

## **2025-26 Mat-Su Copper River District 4-H/FFA**

### **Jr. Market Livestock Auction Project Rules & Educational Insert**

**This is a required component of your auction project record book.**

Please direct any questions to Samantha Russell-Blumenkonig,  
Mat-Su/Copper River 4-H Agent (907) 745-3679

[sjrussell5@alaska.edu](mailto:sjrussell5@alaska.edu) or the Livestock Committee Chair at

[mcrak-livestock@googlegroups.com](mailto:mcrak-livestock@googlegroups.com)

**Participants must register online and be part of the Matsu-Copper River district to participate in the auction.**

**Deadline to register is April 14, 2026 @ 11:59 pm**

Google Form Link is below for Registration

[4-H & FFA Jr Market Livestock Registration Form & Contract 2026](#)

The Jr. Market Livestock project is an educational opportunity requiring youth to accomplish a variety of skills, including raising an animal, keeping accurate project records, and attending events related to this project. The culmination of this project is participation in the 4-H/FFA Jr. Market Livestock Auction at the Alaska State Fair.

Please ask your 4-H/FFA leaders if you have questions, conflicts, or extenuating circumstances. Please contact the Livestock Committee directly or attend a Livestock Meeting for possible exceptions. If an emergency falls between the Livestock Committee monthly meetings, contacting the Executive Committee directly is acceptable (see #29).

Livestock Committee meetings are the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm at the Cooperative Extension Service (CES) Office. All are welcome. Voting privileges are based on enrollment and attendance (a minimum of 4 meetings attended in the past 12 months are required for voting privileges; see Bylaws for details).

## Required for Auction Participation

### 1. Enrollment/Eligibility

- Participants must live within the boundaries of the Mat-Su Copper River or FFA Mat-Su District. Participants from other districts will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The Livestock Committee will determine whether the district program is able to absorb the impact of the out of district youth member auctioning. Youth outside of the district must get an exception annually.
- Youth must be at least 8 years old and not older than 18 years old as of **October 1, 2025**.
- Age groups are as follows:
  - Juniors: 8-11 years old
  - Intermediate: 12-14 years old
  - Senior: 15-18 years old
- Participants must be enrolled in 4-H with enrollment fees paid or FFA prior to attending the mandatory informational auction meeting (It's best to enroll at the beginning of the 4-H year in October, FFA begins when School begins in the fall).
- With the approval of the Committee a graduate may be absent from the fair if it conflicts with post-secondary education or training.
- Market beef, Market Heifer & Alternative breed beef participants must be **11 years old and in 6th grade as of October 1, 2025**.

2. **Guides:** Participants must abide by the rules of the Alaska State Fair, 4-H Exhibitor's Guide, FFA Code of Ethics, and Alaska 4-H Handbook. They must be in good standing with their 4-H club or FFA chapter.

### 3. Mandatory Informational Meetings: **MUST attend 1 of 4 offered.**

- **4-H Office - January 19 @ 10AM, February 14 @ 10AM, March 12 @ 6PM 2026.**
- **Palmer High School Agriculture Building March 19, 6:00pm-7:30pm**
- Participants must be enrolled with fees paid, in 4-H/FFA prior to this meeting. If you are NOT enrolled, your meeting will NOT meet the requirement, and you MUST attend another meeting.
- A parent or legal guardian must attend the meeting with their child(ren).
  - Returning participants 16 and older may attend without a parent.

### 4. Animal Requirements: **See table 2, animal requirements (page 11).**

- Must be born on or after the dates listed on the table.
- Animals must be in the possession of the participant by the date listed on table 2.
- Pens of small livestock should be the same breed, sex, and uniform in color.
- There are minimum and maximum weights for most animal classes listed in the table.
- All male animals (large livestock) must be castrated, and all large market beef dehorned sufficiently in advance to allow for complete healing. If animals are determined to have incomplete healing at the time of check-in, they will be disqualified.
- Reindeer must be de-antlered before processing.

5. **Multiple animal registration:** Participants may raise multiple animals and multiple species. The participant must register each animal they would like the opportunity to auction via the Google Form, due April 14 (see the top of the registration for this link). Animals not included on the intent to auction registration will not be eligible as an auction project for that year. Immediately after the fair conformation show, the participant must choose which animal to sell. If the animal is the same species, they must sell whichever animal is placed highest unless previously designated for breeding at a livestock committee meeting. The deadline to request this exception is the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, livestock committee meeting.
6. **Large livestock back up animals:** A participant's family may have multiple back up animals. A family with multiple participants may use 1 back up animal for all participants. If the animal is being used as a back up for multiple kids in the same family, the backup only needs to be registered under one participant. Please note on the registration that it is a family back up animal.
  - **Small Livestock: Family Back Up Turkey(s)** - 1 family backup turkey for families with 1–3 children, 2 family backup turkeys for families with 4–6 children, and 3 family backup turkeys for families with 7 or more children
7. **Required care by the participant:** Participants must care for their own animal a **minimum** of 75% of the possession time. Parents may assist, but participants are responsible for the majority of the animal's feeding, show preparation, and hands-on grooming.
  - Before administering any topical or internal medicines or medicinal products, confirm it is safe for animals meant for consumption; and it meets the required withdrawal times. If you have questions, you should contact your vet. All treatment(s) should be documented in the animal/vet care portion of record book.
8. **Dangerous animals:** Dirty, uncontrollable, or dangerous animals, as determined by the Livestock Committee, may be excused from the shows and fair and sent home.
9. **Unethical Practices:** Participants will not use abusive, fraudulent, illegal, deceptive, or questionable practices in the feeding, fitting, and showing of their animal(s); nor will they allow their parents, supervisor, or any other individual to employ such practices with their animal(s). If caught doing so, they may lose the privilege of marketing an animal in the current and/or following year's fair.
10. **Vaccinations:**
  - Required Cattle Vaccinations: "IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV" given twice; spaced one month apart with the second dose given at least 2 weeks before an event For the safety of Breeding stock, DO NOT give "Live Vaccines" within 2 weeks of an event. Recommended: "Clostridia 7- or 8-way Vaccine" given twice, spaced one month apart, with the second dose given at least 2 weeks before an event. Read the withdrawal time information on each vaccine to confirm when the last possible date to give a vaccine is. If the withdrawal time exceeds 2 weeks, please defer to manufacture recommendations before vaccinating 3 weeks prior to harvest date. If you have questions or concerns related to your vaccines, you are encouraged to reach out to your vet.
  - Required Swine Vaccines: Erysipelas, given twice; a month apart with the second dose given at least 2 weeks before an event. Exception: Rally Days- only one is required beforehand as they may not have owned them quite long enough.
  - Recommended Sheep and Goat Vaccines: Clostridia Types C, D, & T

