

ANIMAL SCIENCE

GENERAL ANIMAL RULES

All shows and events will be under the direction of the designated area superintendent(s). The superintendent(s) will make all on-the-spot decisions necessary for the operation of the shows. In case of a complaint or a disagreement with the show, see the procedure listed under "General Rules."

NON-EXHIBIT ANIMAL RULE

Due to animal health concerns and to best protect the safety of animals, exhibitors, family members and guests, socialization of animals not formally entered in the 4-H/FFA shows will not be allowed before, during and after shows. No non-exhibit animals are allowed in the show arena, barns or show vicinity. Animals must be exercised/walked in designated warm up area near that specie's show area. Animals that are not stalled at the fair are considered non-exhibit animals at the conclusion of their show and must leave the fairgrounds. All animals must be properly restrained. Special circumstances must be approved by 4-H Council executive committee before non-exhibit animals are brought to fairgrounds. Service animals are exempt from this non-exhibit animal rule.

An executive committee for non-exhibit animal rule will include 1 show superintendent, 2 4-H Council members, and 1 educator.

STRIKE ONE: Written warning by livestock committee and/or extension staff. **STRIKE TWO:** Ribbon premiums withheld. **STRIKE THREE:**

Offending livestock/animal owner is asked to leave the fairgrounds with the species being shown at that particular show. **PROBATION:**

After a third strike, animal owner is on "probation." Probation status means that other offenses with different species will result in an immediate "second strike" for that species.

LIVESTOCK SHOW RULES

1. **YQCA TESTING: Exhibitor Responsibility** - 4-H youth ages 8-18 who are enrolled in a livestock project (beef, dairy cattle, dairy goat, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and hog), are required to complete the YQCA testing EITHER as a Face to Face Training (\$3 fee) OR the web based course available online (\$12 fee) by June 15 of the current year in order to complete that year's YQCA requirements. All above fees must be paid online at time of registry.

There are test-out options online for Intermediate and Senior aged youth. Exhibitors must take and pass all tests available for their age division. Intermediates (4-H Ages 11-13) are required to take a series of tests at a fee of \$36. Seniors (4-H Ages 14+) are required to take a series of tests at a fee of \$48.

To register or take online tests, you will need your login and password from previous years or establish one for first year enrollees.

The online course, located at <https://yqcaprogram.org/>, has been divided into age levels specified on website. Upon completion of each module, youth will be able to print a certificate of completion. Youth will need to deliver this certificate of completion to their local Extension Office on or before published due dates to receive full credit for completion. For more information call the Extension office.

2. **Health Requirements:** All livestock must be in a healthy condition. They must be free of and not exposed to infectious and contagious diseases. All livestock may be inspected by a veterinarian upon arrival at the fairgrounds. Any livestock exhibiting signs or symptoms of contagious disease or illness must be removed at once. If any exhibitor wishes to remove an animal for health reasons without a signed early exhibit release form (ask office for form), they must present a signed statement from a veterinarian stating the reason for the release. Any animal entered in 4-H classes is subject to both urine and blood testing at the discretion of either the superintendent(s) 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 this case, market animal show management will determine the appropriate disposal of the animals. An animal that is tampered with by unusual means to change appearance or weight may be declared ineligible by the show superintendent(s).

3. **Grooming, Clipping, and/or Blocking:** Preparation and grooming of an animal should be the primary responsibility of the exhibitor; however, assistance may be provided by other 4-H or FFA exhibitor, immediate family members or another person acting in a mentoring and teaching capacity. The intent of this policy is to promote and foster positive youth development and a high-quality learning experience which are core values of 4-H and FFA.

All animal shows are considered “blow & go” shows. Animals may be clipped, blown, brushed, or combed to enhance their appearance.

Guidelines for the “Blow & Go” Show:

1. All animals will be shown free of any adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products.
2. Any compounds that have adhesive qualities that when applied cannot be combed or brushed through or alter the color of the animal are forbidden. These products include but are not limited to commonly used adhesives and colorants such as Prime Time, EZ Comb, Tail Adhesive, Natural Hold, Ultra White Touch-Up, Black Touch Up, Black Finisher, black show foam, and baby powder.
3. Alcohol, water, oil, foam or any water or alcohol-based products with no adhesives or glue qualities, or artificial coloring are permitted. These products include conditioners and commonly used sprays such as Kleen Sheen, Revive, Final Bloom, Pink

