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**TO: 4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS**  
**FROM: PERKINS COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE**

The product of your animal projects enters the food chain and they must provide a safe wholesome product for consumers. Ethical treatment of animals and ethical showing practices are imperative. Improper use of animal health products on show stock (tranquilizers not labeled for food animals, diuretics to make animals lose weight rapidly, anti-inflammatory agents and performance enhancing drugs) is not only unethical but in many cases illegal. Animals found containing these products at the slaughter plant must be destroyed. Read the label or check with your veterinarian. Exhibitors need to be fully aware of their responsibilities.

The enclosed affidavit asks that you certify, to the best of your knowledge, that beef cattle, sheep and goats were not fed finishing rations that contain prohibited proteins such as ruminant meat and bone. The issue of food safety constantly has animal agriculture under the microscope; there can be no slack in providing consumers the assurance that animal products from your animal meet the highest of quality standards.

The County Fair Board is very concerned about the use of drugs at the Perkins County Fair. **THE ENCLOSED AFFIDAVIT MUST BE COMPLETED AND TURNED WITH THE ANIMAL PRE-ENTRY FORM. A secondary form has been enclosed for use if your animal(s) require medications prior to fair, but, after the pre-entry deadline.**

**Entry Forms for Each Animal Species:** The enclosed entry forms need to be completed and turned into the Extension Office no later than **NOON, Tuesday, June 27th.**

Livestock Rules & Regulations can be found in the 2017 4-H Animal and Livestock Exhibitor Fair Book. This book also contains rules and code of conduct for 4-H livestock exhibitors and their parents. **The 2017 Livestock Fair Book is posted on Perkins County 4-H page of the Perkins-Chase County Extension Website: <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/perkins-chase/perkins-county-fair-pre-entry-forms/>.** Hard copies of any section of the fair book are available from the Extension Office upon request.

**ONLY ONE WEIGH IN DATE**

There will be only ONE weigh in date/time this year. Livestock weigh ins for *market* animals will be **Wednesday, July 19 from 5:00-7:00 PM.** Animals will be weighed ONCE—there will be NO reweighs.

**Livestock Vet Check**

ALL large livestock will be Vet checked upon arrival at the fairgrounds for check in/weigh in. We ask that you **DO NOT** unload your animals until they have been checked by the Veterinarian.

2017 Livestock Show and Sale The Perkins County Livestock Show and Sale regulations for the 2017 Perkins County Fair are as follows. Animals will be sold by the head. An exhibitor also has the option to sell for *premium only*. An animal sold for premium must be shown at the Nebraska State Fair, The Aksarben 4-H Livestock Show, The American Royal or The Denver Western stock shows. Failure to show will result in the loss of the premium. Premium from the sale will be distributed to the 4-H'er after completing the show. Animals that are not sold for premium are not eligible to be shown in any other livestock show. Animals that sell at the livestock sale are not eligible to show at the State Fair.

**Number of Animals That Can Be Shown:**

|        |          |            |                  |
|--------|----------|------------|------------------|
| Goats: | Market—3 | Breeding—3 | Dairy—3          |
| Sheep: | Market—3 | Breeding—2 |                  |
| Swine: | Market—3 |            |                  |
| Beef:  | Market—2 | Breeding—3 | Feeder—2 Dairy—2 |

**NEW FOR 2017--Number of Market Animals That Can Sell:**

**one (1) market beef and one (1) market small animal (sheep, swine, goat, rabbit(s) or chicken(s))—for a total of two (2) market animals OR two (2) market small animals (not market beef) in any combination**

All animals not sold will be released Saturday, July 22nd at 6:00 pm.



Washing Swine & Sheep: A schedule will again be posted so you can sign up for a time to wash your sheep or swine on the day of the show. Each 4-H'er is limited to 15 minutes to wash their 2-3 animals and we ask you to try to stay on schedule.

Livestock Stalls: Livestock stalls will be on a first come-first serve basis. Beef exhibitors may have a stall for each animal plus one extra stall per family. Blocking chutes will not be allowed in the barn again this year. Areas on each side of the barn will be designated for blocking chutes.

Swine Show: The county swine show is a terminal show. Only swine shown for "premium only" may be taken home. The swine show will take place at **8:00 AM Thursday**. **Reminder: Minimum/Maximum Weights for Sale Eligibility are 220 lbs. Minimum and 325 lbs. Maximum.**

Goats/Sheep: All goats/sheep being exhibited, except wethers, need to be individually identified with USDA official ID. These tags are available from the breeder of your animals or the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. The sheep and goats will show at **8:00 AM Thursday**.

Market Beef: The beef show will be **Friday morning, beginning at 8:00 AM**.

Bucket/Feeder Calves/Breeding Beef/Dairy Cattle: These animals should be brought in **Friday morning for the 8:00 AM beef show**.

Cow/Calf Class: The cow is to be shown in a "natural" state while the calf may be clipped and groomed. The calf will also be allowed to show in the Stocker/Feeder class. These animals should be brought in **Friday morning for the 8:00 AM beef show**.

Showing & Grooming: Fitting and exhibiting of project livestock is an important part of the 4-H project plan. Excusing a member from personally exhibiting his/her animal(s) defeats one of the important objectives of a 4-H animal project. An animal must be shown by the 4-H owner who entered it unless the exhibitor is excused because of serious illness or disability due to an injury (e.g. broken arm or leg). An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class need not secure approval for another Perkins County 4-H member to show the additional animal in the class.

Exhibitors are expected to do the work in grooming their animals for the show. Only the 4-Her and immediate family are allowed to groom the animal. Professional groomers are not permitted. **NEW for 2017—ALL livestock animals will be shown Blow and Go; animals may be clipped, blown and brushed or combed to enhance their appearance. Only oil or water-based products can be applied. No adhesives or paints. Please see the 2017 Perkins County Livestock Fair Book for complete guidelines:** <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/perkins-chase/perkins-county-fair-pre-entry-forms/>

Stalls and Animal Care: All pens and stalls will be identified with exhibitor cards. Ribbon placing stickers will be provided and should be placed on exhibit cards. Animals must be adequately cared for until they leave the fairgrounds. **ALL livestock exhibitors and at least one parent are expected to help out with post fair barn clean up. Clean up is scheduled for Sunday, July 23; 7 AM.**

Livestock Sale: **Livestock sale flyers will be available ONLINE this year.** You will find them on the same page as the fair book: <http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/perkins-chase/perkins-county-fair-pre-entry-forms/>. It is the responsibility of the 4-H members and 4-H families to invite buyers to the sale. Hard copies of the sale flyer will be available for families to pick up from the Extension Office upon request.

State Fair Entries: 4-H families will be required to enter their own State Fair Livestock entries via ShoWorks online. An informational sheet will be provided to any family upon request that plans to enter animals in the 2017 Nebraska State Fair. **\*\*Remember—Livestock is eligible to show at State Fair only if DNA samples/breeding nominations were turned in by the deadline.\*\***