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<https://www.facebook.com/KnoxCountyNebraskaExtension/>

## June 2024 4-H Newsletter

### Important Dates:

June 11	Clover Kid Camp – Center
June 13	Foods Workshop – Pies
<b>June 15</b>	<b>Deadline for 4-H Enrollments &amp; Membership Dues</b>
<b>June 15</b>	<b>All Animal ID Forms DUE</b>
June 15	State Fair Animal Nominations DUE
June 18	4-H Council Meeting – Center
June 19	YQCA Training – Creighton
June 21	Horse Clinic – Bloomfield
June 26	4-H Project Day - Center

### 2024 Knox County Fair Dates

Mark August 8-11 on your calendars for the 2024 Knox County Fair.

Knox County 4-H information is available on our website at

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/>

Facebook at:

<https://go.unl.edu/knoxcountyfacebook>



## 2024 Knox County 4-H Fairbook

The 2024 Knox County 4-H Fairbook is available. Contact your club leader or the Extension Office for your family's copy. For the online version visit

<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/fair/>.

### Important Updates in this Issue:

- **Livestock Identification Requirements – Deadline June 15<sup>th</sup> for County & State Fair**
- State Fair Show Stock Online Nomination Process & DNA Envelopes–Deadline June 15
- **Aksarben Stock Show – New Online Nomination Process**
- YQCA Face-to-Face Dates
- Horse Clinics
- 4-H State Horse Show
- 4-H Enrollment Due June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Bucket Calf Workshop
- Cook-Off & Favorite Revue Contests
- 4-H Fashion Show
- 4-H Talent Contest
- Fairy Garden Workshop
- Horticulture & Floriculture Projects
- 4-H Manuals/Resources
- Photography Theme – My Favorite Place in Knox County
- County Challenge - Gnomes
- Knox County 4-H Shooting Sports Program
- State Fair Information & Other Events in Nebraska

Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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# 2024 Livestock Identification Requirements June 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline



## County Fair

- Paper ID forms will be required for county animals. (No change from previous years). Forms are available at the office or visit <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/livestock-affidavits/>.
- County-only animals will use the 4-H ear tags available at the Extension Office. The animals that are nominated for State Fair will not need county ear tags. The EID or Scrapie tag will be used for identification.
- Clover Kids must follow the identification requirements and have ID forms to the extension office by the June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- The 2024 Animal Identification Guidelines further explains the ID requirements for each animal or it's available at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/animal-resources-id-forms-record-books-yqca/> or in the 4-H Fairbook.



**State Fair** - For 2024, DNA nominations are required for all livestock in contention to exhibit. See the 2024 Animal Identification Guidelines that further explain the ID requirements for each animal.

- DNA nominations will be \$7.00 per envelope. Any DNA nomination sent in from the Extension Office or FFA Advisor will also be eligible for the AKSARBEN Stock Show. (Please note Aksarben's new online nomination information in this newsletter.)
- **Exhibitors are responsible for submitting their animal information into the Show Stock Manager Livestock Database (<https://showstockmgr.com>) prior to the nomination deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup>.**
- This is not the system to enter livestock for the State Fair – **only nominations**.
- State Fair Livestock Dual Eligibility - Females may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA envelope with hair samples has been submitted to the extension office and the family has completed the online nomination for both market and breeding along with payment by June 15. Families will need to decide if the animal will be shown in market or breeding classes by August 10.



The County Extension Office/FFA Advisors will continue to mail in the DNA samples to the AKSARBEN office by the respected deadline. The County Extension Office/FFA Advisor will validate the nominations which will then be available for exhibitors to make State Fair entries in the Showworks program.

**Any animal entry not in the database or that does not have submitted DNA will not be considered nominated and eligible for State Fair.**

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## Livestock DNA Envelopes

4-H/FFA youth planning to exhibit Market Animals, Breeding Animals or Feeder Calves at the 2024 Nebraska State Fair are required to provide a DNA sample for each animal. The State Fair is no longer using past year's envelopes. You will need to stop by the office to pick up new ones for 2024!

### AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW

Youth 9-19 years of age are eligible for the competition with no prerequisite of youth organization affiliation. 4-H animals nominated for State Fair are eligible for Aksarben. Visit <https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com/> for more information. 2024 dates are September 26-29.

### Premises Identification Reminder

Exhibitors of 4-H and FFA market animals (beef, swine, sheep, and goat) must have a Premises Identification Number to show at the Nebraska State Fair. If an exhibitor does not have a number, you need to obtain it through the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Visit <https://nda.nebraska.gov/adt/premises.html>

### Aksarben Stock Show – New Online Nomination Process

Aksarben Stock Show is adding a new step to the process for the Aksarben Stock Show this year, online nomination. Youth that have purchased their DNA through your Extension Office will need to complete this online nomination to be eligible for the Aksarben Stock Show. They will not need to purchase a new DNA envelope. Aksarben will be accepting online nominations from May 1<sup>st</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 p.m. Refer to Aksarben website, [aksarbenstockshow.com](https://www.aksarbenstockshow.com), which will have the link where to go to nominate, instructions specific for those that will be dual nominating for both shows, and frequently asked questions.

***Please note, the Aksarben Stock Show online nomination system will be different than Show Stock Manager. 4-H/FFA families who want to be nominated for both NSF and Aksarben will only need to submit one DNA envelope but will now have to submit the online nomination in two different databases.***



Nebraska 4-H requires all youth enrolled in livestock projects to complete an **annual** quality assurance training through the YQCA program. YQCA is a national multi-species quality assurance program focused on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development. 4-H members who exhibit beef animals, dairy cattle, dairy goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine must have the YQCA certification completed before fair. 4-H members who exhibit at the Nebraska State Fair will need to have their YQCA training requirements met by the date of entry for those respective shows.

The annual training may be completed by one of the following:

- **Face-to-Face Training with a Certified Instructor: \$3.00 each** – 4-H'ers will need to register at <https://yqcaprogram.org/> and pay the **\$3 fee** prior to the training. **Each participant MUST complete a pre-test and a post-test.**

#### Knox County Face-to-Face trainings:

- **June 19, 2024 in Creighton – 1:00 p.m.**
- **July 18, 2024 in Bloomfield – 5:00 p.m.**
- **July 23, 2024 in Crofton – 5:00 p.m.**

Help document can be found at [https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA\\_HelpDoc\\_GettingILTCertification\\_2023.pdf](https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA_HelpDoc_GettingILTCertification_2023.pdf)

- **Online Course: \$12.00 each.** – Help document can be found at [https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA\\_HelpDoc\\_GettingWBTCertification\\_2023.pdf](https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA_HelpDoc_GettingWBTCertification_2023.pdf)

- **Online Test Out:** This option is only available to youth in the first year of Intermediate (age 12) and Senior (age 15) age levels. There is no test-out option for Juniors. **Costs are: Intermediate - \$36 (\$12 x 3 years of certification) and Senior - \$48 (\$12 x 4 years of certification).** If you pass, you will not be required to complete the annual training requirements for the remainder of your current age level (Intermediates: 12-14; and Seniors: 15-18). Each test consists of fifty randomly selected questions and has a pass rate of 80% or better for certification. More information on the Online Test-Out option is available at <https://4h.unl.edu/yqca>. Help document can be found at [https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA\\_HelpDoc\\_GettingTestOutCertification\\_2023.pdf](https://yqcaprogram.org/local/pdf/YQCA_HelpDoc_GettingTestOutCertification_2023.pdf)



# HORSE CLINICS

LED BY TERRI ROSE 

Clinics will cover  
**SHOW & SPEED EVENTS**

- **Age requirement:** Must be 8 on January 1, 2024, to participate with your horse
- Youth who wish to participate WITHOUT bringing a horse are welcome to come and listen, no cost or limit
- Rain date will be announced if needed

**Dates:** Friday, June 21st & Friday, July 12th

**Time:** 8:00 AM -Noon (Both days)

**Location:** Outdoor Arena, Fairgrounds in Bloomfield (both days)

**Class limit:** 15 youth with horse

**Cost:** 1 time charge of \$5 for participants with horse, youth are NOT required to attend both days.

## Please Register by June 19

To register, please call the

Knox County Extension Office at  
(402)- 288-5611



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## 4-H State Horse Show

**July 13-17, 2024**  
**Fonner Park, Grand Island**

Get access to everything you need straight from your home screen! Download the Nebraska Extension mobile app for easy access to the schedules, announcements, results, and more!

