2016 and enrollment is limited to 50 participants. The registration fee of $325 includes educational materials, transportation associated with field trips during the week, and breaks. Food and lodging can be arranged with Chadron State College.

Contact Walt Schacht (wschacht@unl.edu; 402-472-0205) if you have questions. The short course website is at http://agronomy.unl.edu/nebraska-range-short-course-2016.

Plant Fair & Market

Come to the Plant Fair and Market and enjoy a variety of vendors and plants, door prizes, delivery assistance and Ask the Master Gardener.

When: Friday April 29th 6:00pm - 8:00 PM and Saturday April 30th 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Where: Northeast Community College, Chuck Pohlman Ag Complex, 2301 E. Benjamin Ave, Norfolk NE.

NAYI Ag Camp

The Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI) provides youth with an opportunity to explore the ag industry, discover potential ag-related careers and strengthen their appreciation for agriculture, the state’s leading industry. Applications for the 2016 NAYI are now available from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) website at http://www nda nebraska gov/nayi/index.html. Students interested in applying have until April 15th to apply. Hard copies of the application as well as posters will be mailed to 4-H Extension Offices and FFA Advisors in the near future.

NAYI, a five-day summer program for current high school juniors and seniors, is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year. The Institute will be held July 11-15, 2016, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s East Campus, and it features motivational speakers, discussion on agricultural issues and opportunities, a farm management game, a formal banquet and a dance.

NDA selects students to attend the Institute based on their leadership skills, interest and involvement in agriculture. NDA provides the cost of meals, lodging and conference fees for students selected to participate.

Those interested in applying can also get an application by contacting the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 402-471-6859 or by emailing youth.council@nebraska.gov.

Upcoming Events

March 15 - Omaha Fashion Week
March 15 - Innovative Corn Challenge entry form due to the Extension office
March 19 - Rabbit Show at Lancaster Event Center
March 20 - Application for short course at Chadron State College is due
April 2 - Burt County Beef Preview will be held in Oakland, Nebraska, on Saturday
April 2 and 3 - Roping Clinic in Grand Island at Lipienthal Indoor Arena
April 5 - Registration due for NE 4-H Shooting sports Program Leader Certification Workshop
April 9 - Seward Calf Classic at Seward Fairgrounds
April 15 - 4-H Enrollment Deadline  MUST USE GOOGLE CHROME

April 16 and 17 - NE 4-H Shooting sports Program Leader Certification Workshop at Washington County Fairgrounds in Arlington

April 21 - Deadline to get free chicks

April 22 - Registration for Youth Horticulture ID Contest due

April 28 - 4-H Speech and Presentation Contests in Columbus at Ag Park

April 29 - Youth Horticulture ID Contest at Chuck Pohlman Ag Complex, Northeast Community College

April 29 and 30 - Plant Fair and Market at Chuck Pohlman Ag Complex, Northeast Community College

May 1 - Open Horse Show - Neligh
Design a T-shirt

Name ____________________________

Limit of 2 colors in design
* Contest open to 4-H’ers, parents and leaders
* Design must be approximately 8”x8” with no copyrighted characters
* The design must feature 4-H or the 4-H clover, but be sure to follow the following rules. No text or any item may appear over or on top of the clover, the clover needs to be upright, and the official 4-H clover must be used as shown.
* Designs will need to be approved by the State 4-H Office
* The 4-H Council reserves the right to modify or combine designs to meet 4-H rules
* Return by April 15 to UNL Extension - Colfax County, P.O. Box 389 Schuyler, NE 68661
APPLICATION
FOR
4-H CAMP SCHOLARSHIP

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?