- Oil, white show foam, Freshen Up, Silk, and Sudden Impact.
4. Any animal found to have prohibited products applied (adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products) will be disqualified from competition. Any premiums (physical or monetary) will be forfeited, and no refunds will be made.
 5. We reserve the right for a visual inspection and toweling (before and/or after entering the show ring) using disposable blue shop towels for the presence of adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products. Toweling of the animal may include, but is not limited to, the topline, legs, chest, belly, flank, and cod/udder areas. If, after inspection, the animal is found to have adhesive, glue, paint, or powder products applied it will be disqualified from competition. Any premiums (physical or monetary) will be forfeited.
 6. Exhibitors shall not add materials, natural or synthetic, which extend body shapes beyond normal limits.
4. **Livestock Entries:** must be made at the designated times. See Schedule. Animals may be ID'ed by only one 4-Her or 4-H family and shown by those 4-Hers listed on the identification sheet.
 5. **Age Divisions:** Junior (ages 12 & under) and Senior (ages 13 & over). **Intermediate Showmanship Trigger Rule:** Intermediate Livestock Showmanship classes will be added if enough showmen register to allow 2 or more showmen in each showmanship class upon splitting out the Senior and Junior Classes. Ages used when Trigger rule applies is Junior – ages 8-10; Intermediate – ages 11-13; Senior – ages 14 & up. **EXCEPTIONS:** (Horse, Companion Animals and Dog. See applicable division.
 6. **Substitute Showman:** An animal must be shown by the 4-H owner who entered it unless the exhibitor is excused by the superintendent because of military service, serious illness/injury, or disability. An exhibitor who has more than one animal in a class needs to secure approval for another county 4-H member to show the additional animal in the class. Substitute showmen **MUST** be in official dress.
 7. **Showmanship:** All 4-H members showing livestock may enter and be rated on showmanship. Each competitor must show his/her own animal. This animal must also be shown in a market or breeding class. Items that the judge may consider are the member's skill in handling the animal, proper grooming, raising, and training of the animal and general knowledge of the animal. The individual excellence of the animal will not be judged. Members will also be rated on appropriate dress.
 8. **Weight Group Change Options:** If an exhibitor has two animals in the same group, one animal may be moved to the next heavier group. This change should be arranged with the superintendent as

soon as possible so show order changes can be reflected on the officials' programs and so the ring stewards are prepared. Only one move per exhibitor per species will be allowed.

9. **Ownership Requirements:** A beef, dairy, dairy goat, horse, sheep, or hog project may be owned:
 - A) solely by the 4-H exhibitor, or
 - B) in partnership by the 4-H exhibitor and/or other members of his or her immediate family. Only the name of the showman can be on the show entry.
 - C) Immediate family is defined as a member of a household including parents, brother, sisters, and youth in the care of the head of the household.
 - D) When 4-H exhibitor(s) and parent(s) sign an ownership affidavit, 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. In cases where the exhibitors may not have primary responsibility for the duration of the project (i.e. separation of parents and more than one residence), it is recommended the exhibitors request an exception from the local 4-H Council. The time the exhibitors will be able to care for the animals should be clearly defined in the request.
10. 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 (ownership affidavit)
11. **Entry Forms:** See County schedule for pre-entry due date. All animals MUST be pre-entered so that stall assignments can be made.
12. **Livestock Entries & Arrival:** See appropriate schedule for times and dates.
13. **Official Dress for Showmanship:** (See Horse Rules for specific dress code. - All 4-H exhibitors are required to wear a white shirt/blouse/T-shirt with the official 4-H Chevron attached or an official 4-H T-shirt and **dark blue** jeans while participating in any 4-H livestock shows and contests. Hats shall not be worn in the show ring. Shoes should be closed toed and appropriate for the activity. No sandals allowed. Shorts will not be permitted. Nuckolls and Thayer County FFA members may wear the official FFA shirt and blue jeans.
THAYER COUNTY ONLY: The two most current "official 4-H shirts" are the only ones acceptable to be worn.
14. **Exhibit Release:** See general rules. Premium and support/booster payments will be forfeited for early removal of show animals with the exception of animals released for the animal's welfare by written approval from a veterinarian or for legitimate reason with written

approval from the specie's superintendent and a representative of the 4-H council livestock committee. Ask office for early release request form.

15. **State Fair Rules Apply When County Fair Rules are Not Adequate.**
16. **Cloverkid Shows:** Cloverkids cannot house an animal but may borrow one from a 4-Her or bring one from home on the show day. Weight requirement of animal less than 350 pounds is enforced.
17. **Unruly Animal:** An animal that becomes wild and uncontrollable during the show may be declared ineligible by the superintendent and/or staff.
18. **Identification: All Animal ID's** are due in the Extension Office by **June 15** with the exception of Horses entered in the State Horse Show. See pre-fair events calendar for dates.
19. Exhibitors are NOT allowed to change livestock classes post-check-in.