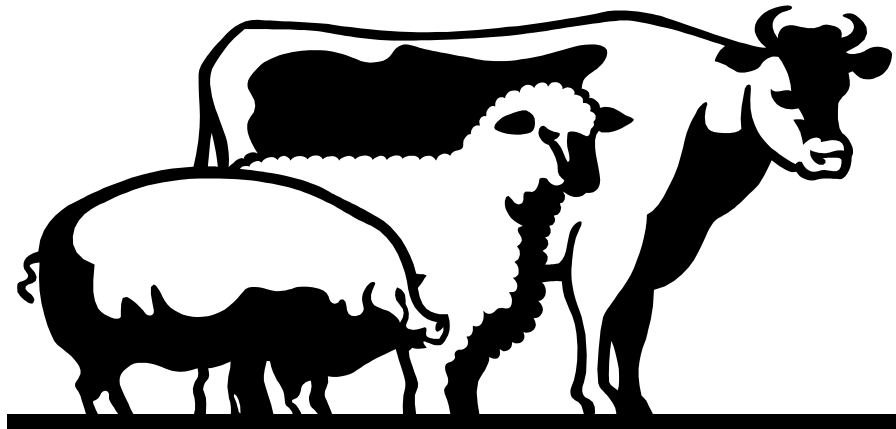


# 4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR FAIR BOOK



*(Includes Rules and Code of Conduct for 4-H Livestock Exhibitors and Parents)*

*(Revised 2022)*

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS)  
NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

## **New**

**Goats may use Collar chain or leather, or a halter.**

**Miniature Market Beef can sell @ 450 lbs. minimum.**

## **Hair Sheep Breeds**

- **Will Show in their own Class**
- **May Sell at a Minimum of Weight of 70 lbs.**

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to ALL classes of competition.

All parents/leaders working with 4-H exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Parents/guardians or exhibitors who violate the code of ethics will forfeit awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

### **The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:**

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.
2. Parents/guardians or exhibitors shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.
3. 4-H exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.
4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the parent/guardian or exhibitor for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the parent/guardian or exhibitor to prove otherwise.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, conformation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No parent/guardian or exhibitor shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics. Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.

9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by a parent/guardian or exhibitor whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.

10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the parent/guardian or exhibitor to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including Fairs and Expositions and any special notices to members.

11. The act of entering of an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the parent/guardian or exhibitor that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infractions.

## **DEPARTMENT G: ANIMALS**

### ***Livestock Shows***

#### **General Rules: Livestock**

A. ELIGIBILITY OF EXHIBITORS-An Exhibitor must be a 4-H member enrolled in the project they are exhibiting in. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H by the deadline set by the County Extension Office to exhibit. To exhibit at the county level, the youth must be at least 8 years of age as of January 1 of the current exhibiting year and no older than 18 as of January 1. Youth wanting to exhibit livestock at State Fair must be at least 10 years of age as of January 1 of the current exhibiting year to exhibit in classes where the presence of the 4-H'er is required (such as animal exhibits). Contact the Extension Office for complete State Fair exhibition rules and qualifications.

B. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENTRY-The responsibility for making proper entry rests with the exhibitors and the Extension Educator. It is the responsibility of the Extension Educator to make sure that each beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goats, or rabbit entry that he/she submits was properly identified on an appropriate ownership affidavit and that the ownership affidavit was submitted by the deadline date. The exhibitors of all animals shall conduct themselves with honesty, good sportsmanship, and support all rules and regulations of the Nebraska 4-H program. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to confirm that each beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goat, or rabbit being brought to the fair has ID (ear tag, ear notches, tattoo) that matches the ownership affidavit. Compare notches, tattoos, and ear tags to the ownership affidavit before leaving for the fair.

C. ENTRY DEADLINES-All advance entries are due in the County Extension Office by the date set in that county.

D. BRAND INSPECTION-All 4-H show cattle that are moved, driven, shipped or transported, in any manner from any point within the brand area to any point outside the brand area shall first have a brand inspection by the Nebraska Brand Committee, and a certificate of inspection issued. A copy of such certificate shall accompany the cattle and shall be retained by all persons transporting or moving such cattle, as a permanent record. The responsibility of ensuring the cattle are inspected prior to removal falls equally on the parent, owner, seller, shipper, person, persons, firm, motor carrier, railroad company, or other carrier or corporation of his, her, its, or their agent or agents or servant or servants moving, driving, shipping, or transporting. Cattle that are transported in and out of the brand area numerous times for showing may qualify for a show permit, utilized for show purposes only and is valid for 1 year from date of issuance. For more information, contact your local brand inspector or the Nebraska Brand Committee.

E. 4-H/FFA EXHIBITS-For purposes of exhibition, an animal can only be nominated and shown in one organization or the other, not both. Exhibitors who participate in both organizations must decide at the time of submitting ownership affidavits for which organization they are nominating their animals. **The same animal cannot be cross listed on an affidavit for both organizations.**

F. OWNERSHIP OF ANIMALS & POULTRY-All animals and poultry in the 4-H Show must be owned by the exhibitor who entered it. Ownership of beef, sheep, swine, dairy, meat goats, and rabbits must be certified where required on the appropriate forms in the Extension Office. All market animals (beef, sheep, swine & meat goats) must have a hair sample for DNA testing on file at Ak-sar-ben by the appropriate dates (April 1 for beef, June 15 for all other species) in order to be exhibited at the State Fair.

