



4-H ANIMAL EXHIBITOR HANDBOOK 2024

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SECTION I: GENERAL COUNTY INFORMATION

A. Ethics

Nebraska 4-H livestock programs strive to create an atmosphere that encourages good character, accountability and ethical decision making. The International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) National Code of Show Ring Ethics (see State Fair Premium Book, General Livestock Rules) outlines a number of specific guidelines for all exhibitors and others involved with 4-H livestock projects.

In summary, these guidelines expect the following:

1. **Exhibitors:** Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Exhibitors 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 livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations that they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.
2. **Leaders:** All leaders working with junior 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, owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, and responsible persons 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 further competition.

B. Establishing a System

The County Extension staff is responsible for establishing a system to assist families in completing the livestock animal identification/nomination process, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training, examination for horsemanship levels in the county and maintaining an accurate record in 4HOnline. The County Extension staff is also responsible for certifying that the animals being entered in 4-H shows are properly identified and listed on identification and nomination records.

C. Certifying Eligibility

The County Extension staff is also responsible for certifying the eligibility (age, 4-H membership, YQCA training) of 4-H members for exhibiting at Extension sponsored shows.

D. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

As indicated in B, County Extension staff are responsible for establishing a system for livestock quality assurance training in the county utilizing the YQCA program (through either online, face-to-face, or a hybrid of both). Training should be tracked using 4HOnline as outlined by the State 4-H Office. YQCA programs are designed to help youth understand the responsibilities involved in raising livestock for food and are encouraged to implement good management practices by the youth and/or family members to be consistent with YQCA practices. YQCA training is mandatory for all exhibitors of livestock, or food-producing livestock animal projects (beef, sheep, swine, goat, dairy cattle, dairy goat, poultry, and rabbit) at county and state level events. This applies for youth in classic 4-H programs (ages 8 – 19) and for State Fair exhibitors.

- 1. Testing of Animals:** Through YQCA training and awareness of ethical standards, all exhibitors, families, and leaders should recognize the potential consequences to the food chain and to the image of youth livestock programs should an animal exhibit be presented with any type of residue or tampering. Thus, animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of volatile drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show gives of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals entered in an event which does not culminate 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.
- 2. Ethic Affidavits and Statements of Disclosure:** To comply with federal guidelines and/or requirements of specific livestock processing facilities, exhibitors at shows which are terminal or have any harvest options (i.e., the animals enter the food chain at the conclusion of the show) must complete a statement of disclosure or ethics affidavit. This ethics affidavit indicates that (1) if animal health products have been used, it has been done in accordance with all USDA and FDA rules, (2) other federal regulations regarding specific feeds (i.e., use of ruminant derived byproducts) have been followed, and (3)

the exhibitors agree that entries may be screened for any violation of these rules. Some livestock processing facilities may require additional documentation of adherence to these rules. Completion of an ethics affidavit or statement of disclosure is also highly recommended for animals entered in shows that are not terminal, including breeding and dairy animals.

E. Clover Kids (County Level Only)

Please refer to Section 7.8 in the 4-H Policy & Procedures Handbook for additional information on the 4-H Clover Kid Program.

F. Equine Limited Liability Law

Please refer to Section 16.1.1 in the 4-H Policy & Procedures Handbook for additional information on the Equine Limited Liability Law.

SECTION II: IDENTIFICATION AND NOMINATION OF PROJECT ANIMALS

A. Animal Exhibits and Participation

1. Participation in all competitive events related to specific projects shall be in the county of project enrollment.
2. An animal (beef, sheep, swine, market goat, dairy, dairy goat, or rabbit) may be identified in 4-H in only one county.
3. An animal (beef, sheep, swine, market goat, dairy, dairy goat, rabbit, poultry, dog, or cat) cannot be exhibited in 4-H or FFA in more than one county fair.
4. Exhibitors are encouraged to be active members of both 4-H and FFA. For State Fair, any beef, sheep, swine and goat projects nominated by the appropriate deadline of June 15, will be eligible for exhibition in either 4-H or FFA. The designation can be determined at check-in during the State Fair. This option does not allow an animal to be shown in both 4-H and FFA at State Fair. This guideline also includes rabbit and poultry exhibits.

B. Animal Identification Requirements for State Fair

The information below lists the required identification items for the species eligible for the State Fair.