[iPad or iPhone App](#)

[Android App](#)

Visit <https://4h.unl.edu/horse-expo> to download the app and more details!

## 2024 enrollment/re-enrollment MUST be completed by June 15<sup>th</sup> to exhibit at the Knox County Fair or any 4-H Contests.



Visit <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>. You should be able to login with your email and password from last year. Please review your information and update any information needed. There are also links to guides that may help you enroll if you need assistance, visit <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/youth-enrollment-information/>, or call the extension office.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** 4-H membership dues must be paid by June 15 and are \$5.00 per member and no cost per Clover Kid. The dues are used for 4-H programming, supplemental insurance, and scholarships in the county. Please give your dues to your club leader or send them to the extension office. Make checks payable to the Knox County 4-H Council. Membership dues must be paid by June 15 to be eligible to exhibit at the Knox County Fair or any competitive 4-H events that year. Competitive events include all Pre-Fair Contests and Shooting Sports Contests.

Check out our **Animal Resources Page** on our website at <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/animal-resources-id-forms-record-books-yqca/>. Scroll down to find **showing and judging resources**.



# **YQCA & BUCKET CALF** **WORKSHOP**

Knox County Fairgrounds, Bloomfield NE  
Thursday, July 18, 2024



**YQCA Training, 4-H Building**  
**5:00-6:00 PM**

\$3 -payable when registering

**Visit [YQCAprogram.org](http://YQCAprogram.org) to pre-register.**

**Bucket Calf Workshop, Church Stand**  
**6:00 -6:45 PM**

**No cost or registration**

Following the YQCA Training, a Bucket Calf Workshop will be held outside by the Church Concession Stand on the fairgrounds. Topics covered will include:

- record book
- interview
- showmanship

Record books will be available for pickup, as well as a Q&A on record books.



## Cook-Off and Food Revue Contests

Make plans now to take part in the Cook-Off Contest and Food Revue Contest on Thursday, July 25 in Bloomfield. The Cook-Off Contest and Food Revue will begin at 5:30 p.m. Call the Extension Office to pre-register by July 22. Fliers with complete details are included in this newsletter or see pages 45-46 in the Fairbook.

**The Food Revue Contest** is open to all 4-H members including Clover Kids. The Food Revue Contest is a fun way to learn how to properly set a table, plan nutritious meals, express originality and creativity in choosing a theme, and express knowledge of food, nutrition, and food safety.



**The Cook-Off Contest** is only available to 4-H members (ages 8 and over) and the entry must include at least one pound of beef, pork, or poultry per four servings. Prepare your exhibit at home and bring the entire dish ready to serve, the entire recipe, the menu and a plate to serve a sample to the judge.

If you have questions about the contests or need help in preparing, resources are available at the office.



### 4-H Fashion Show Thursday, August 1

**New location!**

**4-H Exhibit Building (Static Building), Fairgrounds in Bloomfield**

Registration 1:00 pm; Judging 1:30 pm

Public Fashion Show 7:00 pm

See the flier with complete details in this newsletter or see page 69 in the Fairbook.

Pre-entry forms will be mailed out and will be due July 22.



### 4-H Talent Contest

Thursday, July 25, 7:30 p.m.

**First Trinity Lutheran Church Social Hall, Bloomfield**

Plan to take part in the 4-H Talent Contest and share your talent with others. The evening will showcase the talents of 4-H members. See the flier with complete details in this newsletter or see page 48 in the Fairbook.