G. DAIRY ANIMALS-In the case of dairy animals, some lease arrangements are acceptable, but must be certified on the appropriate forms in the Extension Office. Livestock Show Regulations in the 4-H Program Management files (<http://4h.unl.edu/calendarfiles/livestockshow.htm>) will apply to this show.

H. ELIGIBILITY OF ANIMALS-Any 4-H project animal that has been offered for auction, where the intent of the auction is change of ownership, is ineligible for the 4-H livestock classes at the Nebraska State Fair. This includes animals offered for sale in other events at the Nebraska State Fair, when the event is prior to the 4-H event the animal is entered in. A project animal that has been through a "premium only" auction is eligible to be exhibited at the Nebraska State Fair, provided it and its exhibitor meet all other ownership and eligibility requirements. A "premium only" auction is defined as an event in which change of ownership is never the intent; but the intent is only to provide a monetary premium to accompany the ribbon earned by the exhibit. An animal that becomes wild and uncontrollable during the show may be declared ineligible by the Division Superintendent.

I. ANIMAL TESTING AND EXAMINATION-Any animal entered in 4-H classes is subject to any type testing at the discretion of either the superintendent or official show veterinarian. If the results of testing indicate the possible use of compounds or drugs not approved for use in that species by FDA or compounds or drugs used outside the specified withdrawal requirements of FDA, these animals will be declared ineligible

for competition and awards. In the case of market animals, show management will determine the appropriate disposal of the animals. An animal that is tampered with to change appearance or weight may be declared ineligible by the Division Superintendent.

J. CERTIFICATION OF DRUG USE AND WITHDRAWAL-Each exhibitor will be asked to submit a signed affidavit certifying correct withdrawal from legal drugs, vaccines or other substances. They will also certify that their entries have not received any non-approved drugs. Affidavits for beef and sheep will also state that animals have not been fed any "prohibited" mammalian derived protein (i.e. ruminant meat and bone meal) while under the care of the exhibitor. Affidavits will be presented to department superintendent prior to or at the time of animal weighing and check-in.

K. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING: All exhibitors in beef, dairy cattle, meat goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the County Extension Office is required. Completion of training will be certified by County Extension Staff.

L. REGISTRATION OF LIVESTOCK-A breeding animal to be eligible for show in a registered (purebred) class must be owned by the exhibitor by June 15 of the current year and be registered by the official breed association.

M. ONLY PURPLES CAN BE CHAMPIONS-Any beef, dairy, sheep, swine, meat goat, dog, companion animal, poultry or rabbit entry must be awarded a first or second purple ribbon in a class to be eligible to compete for champion or reserve champion.

#### N. GROOMING OF LIVESTOCK

1. Preparation and grooming of an animal should be the primary responsibility of the fair exhibitor, however assistance may be provided by family member of the exhibitor. Additionally, exhibitors may receive assistance from other Keith County 4-H members currently enrolled in livestock projects.

2. Pigs must be shown without hairdressing compounds. This includes oil, powder or any other coat dressing compounds considered objectionable by the packer. Only unadulterated water is permitted.

3. Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition.

4. Upon violation of above rules, the exhibitor's animal involved may be lowered one or two ribbon placing(s) or may be disqualified from the show.

5. Exhibitors will be asked to submit a signed affidavit certifying they know and understand these rules.

O. BY ORDER OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHALL-The use of flammable and combustible grooming sprays inside the barns is strictly forbidden. These types of materials must be used outside the buildings only.

P. SUBSTITUTE SHOWMAN-An animal must be shown by the FFA or 4-H owner who entered it unless the exhibitor is excused by the Division Superintendent because of serious illness, disability due to an injury (e.g. broken arm or leg) or conflict with other livestock classes in a 4-H or FFA show. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for another FFA or 4-H member, eligible to exhibit livestock, to show the additional animal in the class. A substitute exhibitor for an FFA animal can only be another FFA exhibitor at the current fair, and a substitute exhibitor for a 4-H animal can only be another 4-H exhibitor at the current fair. All substitute showmen should wear an exhibitor number identifying him/her as a substitute showman (available in the 4-H Livestock Office and/or from species superintendent.)

Q. ANIMAL SUBSTITUTIONS-Within the same class or division, substituting a different animal for a pre-entered animal, provided the substitute meets all ownership and eligibility rules, is acceptable and does not require prior approval from the Division Superintendent. Substitutions between divisions, except within Breeding Beef and Dairy are not allowed (i.e. a market lamb cannot be substituted for a breeding sheep entry). For Breeding Beef and Dairy, where each breed is listed as a separate division, substitution between

divisions is allowed (i.e. an Angus heifer can substitute for a Charolais heifer).

R. AUTHORITY-Each Division Superintendent (i.e., Beef Superintendent) shall have the authority to make all decisions within their respective Divisions in accordance with rules and regulations set forth in this premium list.