MARKET BEEF

- a. Official 840 USDA EID tag number (full 15-digit number)
- b. Premises ID
- c. Sex
- d. Breed/description, if applicable
- e. Breed association registration number, if applicable
- f. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

REGISTERED BREEDING BEEF

- a. Tattoo
- b. Breed/description
- c. Date of birth
- d. Breed association registration number
- e. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

COMMERCIAL BREEDING BEEF

- a. Tattoo or official 840 USDA EID tag number (full 15-digit number)
- b. Premise ID, if applicable
- c. Date of birth
- d. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

MARKET FEEDER CALF

- a. Official 840 USDA EID tag number (full 15-digit number)
- b. Premises ID
- c. Date of birth
- d. Sex
- e. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

DAIRY CATTLE

- a. Tag, tattoo or vaccination tag for animals without distinct markings
- b. Drawing or photo for animals with distinct markings
- c. Registration number (for purebred)
- d. Date of birth
- e. Signed ownership affidavit submitted to county office by June 15

MARKET LAMBS

- a. Official USDA Scrapie tag information. State abbreviation, flock ID, and animal ID are all required
- b. Sex
- c. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

BREEDING EWES

- a. Official USDA Scrapie tag information. State abbreviation, flock ID, animal ID, and tattoo (if applicable) are all required
- b. Breed, if applicable
- c. Date of birth
- d. Breed association registration number, if applicable
- e. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

MARKET GOATS

- a. Official USDA Scrapie tag information. State abbreviation, flock ID, and animal ID are all required
- b. Sex
- c. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

BREEDING DOES

- a. Official USDA Scrapie tag information. State abbreviation, flock ID, animal ID, and tattoo (if applicable) are all required.
- b. Breed, if applicable
- c. Date of birth
- d. Breed association registration number, if applicable
- e. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

MARKET SWINE

- a. Official 840 USDA EID tag number (full 15-digit number)
- b. Sex
- c. Date of birth
- d. Premises ID
- e. Breed/description, if applicable
- f. Breed registration number and ear notches (for purebred)
- g. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

BREEDING SWINE

- a. Official 840 USDA EID tag number (full 15-digit number)
- b. Sex
- c. Date of birth
- d. Premises ID
- e. Breed, if applicable
- f. Breed registration number and ear notches (for purebred)
- g. Above information inputted online and DNA sample submitted by June 15

RABBITS (NOMINATION NOT REQUIRED BUT WILL NEED INFORMATION FOR ENTRY)

- a. Permanent ID numbers or names tattooed in the ear
- b. Sex
- c. Breed
- d. Date of birth

POULTRY (NOMINATION NOT REQUIRED BUT WILL NEED INFORMATION FOR ENTRY)

- a. Age
- b. Sex
- c. Breed
- d. Color/Variety

HORSE

- a. Refer to Horse ID form F2 97 77 for identification requirements

C. Livestock Nomination Requirements for State Fair

The information below explains the livestock nomination requirements for market beef, breeding beef, feeder calves, market swine, breeding swine, market lambs, breeding ewes, market goats and breeding does. A livestock nomination is the identification process for making an individual animal eligible for show entry and providing evidence that the animal is part of the youth livestock project. Exhibitors will have the responsibility to complete the online nomination process as well as providing payment. County Extension staff will complete the process by validating each of the submitted online nominations (see Section III for further explanation).

1. Market Beef

- a. All market beef must be identified with a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. It is recommended, but not mandatory, to tag 4-H market beef project animals with the supervision of the Extension staff or by someone else designated by the Extension staff and/or the 4-H Council. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID.
 - i. In addition to an 840 EID tag, to be eligible to show in a registered steer breed class, the animal must have a legible ear tattoo that matches the registration paper and must be owned by the exhibitor. Calf-hood brucellosis (Bang's) tattoos are not considered as an official identification tattoo. Any registered steer not having a legible tattoo or that shows evidence of a fresh or recent tattoo, will be shifted to the crossbred division. Original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 1. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- b. All market beef should be tagged and have all required information submitted, and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All beef must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Heifers may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County

Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.

- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

2. Registered Breeding Heifers

- a. All registered heifers must be identified by ear tattoos according to the regulations set by the various national beef breed associations. Calf-hood brucellosis (Bang's) tattoos are not considered as an official identification tattoo. Any heifer not having a legible tattoo or that shows evidence of a fresh or recent tattoo, will be disqualified from the show or shifted to the commercial breeding division if there is an 840 EID tag present in the ear and the EID matches the online nomination submitted by June 15. Registered heifers must have a legible tattoo matching the registration paper.
- b. All registered breeding heifers should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All beef must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. To exhibit at the State Fair, original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 - i. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- d. Heifers may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- e. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

3. Commercial Breeding Heifer

- a. All commercial heifers must be identified by ear tattoos or a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. Calf-hood brucellosis (Bang's) tattoos are not considered as an official identification tattoo. Any heifer not having a legible tattoo or that shows evidence of a fresh or recent tattoo, will be disqualified from the show unless the 840 EID tag is present in the ear and the EID matches the online nomination submitted by June 15. Commercial heifers must have a legible tattoo or a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag matching the online nomination.
- b. All commercial breeding heifers should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All beef must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Heifers may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- d. Commercial breeding heifers will be classed by weight as identified by the exhibitor on their weigh card during check-in at State Fair.
- e. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

4. Market Feeder Calf

- a. All market feeder calves must be identified with a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. It is recommended, but not mandatory, to tag 4-H feeder calf project animals with the supervision of the Extension staff or by someone else designated by the Extension staff and/or the 4-H Council. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID.
- b. All market feeder calves should be tagged and have all required information submitted, and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All beef must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Heifers may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA

collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.

- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

5. Market Swine

- a. All market swine must be identified with a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID.
 - i. Purebred market swine will have ear notches and ownership verified against the registration paper. Original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 - 1. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- b. All market swine should be tagged and have all required information submitted, and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All swine must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Gilts may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

6. Registered Breeding Gilts

- a. All registered gilts must be identified with a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID. Registered gilts will have ear notches and ownership verified against the registration paper. Any gilt not matching the breed requirements will be shown in the crossbred division.
- b. All registered breeding gilts should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All swine must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. To exhibit at the State Fair, original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 - i. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- d. Gilts may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- e. Registered breeding gilts will be classed by age.
- f. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records **ONLY** and **WILL NOT** be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

7. Commercial Breeding Gilts

- a. All commercial gilts must be identified with a federally-accepted 840 EID electronic identification (EID) tag. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID.
- b. All commercial breeding gilts should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All swine must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Gilts may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- d. Commercial breeding gilts will be classed by weight.
- e. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

8. Market Lambs and Market Goats

- a. All market lambs and market goats must be identified with an official USDA scrapie tag.
- b. All market lambs and market goats should be tagged, have all required information submitted, and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All sheep and goats must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Ewes and does may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

9. Registered Breeding Ewes

- a. All ewes (registered and commercial) must be identified with an official USDA scrapie tag. Registered ewes must be identified with the tag/tattoo required by the various national sheep breed associations.
- b. All registered breeding ewes should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All sheep must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. To exhibit at the State Fair, original registration certificates for all breeds must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 - i. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- d. Ewes may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- e. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

10. Commercial Breeding Ewes

- a. All commercial ewes must be identified with an official USDA scrapie tag.
- b. All commercial breeding ewes should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All sheep must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Ewes may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all

required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.

- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

11. Registered Breeding Does

- a. All does must be identified with an official USDA scrapie tag. Registered does must be identified with the tag/tattoo required by the breed association.
- b. All registered breeding does should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All goats must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. To exhibit at State Fair, original registration certificates for all breeds, must be presented at check-in. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in the official online database. Original registration papers or electronic [document](#) presented using a tablet or smart phone will be accepted if pulled up or downloaded from their respective breed website. **NO PRINTED PAPER COPIES OR SCREENSHOTS ACCEPTED.**
 - i. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
- d. Does may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- e. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

12. Commercial Breeding Does

- a. All commercial does must be identified with an official USDA scrapie tag.
- b. All commercial breeding does should have all the required information and payment received in the online nomination system by June 15 to be eligible for exhibition at State Fair. The nomination process is not complete without full payment. All goats must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for every animal nomination submitted by June 15. Extension staff will mail DNA nomination envelopes to the appropriate location.
- c. Does may be eligible as both market and breeding, provided a DNA collector envelope with hair samples have been submitted to the County Extension office, and the completed online nomination with payment includes all required identification information for both a market and breeding animal by June 15. This option does not allow the animal to be shown in both market and breeding at the same show.
- d. **NOTE:** Paper ID sheets are accepted as a form of nomination for county records ONLY and WILL NOT be accepted as a form of nomination for State Fair.

13. Dairy Cattle

- a. All dairy cattle must be identified on the paper ownership affidavit by photograph, a sketch or by ear tattoo. Dairy cattle paper ownership affidavits must be turned in to the county office by June 15. Dairy exhibitors will not complete the online nomination, only paper.
- b. All dairy affidavits must be turned in to the State 4-H office by June 21 to be eligible for exhibition at the State Fair.