## NEW for 2024 in the Clothing Area

**Clothing Exhibits will be entered on Wednesday, August 7, and judged on Thursday, August 8, of the Fair.**

All Beyond the Needle, STEAM Clothing, Sewing for Fun, General Clothing, Knitting, Crochet, Quilt Quest, Attention Shopper/Shopping In Style exhibits will no longer be judged during the Fashion Show judging.

**N EXTENSION** Fairy Garden Workshops

JULY 10, 2024  
9:00 - 11:00 A.M.  
GROWING GRACE GARDEN & GREENHOUSE  
108 NORTH BROADWAY, BLOOMFIELD



Growing Grace Garden & Greenhouse is hosting a fairy garden workshop for 4-H members. Create your own fairy garden complete with 2 succulent plants and 3 fairy figurines.

*Registration*

Register by July 1st  
Call the Extension Office: 402-288-5611  
\$25 (Bring Your Own Pot)  
\$30 (Pot Included with Workshop)  
Registration Limit: 25

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## Horticulture/Floriculture Projects

As you are planting your seeds this year, please keep track of your variety names. These are needed when you enter your fair exhibits. Keep your seed packets or start a gardening journal with the variety names.



## Vegetable Gardening Beginner Tips

Vegetable gardening is gaining popularity and what a great way to help your kids learn about growing their own food. As with anything, beginners make mistakes. For information on beginner tips visit <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/vegetable-gardening-beginner-tips/>. Another resource available is the Hort Update, a FREE monthly newsletter from the University of Nebraska Extension, which provides timely information to homeowners. You can subscribe by visiting <https://communityenvironment.unl.edu/hortupdate>.

## 4-H MANUALS/RESOURCES

A limited supply of 4-H project manuals or resources is available in the Extension Office  
4-H manuals/resources can be ordered at:

- 4-H Youth Development UNL Marketplace:  
<https://marketplace.unl.edu/extension/nebraska-4-h/4-h-curriculum>
- 4-H Mall <https://shop4-h.org/pages/curriculum>



## 2024 Knox County 4-H Photography Theme

### *My Favorite Place in Knox County*

Open to all members  
enrolled in 4-H.

## 2024 Knox County Challenge “Gnomes”

Use your imagination and exhibit a “Gnome”. No project enrollment is required. Check out Pinterest for ideas.

4-H member Gnome Exhibit-F510902  
Clover Kid Gnome Exhibit-K100915



# Knox County 4-H Shooting Sports Program

The Shooting Sports projects and programs offer opportunities for youth to learn safe gun handling skills and sound fundamentals of shooting under the guidance of caring and knowledgeable adult volunteers. Knox County has certified leaders for the following projects: Archery; Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and BB Gun; Smallbore Rifle and Pistol (.22 caliber); and Shotgun.

**Youth must be enrolled with the Nebraska Extension 4-H Office in Knox County before participating in the Shooting Sports Projects and Contests.**

## Knox County 4-H Shooting Sports Contests:

- .22 Pistol Contest – Saturday, August 3, Knox County Fairgrounds
- .22 Rifle & Shotgun Contests – Saturday, August 3, Knox County Fairgrounds
- Archery Contest – Sunday, August 4, Knox County Fairgrounds
- BB Gun, Air Rifle & Air Pistol Contests – Wednesday, August 7, Knox County Fairgrounds



## Archery Practice Dates

Practices will be held every Monday night in June and July. **A parent, grandparent and or guardian needs to be present with shooters under the age of 16.** All practices start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the Bloomfield Airport. All shooters must attend at least 2 practices each year to participate in the official contest. If you have questions about Archery Practices, contact Kevin Millikan at 402-640-3322 or Becky Millikan at 402-640-4643.

## BB Gun, Air Rifle & Air Pistol Practice Dates

Practices will be held on June 17 and 24 and July 8, 15, 22, and 29. Practices will start at 7:00 pm and will be held at the Bloomfield Airport, 54240 880 Rd, Bloomfield. All shooters must attend at least 2 practices each year to participate in the official contest.