S. DRESS CODE-Exhibitors showing beef, dairy, dogs, companion animals, meat goats, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbits are required to wear an official 4-H T-shirt (any color). If there is no official 4-H T-shirt, exhibitors are required to wear a white shirt (or blouse) with the official 4-H chevron attached. Dark blue jeans and hard soled shoes or boots are required for beef, sheep, swine, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors. Dairy exhibitors may wear dark blue jeans or white pants. No hats, caps or other types of headgear are to be worn in the show ring. Exhibitors shall not display local, county, commercial or other identification while showing their animals-except official 4-H and such identification the show ring may require.

T. SHOW TIMES-Show times printed in the newspaper are *TENTATIVE*. Consult the exhibitor letter you receive with your fair pre-entry forms for the most accurate show times. The times stated in this letter *will* be the time of the shows *unless* you are notified by the Extension Office.

U. HERDSMANSHIP-4-H project animals are on display to the public while at the fair. The following are guidelines to follow in presenting your animals:

1. Animals clean at all times.
2. Animals adequately cared for with proper feeding, clean and proper amount of bedding and adequate feeding equipment. Beef animals are to be securely tied with 18-20 inches of lead.
3. Trappings and feed area clean and neatly arranged. Fork handles and similar equipment kept down.
4. Proper courtesy and conduct shown by exhibitors at all times and at all places.

V. SHOWMANSHIP AGES-Ages for ALL animal projects (cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits, pets, dog and horse) will be:

- Juniors—(age 8-10 years)
- Intermediates—(age 11-13 years)
- Seniors—(age 14-18 years)

W. NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK ANIMALS THAT CAN BE SHOWN-

- Market Rabbits—five (5)
- Non-Market Class Rabbits—one per class
- Market Chickens—four (4)
- Non-Market Class Poultry—one per class
- Market Goats—three (3)
- Breeding Goats—three (3)
- Dairy Goats—three (3)
- Market Sheep—three (3)
- Breeding Sheep—two (2)
- Market Swine—three (3)
- Market Beef—two (2)
- Breeding Beef—three (3)
- Feeder Beef—two (2)
- Bucket Calf—one (1)
- Dairy Beef—two (2)

X. ONLY MARKET ANIMALS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR SALE. Animals may be shown for PREMIUM ONLY, Animal must be on site to sell (**this applies to MARKET animals ONLY**).

This includes:

- ✓ Market Rabbits (one each market class as listed-each class equals one (1) small animal)

- Single fryer
- Meat pen of three
- Roaster
- ✓ Market Chickens (one each market class as listed-each class equals one (1) small animal)
  - Broiler individual
  - Any poultry, pen of three (they *must* be market chickens)
- ✓ Market Goats
- ✓ Market Sheep
- ✓ Market Swine
- ✓ Market Beef

Y. MINIMUM ANIMAL WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY-

- Market Rabbits (Fryer & Meat Pen)—Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds each. Maximum weight of 5 pounds each.
- Market Rabbits (Roaster)—Must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight over 8 pounds.
- Market Chickens—as stated in The American Standard of Perfection
- Market Goats—minimum of 50 lbs.
- Market Sheep—minimum of 90 lbs.
- **Hair Sheep minimum of 70 lbs.**
- Market Swine—minimum of 220 lbs.
- Market Beef (Steers)—minimum of 1000 lbs.
- Market Beef (Heifers)—minimum of 900 lbs.
- Miniature Market Beef- minimum 450 lbs.

Z. MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY **NOT** BE SOLD Or Heavier than Maximum Weight.

# **Livestock Showmanship**

*Printed Reference: 4H357 Guide for Evaluating Livestock Showmanship Contests*

## **General Instructions: Livestock Showmanship**

### **CONTEST RULES**

1. **ELIGIBILITY**-All 4-H livestock exhibitors must show their own animals to be considered as participants in the Showmanship Contest. Ownership is determined by fair entry and appropriate ownership/ID affidavits from the Extension Office.
2. **SHOWMANSHIP CANDIDATES**-In Beef, Dairy, Goats, Rabbits, Poultry, Sheep, and Swine, all exhibitors **who pre-enter** by the specified deadline are eligible to show in showmanship class but must show their own animal.
3. **ASSIGNED CLASSES** - In species where showmanship classes are assigned and posted prior to the show, exhibitors must show in the class assigned, or receive prior permission from the species superintendent, or they will be disqualified.
4. **BASIS FOR JUDGING**-Showmanship judging is based on preparation of animals for show, their apparent training and the appearance and behavior of the showman. Minor technical points are not to be over-emphasized, nor do minor infractions disqualify. Primarily in showmanship it is the skill of the showman in presenting the animal before the judge that counts, while individual excellence of the animal does not.
5. **EXHIBITOR DRESS CODE**-See rule R, General Animal Rules.
6. **LIVESTOCK GROOMING RULE**-See rule M, Livestock/Animal General Rules.
7. **EXHIBITOR NUMBERS**-To allow for easy and rapid identification, all exhibitor numbers shall be pinned on the back of the exhibitor in the area of the shoulder blades.
8. **MARKET AND BREEDING SHOWMANSHIP**-Exhibitors may compete in both market and breeding showmanship for the same animal species (i.e. market beef and breeding beef showmanship). Exhibitors must pre-enter showmanship. Exhibitors must show their own animal.
9. **DISQUALIFICATION**-The division superintendents may disqualify any 4-H'er from showmanship for any violation of rules or unsportsmanlike conduct.
10. **LIVESTOCK SHOWMANSHIP AGES**-
  - **Junior-Ages 8-10**
  - **Intermediate-Ages 11-13**
  - **Senior-Ages 14-18**