14. Horses

- a. Horses must be identified by description on form F2-97-77 as to color, markings, brands, etc., or clear visible colored photos (front view, left side, right side of the horse).
- b. Form F2-97-77 will need to be submitted to the Extension office by the deadline. Horse exhibitors will not complete the online nomination, only paper.

15. Rabbits and Poultry

- a. Rabbits and poultry do not have a nomination requirement in order to exhibit at the State Fair. Please refer to Section II for id requirements.

D. Identification and Nomination Deadline Dates

Following is a list of dates on which 4-H exhibitors must have their project animals identified and nominated certified for various district and state livestock shows. All animal nominations must be submitted by these dates. Ear tags and tattoos must be inserted by the deadline.

Deadline Dates	Livestock Species
June 1	ID and Entries for State Horse Show
June 15	<i>Nomination Deadline for the following:</i> Market and Breeding Beef Market Feeder Calf Market and Breeding Swine Market and Breeding Sheep Market and Breeding Goats Dairy Cattle

E. Limitations on Number of Market Nominations for State Fair

1. Market Beef
 - a. Each exhibitor may nominate a total, between 4-H and FFA, maximum number of 20 market beef.
2. Market Lambs
 - a. Each exhibitor may nominate a total, between 4-H and FFA, maximum number of 20 market lambs.
3. Market Swine
 - a. Each exhibitor may nominate a total, between 4-H and FFA, maximum number of 40 market swine.
4. Market Goats
 - a. Each exhibitor may nominate a total, between 4-H and FFA, maximum number of 20 market goats.

SECTION III: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

The responsibilities outlined here are applicable for the 4-H Livestock Shows at the State Fair.

A. Family Responsibilities

1. Exhibitors will be required to enroll in 4-H and the required projects by the county deadline in 4H Online.
2. Exhibitors will review their species fairbooks.
3. Exhibitors showing market and/or breeding beef, feeder calves, market and/or breeding swine, market and/or breeding sheep or market and/or breeding goats at State Fair must have a signed and sealed official DNA envelope with hair samples for DNA verification. **Every animal nomination (this includes all breeding animals and feeder calves) will require a DNA submission.** DNA must be turned into their county office and have completed the online nomination with payment in *Show Stock Manager* by June 15. Any animal carrying an 840 EID tag will require the exhibitor to obtain a Premises ID. Contact the local Extension Office for details. (It is recommended that you make a copy or a photo image of the completed envelope you turn into your county.)
4. Exhibitors will be required to complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) for the enrolled livestock projects by August 10.
5. Exhibitors will confirm that the ear tattoo and/or identification tag matches the animal nomination submitted by June 15 for confirmation of legibility and/or accuracy.
6. Exhibitors will notify the County Extension Staff of any retags that may occur up to time of check-in at the State Fair.
7. Exhibitors will select which animal nominations they have chosen to show at State Fair on the State Fair entry website by August 10. All nominated and validated animals will be automatically listed as a choice option for entry registration.
8. Exhibitors will be required to bring the breed registration association paperwork to check-in at State Fair for animals wanting to show in a breed class. The registration papers must show the exhibitor's name or a co-owner who is an immediate member of the exhibitor's family and is listed with the online nomination in *Show Stock Manager*. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.

B. County Staff Responsibilities

1. Submit an 840 EID tag order for beef and swine animal projects.
2. Schedule and publish weigh-in and/or tagging dates if offered in your county.
3. Request, distribute and collect DNA collectors for families. 840 EID tags should not be distributed without the premise ID being recorded in 4H Online. It is optional but recommended to record on the DNA envelope.

4. Inform families of the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training options available to them (in person and online).
5. Collect all beef, swine, lamb, and goat DNA envelopes by June 15. Families will submit payment online in *Show Stock Manager*. Copy all market DNA envelopes for your county records and mail all completed DNA envelopes to the Aksarben Stock Show office by **June 21**.
6. Remind families to confirm that the ear tattoo and/or identification tag matches the animal nomination submitted by June 15 for confirmation of legibility and/or accuracy.
7. Collect Premises ID numbers from exhibitors and input those into 4H Online.
8. Review and validate all online livestock nominations in Show Stock Manager for each exhibitor by **July 1**.
9. Input nomination edits in to Show Stock Manager for your families. Edits will be corrected by Show Coordinator. For retags, directly notify Brandy Schulze bschulze@unl.edu and/or input the change in Show Stock Manager.
10. Inform families that all nominations have been validated and are available for entry at the Nebraska State Fair entry website <https://www.statefair.org/> when the system is open.