## .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol and Shotgun Practice Dates

Practices will be held every Thursday night in June and July. There will **not** be a practice on July 4<sup>th</sup>. All Shotgun practices will start at 6:00 pm. All .22 Pistol & .22 Rifle practices will start at 6:30 pm. Both will be held at the Knox County Fairgrounds in Bloomfield. **All practices will end at 8:30 pm, NO EXCEPTIONS.** All shooters must attend at least 2 practices each year to participate in the official contest. If there is any question about the weather on a given night, visit the Knox County Shooting Sports Group on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/211566702207387/>) for updates.

Upcoming Shooting Sports Dates: (<https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports>)





## Nebraska 4-H State Fair Book

The Nebraska 4-H State Fair Book is available at <https://4h.unl.edu/state-fair>.

### 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 is open to all youth, as well as adults. Youth do not need to be enrolled 4-H members to participate. The contest will be available from **8:00 AM on Friday, June 7, 2023, through 8:00 AM on Friday, June 21, 2024**. For details visit <https://4h.unl.edu/online-horticulture-judging-contest> or call the office.

### Nebraska State Fair 4-H Culinary Challenge!

The 2024 challenge ingredient is **SOYBEANS!** This can be any form of soybeans used for food such as edamame, tofu, tempeh, soymilk, soybean oil, soy nuts, soy sauce, etc. For more information regarding the contest, please contact your local Extension office and visit <https://4hfairbook.unl.edu/fairbookview.php/contests/22>.

The 4-H Photography Showcase offers a project exhibition opportunity beyond traditional print media. Each month, 4-H'ers are invited to submit their favorite photo through the online form <https://4h.unl.edu/photography-showcase>. Submissions are accepted on a continual basis. However, youth may only submit one photo per month. Photos will be selected from submissions and showcase online by Nebraska 4-H, including on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



The Nebraska 4-H Livestock Achievement Program is designed to promote all educational aspects of 4-H livestock projects, including selection, production, leadership, and exhibition, by recognizing youth striving to improve their livestock project knowledge and leadership. Members of Excellence are recognized within each 4-H livestock project area, including: beef, sheep, meat goat, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goat, rabbit, and poultry. Visit <https://4h.unl.edu/livestock-achievement> and apply to participate in the program by June 15.

### Area Animal Shows and Events

(visit <https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/animal-shows-events/> for more information)

#### Livestock Shows, Clinics & Judging Contests:

- South Dakota Swine Summit – Brookings, SD – June 13, 2024
- [Dawes County 4-H Progress Show](#) - Chadron - June 15, 2024
- [Cream of the Crop Dairy Show](#) - West Point - June 15, 2024
- 4-H Beef Progress Show – Ogallala – June 15, 2024
- [Red Willow County Progress Show](#) - McCook - June 16, 2024
- 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Papio Valley Livestock Show – Springfield – June 22, 2024
- Adams County Progress Show – Hastings – June 22, 2024
- Platte County Showmanship Clinic – Columbus – June 22, 2024
- Sheridan County Goat, Beef, Sheep & Swine 4-H Progress Show – Gordon – June 23, 2024
- Great Plains Livestock Judging Circuit – visit <https://4h.unl.edu/great-plains-livestock-judging-circuit>

#### Horse:

- Perkins County Trail Riders 4-H Horse Show – Grant – June 15, 2024
- Horsemanship Clinic with Rebekah Irish – Lexington – June 22, 2024
- Horsemanship Clinic with Rebekah Irish – Lincoln – June 23, 2024
- [Silver Spurs 4-H Horse Show](#) - Imperial - June 29, 2024
- 4-H Invitational Horse Show – Kearney – July 7, 2024
- [State 4-H Horse Expo](#) will be held July 13-17, 2024, at the Fonner Park in Grand Island.