### **Division 001**

**Class 900 Cattle Showmanship**

**Class 920 Sheep Showmanship**

**Class 930 Swine Showmanship**

**Class 940 Goat Showmanship**



## **Beef**

**Printed Material:** NATL4H08143 Beef 1: *Bite into Beef*, NATL4H08144 Beef 2: *Here's the Beef*, NATL4H08145 Beef 3: *Leading the Charge*

**Printed References:** 4H117R *Beef Resource Manual*, EC20597 *Livestock Judging Guide*

### **General Instructions: Market Beef**

1. GENERAL RULES-All general livestock rules (listed at the beginning of this department) apply.
2. IDENTIFICATION-All market beef animals must have been tagged and identified with the County Extension Office (form 4HF106) by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair.
3. HANDLING EQUIPMENT-No muzzles or similar devices will be allowed on 4-H beef animals at this show. Halters with throat straps, nose leads, barbed or studded show halter chain leads and other equipment determined to be distracting or severe to the animal by the division superintendent will not be permitted.
4. BLOCKING CHUTES-Blocking chutes will not be allowed in the barn. Areas on each side of the barn will be designated for blocking chutes.
5. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.
6. GROOMING-See Livestock/Animal General Rules.
7. DISQUALIFICATION-Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition.
8. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING-All exhibitors must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of quality assurance training will be certified by county extension staff or certified volunteer.

### **Division 10**

#### **—Rate of Gain—**

**Class 900 Rate of Gain** - Only Market Beef Weighed at the official Weigh-In are eligible for the Rate of Gain award.

### **Division 11**

#### **—Market Beef—**

**Class 900 Market Beef** - Market animals will be divided into classes at the time of fair weigh-in.

**NUMBER OF MARKET BEEF THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Two (2) Market Beef

#### **MINIMUM ANIMAL WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Market Steers-minimum of 1000 lbs.
- Market Heifers-minimum of 900 lbs.
- Miniature Beef 450 lbs.

**MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

### **Division 23**

#### **—Breeding Beef—**

**Class 900 Yearling Heifer** Calved Jan 1 –Dec 31, last year.

**Class 901 Heifer Calf** Calved Jan 1-May 31 of current year.

#### **—Cow/Calf Pair—**

### **Division 24**

**Class 900 Cow/Calf Pair** Any Breed

This class is designed to be an extension of the breeding heifer project.

There are 2 Options for this Exhibit:

1. Once a heifer has been shown at the county fair, she is eligible to be shown by the same exhibitor in the Cow/Calf class at subsequent fairs. The heifer must be identified on form 2-07-75 at the County Extension Office by June 1 using an ear tattoo or family herd tag.
2. A purchased Cow/Calf Pair may be exhibited by the 4-H'er providing the 4-H'er is enrolled in the Breeding Beef Project and the cow is identified on form 2-07-75 at the County Extension Office by June 1 using an ear tattoo or family herd tag.

The cow in this class will be shown in a natural state, without clipping or washing. The calf may be clipped and groomed. The Cow/Calf winner will be determined by the confirmation, quality and mothering ability of the cow in addition to the conformation and quality of the calf.

**NUMBER OF BREEDING BEEF THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Breeding Beef (*Divisions 23 & 24 combined*)

#### **—Feeder Calf—**

Calves to be exhibited in this division must be identified and recorded with the County Extension Office on or before June 1.

### **Division 25**

**Class 900 Stocker Feeder Steer** Calved Jan 1-May 31 of current year.

**Class 901 Stocker Feeder Heifer** Calved Jan 1-May 31 of current year.

**Class 903 Bucket Calf** Exhibits will be judged on an interview basis and on how well the calf responds to the exhibitor when showing. Calves should be washed and combed only. Those exhibitors who have had their 13th birthday before Jan 1 of current year are ineligible to show in this class. Bucket calves may not be shown in regular showmanship.

**NUMBER OF FEEDER BEEF THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Two (2) Feeder Calves

**NUMBER OF BUCKET CALVES THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** One (1) Bucket Calf

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## Sheep

**Printed Material:** NATL4H06367 Sheep1: Lambs, Rams and You,  
NATL4H06368 Sheep 2: Shear Delight, NATL4H06369 Sheep 3: Leading the Flock  
**Reference Material:** 4H194R Sheep Resource Manual, EC20597 Livestock Judging Guide

### **General Instructions: Sheep**

1. GENERAL RULES-All general livestock rules (listed at the beginning of this department) apply.
2. USDA OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION-All ewes (market and breeding) must have the USDA Official ID tag in place (part of the scrapie eradication program). 4H tags not required
3. IDENTIFICATION-All market sheep must have been tagged and identified with the County Extension Office (form 4HF106) by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair.
4. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.
5. GROOMING-See Livestock/Animal General Rules.
6. DISQUALIFICATION-Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition.
7. NO MUZZLES ALLOWED-No muzzles or similar devices will be allowed.
8. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING-All exhibitors must have completed an approved food animal quality assurance training program. Exhibitors must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of quality assurance training will be certified by county extension staff or certified volunteer.
9. SHOW PRACTICES-The use of showing and/or handling practices that may be considered objectionable or abusive, such as striking or slapping lambs and exhibiting the lamb with its feet off the ground, are not acceptable. The use of such practices may result in the lowering of a ribbon placing.