C. State 4-H Office Responsibilities

1. The State 4-H office will be available to answer any questions and communicate with counties about any concerns they may have about an exhibitor's animal nomination process.
2. State 4-H Office will receive all dairy cattle affidavits and ship to the State Fair Youth Dairy Show Superintendent.
3. State 4-H will keep record of re-tags. Re-tags (beef, swine, sheep, and goats) will require an email (no phone calls) from county staff, which will be added to the file when it is received in the department. Emails should be sent to Brandy Schulze (bschulze@unl.edu), 114 Ag Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 68583-0700.
4. State 4-H Office will update all County Extension Staff corrections in the Show Stock Manager database.
5. State 4-H will upload all online nominations to the State Fair entry database (ShoWorks).
6. State 4-H will announce to County Extension Staff that State Fair livestock nominations are now available in the State Fair entry database (ShoWorks) for State Fair entry registrations.
7. Show lists for each species/class will be distributed to all State Fair Livestock Superintendents.

SECTION IV: OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

A. Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine, Rabbit, Poultry, Dog, or Companion Animal

Animal projects require care for an extended period of time. To grow knowledge and experience, a 4-H member must be involved in the care of project animals throughout the project, thus it is expected that 4-H project members own and care for their animals according to these guidelines:

1. A beef, goat, sheep, swine, rabbit, poultry, dog, or companion animal (county fair only) project may be owned:
 - a. Solely by the 4-H exhibitor or
 - b. In partnership by the 4-H exhibitor and/or his or her immediate family.
 - c. All exhibitor family member names may be on the animal nomination and will be eligible to show that animal.
 - d. Immediate family is defined as members of a household including parents, brothers, sisters, and youth in care of the head of the household.
2. When 4-H exhibitor(s) and parent(s) sign an animal nomination indicating the exhibitor(s) will feed and care for the animals, it is expected that the exhibitor(s) will have primary responsibility for the animals. Reasonable modifications are acceptable in cases where the exhibitor may not have primary responsibility for the duration of the project (i.e., separation of parents and more than one residence, group homes, etc.).

B. Horses, Dairy Cattle and Dairy Goats

1. An exhibitor in a 4-H show of a horse, a dairy animal or dairy goat, may show an animal owned by someone outside of the immediate family provided;
 - a. He or she manages (cares for, feeds, trains, grooms, etc.) and has use of the animal as a 4-H project animal at least 75% of the time during the project year; and
 - b. Permission for use of the animal is certified by the owner on the 4-H member's ID sheet.
 - c. Exceptions may apply for youth in group homes that have the purpose of providing a mentoring atmosphere for at-risk youth.
 - d. It is recommended that the same ownership guidelines be used for county only projects (i.e., llamas, pygmy goats, etc.).

SECTION V: MISCELLANEOUS RULES

A. Age of Exhibitors

1. Only 4-H members who are 8 years of age before January 1 of the current year or older may compete in the Fonner Park State 4-H Horse Expo.
2. 4-H members who are 8 years of age before January 1 of the current year may exhibit at State Fair.
3. 4-H members may be certified for state or interstate shows when they meet the age requirements for the event and have properly enrolled projects at the County Extension office.
4. The last year of eligibility is 4-H age of eighteen (18).

B. 4-H/FFA Exhibits

1. Training offered by agricultural education/FFA and Nebraska Extension/4-H contributes to youth's preparation for a future in agricultural production, agribusiness, and other areas. Simultaneous participation in both programs is acceptable and encouraged if the youth choose to do so.
2. Exhibitors are encouraged to be active members of both 4-H and FFA. For State Fair, any beef, sheep, swine and goat projects nominated by the appropriate deadline of June 15, will be eligible for exhibition in either 4-H or FFA. The designation can be determined at check-in during the State Fair. This option does not allow an animal to be shown in both 4-H and FFA at State Fair. This guideline also includes rabbit and poultry exhibits.

C. Terminal Status for Swine Shows

1. County swine shows could be terminal or non-terminal shows.
2. The State Fair will be non-terminal in 2024.

D. State Fair Harvest

1. The Overall Grand Champion Market and Reserve Grand Champion Market of each species (beef, swine, sheep, and goat) cannot be withdrawn from championship and are automatically consigned for harvest.