#### Small Animals:

- [4-H Small Animal Progress Show](#) - Holdridge - June 1, 2024
- Platte Valley 4 Paws Dog Show – North Plate – June 29, 2024
- [4-H Companion Animal Opportunities](#) - Visit: <https://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal>



## Youth Crop Scouting Competition - Connecting Youth with Crops

Looking for a fun club project? Want to unite your club members? Running out of ideas for club meetings? If you answered, “yes” to any of these questions, help is on the way! Nebraska Extension is pleased to present the 11th annual Crop Scouting Competition for Nebraska youth. Youth interested in crops can learn about crop growth & development and basic crop scouting principles.

Don't know a lot about crops? Ask a local agronomist to assist by providing a short lesson on crop production. You can have the agronomist meet with youth

a little during each meeting or outside of the meeting. This is one way to engage those youth interested in crops.

This contest will be held at the Eastern Nebraska Research & Extension Center near Mead, Nebraska on August 7, 2024. The event will include both indoor and outdoor events. Teams of junior high and high school students (those completing 5-12th grades) from across Nebraska are invited to participate. This event is limited to the first ten teams who sign-up!

Clubs or other organizations may enter a team composed of three to five participants. An adult team leader must accompany each team of students. Team leaders could be FFA advisors, crop consultants, extension staff, coop employees, etc.

Top-scoring teams win prizes: \$500 for first, \$250 for second, \$100 for third place. Top two teams will be eligible for regional competition held in Nebraska this year.

Teams will be expected to know the basics of scouting corn and soybean fields. This includes crop staging; looking for patterns of crop injury; disease, insect and weed seedling identification; etc. Other topics many include but are not limited to, pesticide safety, nutrient disorders, and herbicide injury.

More information about the crop scouting competition and instructions on how to register a team are available online at [cropwatch.unl.edu/youth](https://cropwatch.unl.edu/youth). Register at: <https://go.unl.edu/cropscoutingreg>

Teams must be registered by July 15. This program is sponsored by Nebraska Independent Crop Consultant Association, Ward Laboratories, the Nebraska Soybean Board and Nebraska Extension.

# 2024 Youth Crop Scouting Competition

## August 7, 2024

Youth will learn how to scout corn and soybeans!

Obtain knowledge that will be helpful in future agricultural careers!

Network with University and agricultural professionals!

Registration due July 15th at [go.unl.edu/cropscoutingreg](http://go.unl.edu/cropscoutingreg)

For more information, call NE Extension - Fillmore Co. at 402-759-3712 or email [brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu](mailto:brandy.vandewalle@unl.edu).

Cash prizes for 1st-3rd place teams!



### 2024 Sponsors:



[CROPWATCH.UNL.EDU/YOUTH](http://CROPWATCH.UNL.EDU/YOUTH)



[#CROPSCOUTCOMP](https://twitter.com/CROPSCOUTCOMP)



The 4-H Volunteer Connection is a monthly e-newsletter for 4-H volunteers to get exclusive tips, tricks, and support to help volunteers excel in their role, all delivered straight to their inbox. Volunteers subscribe to this e-newsletter at [4h.unl.edu/volunteer-connection](http://4h.unl.edu/volunteer-connection).

More details at: <https://4h.unl.edu/volunteer-connection>

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Address Service Requested



Find all this information inside and visit  
<https://extension.unl.edu/statewide/knox/4-h-newsletters/>

<b>4-H</b> <b>Enrollments</b> <b>Due June 15th</b>	<b>YQCA</b> <b>Trainings</b>	<b>Livestock</b> <b>Identification</b> <b>Papers Due June</b> <b>15th</b>
<b>Cook-off Contest</b> <b>Food Revue</b> <b>Talent Contest</b> <b>Fashion Show</b>	<b>Shooting</b> <b>Sports</b> <b>Practices</b> <b>Begin in June</b>	<b>State Fair</b> <b>Livestock Online</b> <b>Nominations and</b> <b>DNA Samples Due</b> <b>June 15th</b>
	<b>Bucket Calf</b> <b>Workshop</b>	

# 4-H Reminders