#### **—Market Sheep—**

### **Division 31**

- Class 900** Market Lambs all Breeds Wethers and Ewes shown together.  
**Class 901** Feeder Lambs Under 90 pounds.  
**Class 902** Pen of Three  
**Class 903** Hair Sheep

#### **—Breeding Sheep—**

### **Division 32**

- Class 900** Yearling Ewes Born 09/01 to 08/31  
**Class 901** Ewe Lambs Born 09/01 and after

**NUMBER OF MARKET SHEEP THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Market Sheep

**NUMBER OF BREEDING SHEEP THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Two (2) Breeding Sheep

**MINIMUM WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Market Sheep-minimum of 90 lbs.

**MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## Swine

**Printed Material:** NATL4H08065 Swine 1: *The Incredible Pig*,  
NATL4H08066 Swine 2: *Putting the Oink in Pig*, NATL4H08067 Swine 3: *Going Whole Hog*  
**Reference Material:** 4H134R Swine Resource Manual, 4H357 Guide for Evaluating Livestock,  
EC20597 Livestock Judging Guide, 4H459 Nebraska Pork Quality Assurance

### General Instructions: Swine

1. GENERAL RULES-All general livestock rules (listed at the beginning of this department) apply.
2. SWINE IDENTIFICATION-Official 4-H ownership affidavits (4HF107) will be considered the official list of eligible hogs. Entries that do not match hogs on the affidavit will be disqualified without exception. The universal ear notch system with notches in both ears is required. All market swine must have been notched and identified by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair (they may also have tags, but tags are not required).
3. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.
4. GROOMING-See Livestock/Animal General Rules. Additionally—Swine must be shown without hairdressing compounds. This includes oil, powder, or any other coat dressing compounds considered objectionable by the packer. **WATER ONLY**
5. ENTRIES-Entries are due as indicated by your county extension office. Designation of a specific hog is not required prior to the fair.
6. DISQUALIFICATION-Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition
7. QUALITY ASSURANCE CERTIFICATION-Exhibitors must have received Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of training will be certified by county extension staff. Official NPPC Youth PQA Plus Certificates are not required to be presented at weigh in.
8. WATER-Only unaltered water is permitted. Pigs found in violation will be disqualified from the show. They will also be subject to all price discounts imposed by the packer for such compounds.
9. STATE FAIR-TERMINAL SHOW-Please note that the Nebraska State Fair swine show is a **TERMINAL** show. ALL MARKET SWINE, WHETHER ELIGIBLE OR INELIGIBLE TO SHOW MUST BE FORWARDED TO SLAUGHTER.

### Division 35

**Class 900** Market Gilts  
**Class 901** Market Barrows  
**Class 902** Pre-Market (under 220 pounds)  
**Class 903** Pen of Three

**NUMBER OF MARKET SWINE THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Market Swine

#### **MINIMUM ANIMAL WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Market Swine-minimum of 220 lbs.

**MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## **Dairy Cattle**

**Printed Material:** NATL4H08161 Dairy 1: Cowabunga!, NATL4H08162 Dairy 2: Mooving Ahead,  
NATL4H08163 Dairy 3: Rising to the Top

**Reference Material:** RP593 Learning about Dairy: A Resource Guide, RP96 Dairy Cow Management,  
RP97 Dairy Calves and Heifers

### **General Instructions: Dairy Cattle**

1. GENERAL RULES-All general livestock rules (listed at the beginning of this department) apply.
2. IDENTIFICATION-Dairy exhibitors must complete form 4HF108 and turn it in to the Extension Office by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair.
3. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules. Additionally— Dairy exhibitors may wear dark blue jeans or white pants.
4. GROOMING-See Livestock/Animal General Rules.
5. DISQUALIFICATION-Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition.
6. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING-All exhibitors must have completed Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of quality assurance training will be certified by county extension staff or certified volunteer.

### **Division 40**

- Class 900 Spring Heifer Calves** Born 03/01-04/30 of current year.  
**Class 901 Winter Heifer Calves** Born 12/1 (last year)-02/28 (current year).  
**Class 902 Fall Heifer Calves** Born 09/1-11/30 of last year.  
**Class 903 Summer Yearlings** Born 06/1-08/31 of last year.  
**Class 904 Spring Yearling** Born 03/01-05/31 of last year.  
**Class 905 Winter Yearling** Born 12/01 (year before last year)-02/28 (last year).  
**Class 906 Fall Yearling** Born 09/01-11/30 of the year before last year.  
**Class 907 Dry Cow** Any age.  
**Class 908 Two Year Old**  
**Class 909 Three Year Old**  
**Class 910 Four Year Old**  
**Class 911 Five year Old & Older**  
**Class 912 Junior Herds**

**NUMBER OF DAIRY CATTLE THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Two (2) Dairy Cattle

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## Goat

**Printed Material:** NATL4H07909 Meat Goat1: *Just Browsing*,  
NATL4H07910 Meat Goat 2: *Get Growing with Meat Goats*,  
NATL4H07911 Meat Goat 3: *Meating the Future*,  
NATL4H08352 Goat 1: *Getting Your Goat*, NATL4H08353 Goat 2: *Stepping Out*,  
NATL4H08354 Goat 3: *Showing the Way*

**Reference Material:** 4-H Meat Goat Guide online at <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/youth-projects>,  
P2177 Meat Goat Selection & Care,  
P2263 Market Goat Showmanship online at <http://msucares.com/publications>

### **General Instructions: Goat**

1. GENERAL RULES-All general livestock rules (listed at the beginning of this department) apply.
2. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS-All sheep and goats being exhibited, except wethers, need to be individually identified with USDA official ID. Under no circumstances may sheep or goats be exhibited which originate from scrapie-source flocks or scrapie-infested flocks.
3. GOAT IDENTIFICATION- All goats must have been tagged and identified with the County Extension Office (form 4HF111) by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair.
4. AGE-Goats are to have milk teeth and there shall be no evidence of breaking of the skin or eruption of the two permanent front teeth.
5. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.
6. GROOMING-See Livestock/Animal General Rules.
7. HAIR-Goats must be uniformly slick shorn with 3/8 inch of hair or less from the knee and up.
8. DISQUALIFICATION-Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits. These animals will be disqualified from competition. Additionally, animals showing signs of illegal drenching, injections, etc. will be disqualified from competition.
9. HORNS-Goats must have horns blunted. Dehorning is acceptable and preferred.
10. NECK CHAINS-Goats are to be shown with neck chains, smooth collars, or halters only.
11. SHOW CLASS AND SEX-Market goats may be doe or wether kids. Short scrotum, cryptorchid and buck kids are eligible. All market goats will be weighed and divided into classes based on total numbers and weight range. Does and wethers will show together.
12. SHOWMANSHIP-Exhibitors will not slap or brace the animal or lift the front legs off the ground while in the show ring.
13. QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING-All exhibitors must have completed Quality Assurance training or testing through a UNL Extension program prior to the fair. Program attendance or completion of a test in the county extension office is required. Completion of quality assurance training will be certified by county extension staff or certified volunteer.

#### **—Market Goats—**

### **Division 58**

**Class 900 Market Goats** Wethers and Does

**NUMBER OF MARKET GOATS THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Market Goats

#### **MINIMUM ANIMAL WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Market Goats-minimum of 50 lbs.

**MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

Goat p.1

**—Breeding Meat Goats—**

**Division 59**

**Class 910 Yearling Does** Born 9/1 last year to 8/31 current year

**Class 911 Doe Kids** Born 9/1 last year to 6/1 current year

**—Dairy Goats—**

**Division 59**

**Class 920 Dairy Goats**

**NUMBER OF BREEDING GOATS THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Breeding Goats

**NUMBER OF DAIRY GOATS THAT CAN BE SHOWN:** Three (3) Dairy Goats

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## Horse

**Printed Material:** NATL4H08053 Horse 1: *Giddy Up & Go*,  
 NATL4H08054 Horse 2: *Head, Heart & Hooves*, NATL4H08055 Horse 3: *Stable Relationships*,  
 NATL4H08056 Horse 4: *Riding the Range*, NATL4H08057 Horse 5: *Jumping to New Heights*  
**Reference Materials:** 4H458 *Horse Project Member Manual*, 4H426 *Horse Project Advancement Levels*  
**Horse References:** 4H373 *Nebraska 4-H Horse Show and Judging Guide*

### General Instructions: **Horse**

1. ELIGIBILITY-An exhibitor shall ride or show a certified project animal, be enrolled in the Horse Project and turn in a horse ID sheet by May 15.
2. DRESS CODE-Dress code requirements and examples are available from your County Extension Office.

### Division 60

#### —Showmanship—

**Class 900** Horse Showmanship

#### —Halter Classes—

Sexes shown separately. Limit of two.

- Class 910** Mare & Foal Mare with foal of current year.
- Class 911** Weanlings Jan 1 to Jun 1 foals.
- Class 912** Yearling
- Class 913** 2-Year Old
- Class 914** 3-5 Years Old
- Class 915** 6-12 Years Old
- Class 916** 13 Years and Older

#### —Performance Classes—

- Class 920** Pleasure
- Class 921** Horsemanship
- Class 922** Reining
- Class 923** Pole Bending
- Class 924** Barrel Racing
- Class 925** Trail

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**  
**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**  
**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**  
**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**



## **Poultry**

**Printed Material:** NATL4H06363 Poultry 1: *Scratching the Surface*,  
NATL4H06364 Poultry 2: *Testing Your Wings*, NATL4H06365 Poultry 3: *Flocking Together*

**Poultry References:** 4H460 National Poultry Judging, 4H308 Market Broilers

### **General Instructions: Poultry**

1. GENERAL RULES-General Livestock Rules apply to this department.
2. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS-Health certificate is not required for poultry. No additional testing requirements for Nebraska origin poultry.
3. BREEDS-To be eligible for breed exhibition, cockerel, pullet, cock or hen chicken entries must be fair representatives of one of the breeds listed in the American Standard of Perfection.
4. MINIMUM WEIGHTS-The minimum weights for exhibition birds will be as stated in The American Standard of Perfection and the Bantam Standard.
5. TRIO-A pen of egg production birds can be hybrids, crossbred or purebred and shall consist of 3 sexually mature females. Egg production females will be judged for production qualities only and need not necessarily conform to breed standards.
6. RULES FOR BANTAM & OTHER POULTRY-The rules for standard size chickens apply equally to bantams, waterfowl and turkey where applicable.
7. ENTRIES MUST BE 4-H PROJECT BIRDS-All poultry exhibited must be grown in a 4-H member's project.
8. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.

### **Division 70**

#### **—Large Fowl—**

- Class 900 American** (Plymouth Rock, Jersey Giant, Wyandotte, New Hampshire Red, Rhode Island Red)  
**Class 902 Asiatic** (Cochin, Brahmas, Langshan)  
**Class 903 English** (Cornish, Orpington, Australorps, Sussex, Dorklings)  
**Class 904 Mediterranean** (Leghorn, Buttercup, Minorca)  
**Class 905 Continental** (Polish, Hamburg, Campines, Faverolles, Houdan)  
**Class 906 All other Breeds** (Naked Neck, Game, Sumatra, Araucanas, Ameracanas)

#### **—Bantam—**

- Class 907 Game Bantam** (Modern and Old English)  
**Class 908 Single Comb Clean Legged** (Plymouth Rock, Leghorn, Japanese, Rhode Island Red, Orpingtons, New Hampshire)  
**Class 909 Rose Comb Clean Legged** (Rosecomb, Wyandotte, Sebright, Leghorn, Belgian Bearded D'Anver)  
**Class 910 All Other Comb Clean Legged** (Polish, Cornish, Houdan)  
**Class 911 Feather Legged Class** (Silkie, Cochin, Brahma, Belgian Bearded D'Uccle, Langshan)

#### **—Ducks—**

- Class 912 Heavy** (Pekin, Rouen, Muscovy)  
**Class 913 Medium** (Swedish, Buff, Crested, Cayuga)  
**Class 914 Light** (Runner, Khaki, Campbell)  
**Class 915 Bantam Ducks** (Call, Mallard, East Indie)

#### **—Goose—**

- Class 916 Goose** (all weights)  
**Class 917 Turkeys** (all weights)

#### **—Other Poultry Classes—**

**Class 918 Broiler, Individual**  
**Class 919 Any Poultry, Pen-of-Three**  
**Class 920 Production Trio**

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*DEPARTMENT G—DIVISION 70 CONTINUED*

### **General Instructions: Poultry Showmanship**

1. ELIGIBILITY-Any 4-H'er with a bird may enter the competition.
2. ELIGIBLE POULTRY-The participant may use any bird they choose, so long as it was raised and trained by the 4-H'er. Showmanship class must be entered with advance entry.
3. BASIS FOR JUDGING-Showmanship is based on grooming and training of the bird and the appearance and behavior of the exhibitor. The exhibitor must vocally explain the steps in their routine and the merit of the bird. Primarily showmanship is the skill of the exhibitor in presenting and explaining the bird before the judge. The excellence of the bird is not considered in scoring.
4. TIME LIMIT-There will be a four minute time limit to complete the showmanship presentation. Exhibitors will be timed.
5. JUDGES-The judges may or may not ask questions of the exhibitor at the close of the routine.

Information on the basis of judging poultry showmanship is found in Nebraska Cooperative Extension 4-H 191.

### **Class 930 Poultry Showmanship**

#### **NUMBER OF POULTRY THAT CAN BE SHOWN:**

- Four (4) Market Chickens
- One (1) per class Non-Market Poultry

#### **MINIMUM WEIGHT FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Market Chickens-as stated in The American Standard of Perfection

#### **MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

#### **\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

## **Rabbit**

**Printed Material:** NATL4H08080 Rabbit 1: What's Hoppening?, NATL4H08081 Rabbit 2: Making Tracks, NATL4H08082 Rabbit 3: All Ears.

**Rabbit References:** 4H339 Rabbits, Rabbits, Rabbits, 4H257 Judging 4-H Rabbit Shows

### **General Instructions: Rabbit**

1. GENERAL RULES-General Livestock Rules apply to this department.
2. QUALITY ASSURANCE-Quality assurance certification is required prior to the fair for market rabbits (Division 80—Classes 002, 003 and 004).
3. IDENTIFICATION-All rabbits except fryers must have permanent ID numbers or names tattooed in their ear with a pin tattoo pliers and tattoo ink (permanent marker numbers written in the ears of the rabbits are NOT permanent ID numbers).
4. OWNERSHIP-Ownership must have been certified on official 4-H ownership affidavits (4HF103) by the due date determined by the Extension Office to be eligible to show at county fair.
5. ID NUMBERS or names along with class information must be supplied to superintendent at time of entry. Showmanship entry animals must be ID'd also.
6. TATTOOS-All animals will be physically checked for tattoos during entry. Tattoos and class information must match the information found on the 4-H Affidavit form. Rabbits whose tattoos are not readable or do not match the 4-H Affidavit will not be allowed to show. Tattoos that have faded or are no longer readable should be re-done prior to fair.
7. DRESS CODE-Will be as required in Section R of Livestock/Animal General Rules.
8. **If Participation is low in a class, classes may be combined together.**

**Number of Entries** - A 4-H member may exhibit a maximum of six rabbit exhibits with no more than **two in any class.**

(EXAMPLE: A meat pen would be classified as one exhibit so an exhibitor could exhibit in excess of six rabbits with an exhibit possibly being more than one rabbit.)

### **Division 80**

#### **—Market Classes—**

<b>Class 002</b>	<b>Single Fryer</b>	Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds. Maximum weight of 5 pounds.
<b>Class 003</b>	<b>Meat Pen (3)</b>	Age limit 10 weeks. Minimum weight of 3 pounds each. Maximum weight 5 pounds each.
<b>Class 004</b>	<b>Roaster</b>	Must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight over 8 pounds.

#### **RABBIT WEIGHTS FOR SALE ELIGIBILITY:**

- Fryers and Meat Pen-Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds. Maximum weight of 5 pounds.
- Roaster-Must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight of over 8 pounds.

#### **MARKET ANIMALS LIGHTER THAN MINIMUM WEIGHT MAY SHOW BUT MAY NOT BE SOLD**

**\*\*REMINDER—SHOWMANSHIP AGES ARE:**

**JUNIOR-AGES 8-10**

**INTERMEDIATE-AGES 11-13**

**SENIOR-AGES 14-18**

### Breeding Classes

**Fancy rabbits** are raised primarily for show and are judged by body type, size and markings that are in accordance with breed standards. Breeds in this category include: English Angora, French Angora, Belgian Hare, Dutch, Standard Chinchilla, Netherland Dwarf, Rex, Silver, Tan, Britannia Petite, Dwarf Hotot, English Spot, Florida White, Fuzzy Lop, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Jersey Woolie, Lilac, Holland Lop, Mini Log, Mini Rex, Polish, Rhinelander, Lionhead, Sable and Silver Marten.

**Commercial rabbits** are those breeds raised for meat and fur production. Some of the breeds in this category include: American, California, American Checkered Giant, Cinnamon, Flemish Giant, English Lop, French Lop, New Zealand, Satin, Beveren, Blanc De Hotot, Blue Vienna, Champagne D'Argent, American Chinchilla, Creme E'Argent, Giant Angora, Palomino and SilverFox.

- 1) Breeding Rabbits may be divided into the following age divisions: a) Junior-Six months old and younger
- b) Senior-Over six months old.
- c) Note: A Breeding Rabbit that is exactly six months old on show day will be shown as a Junior Division rabbit. A Fancy Breed rabbit that is six months plus one day old on show day will be shown as a Senior Division Rabbit.
- 2) Age will be the age of the rabbit on show date
- 3) Class breakdown will be by the age of the rabbit not by the weight of the rabbit.

#### **Division 80 - Fancy Breed**

Class 005 Junior Doe, under 6 months  
Class 006 Junior Buck, under 6 months  
Class 007 Senior Doe, over 6 months  
Class 008 Senior Buck, over 6 months

#### **Division 80- Commercial Breeds**

Class 009 Junior Doe, under 6 months  
Class 010 Junior Buck, under 6 months  
Class 011 Senior Doe, over 6 months  
Class 012 Senior Buck, over 6 months

### **General Instructions: Rabbit Showmanship**

1. ELIGIBILITY-Any 4-H'er with a rabbit may enter the competition.
2. SHOWMANSHIP-The participant may use any rabbit they choose, so long as it was raised and trained by the 4-H'er. Showmanship class must be entered with advance entry.
3. BASIS FOR JUDGING-Showmanship is based on grooming and training of the rabbit and the appearance and behavior of the exhibitor. The exhibitor must vocally explain the steps in their routine and the merit of the rabbit. Primarily showmanship is the skill of the exhibitor in presenting and explaining the rabbit before the judge. The excellence of the rabbit is not considered in scoring.
4. TIME LIMIT-Maximum length of showmanship presentations is four minutes. Exhibitors will be timed.
5. JUDGES-The judges may or may not ask questions of the exhibitor at the close of the routine.
6. RABBIT BREEDS-Note that any breed of rabbit may be shown as part of the showmanship competition.

# *Future Livestock Sale order*

**2021 Swine, Sheep, Goat, Beef**

**2022 Sheep, Goat, Beef, Swine**

**2023 Goat, Beef, Swine, Sheep**

**2024 Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goat**

**2025 Swine, Sheep, Goat, Beef**

**2026 Sheep, Goat, Beef, Swine**