**11. Required Workshops: These are held September – August Please check monthly 4-H emails and facebook for workshops offered.** Families and Clubs are encouraged to plan and host a workshop!

- 3 in person workshops are required
- Workshops must be completed by Monday, August 3, 2026.
- FFA Sponsored workshops (not approved by the 4-H agent) will count toward required workshop totals.
- Students participating in any animal related high school or middle school classes or animal related FFA / 4-H competitions that have attended 3 or more practices will have all required in person workshops fulfilled. FFA Advisors must provide a list to the board of students meeting.

**12. YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals):**

- Certificate must be completed every other year.
  - <https://yqcaprogram.org>
  - Class can be completed on-line or in person.
  - Sign up and pay \$12 for the appropriate class based on age.
  - Once complete, print and include the completion certificate in your record book.
  - An in-person version of this class MAY be offered.

**13. Rally days: Wednesday, June 10, 3:00 – 8:00pm**

- **All Participants (Large and Small Livestock)**
  - All participants can sign up for their herdsman shift (available online).
  - All participants can pick up marketing materials for buyer contacts (posters, brochures, paperwork).
  - Optional livestock workshops may be held on June 11; details to come.
- **Large Livestock**
  - Participants must bring their Large Livestock to the fairgrounds.
  - Participants can ask the Livestock Committee for permission to allow a family member to bring the animal in their place if there is a scheduling conflict.
  - Large Livestock will be checked by a vet; bring your vaccination records.
  - All large animals, main and back-up, must be brought to Rally Days, weighed and vet checked, to be eligible to auction. Any animal not brought to Rally days will not be eligible to auction.
  - Animals will be given an ear tag, unless there is an existing tag.
  - Animals will be weighed.
  - Participants will reserve large livestock pens for the fair (Due 7/6).
  - Participants can sign up for their herdsman shift.
  - Participants will register animals for large livestock shows at the fair (online google-form DUE August 10 @ 11:59pm).
  - Participants can pick up marketing materials for buyer contacts (posters, brochures, paperwork).
  - Optional livestock workshops may be held on June 5; details to come.

**13b. Alternative Rally Days June 5, 2026**

- An alternative Rally Days will be hosted on June 5th, 4:00pm - 7:00pm at the Palmer High School Agriculture Building. To participate in this alternate event, 4-H and FFA members must sign up in advance.

**14. Adults may request & pay for discounted parking passes at the Livestock Rally Day or the CES office.** Payment must be received no later than 7/6 or discount passes will not be requested.

- 15. Buyer Contacts:** These are formal presentations where participants invite businesses to attend the auction.
- Each participant will contact and give a presentation to a minimum of 3 potential buyers for the livestock auction (additional information to be provided).
  - An additional buyer must be found if the buyer declines a presentation, cannot be reached, presentation is after the due date, or if the presentation cannot be in-person. You are welcome to make as many contacts as you would like, however, to meet the requirement presentations must be in person.
  - Returning participants will have the same buyers as the previous year, unless they contact the Buyer Contact Committee Representative stating they would like to recycle some of their contacts.
  - New participants will be assigned new buyers, please reach out to these contacts first. You are not limited to the number of contacts you may present to. If you prefer to find your own contact, and do not want any assigned, please reach out to Heather at 4halaska@gmail.com.
  - Buyer Contact completion information must be turned in via Google Docs by July 10.
  - Brochures, posters, and auction information will be provided by the Livestock Committee and available for pick up at the CES Office starting the end of May. They will also be at Rally Days. Please only take what you need.
  - Participants whose contacts are not received on or before July 10 will not be eligible to auction.

- 16. Record Books:** 4-H record books can be found online in your Z-suites account, on the Alaska 4-H website <https://www.uaf.edu/ces/4-h/get-involved/current-member/forms.php>, or you can request a printed copy at the CES office. FFA AET record books can be completed online at [www.theaet.com](http://www.theaet.com).
- A completed record book includes these 2 components, and should either be printed and placed together in a binder or folder, or submitted electronically to [mscrak-livestock@googlegroups.com](mailto:mscrak-livestock@googlegroups.com)
    - Alaska 4-H Livestock project insert (or FFA AET record book)
    - 4-H/FFA Jr. Market Livestock Auction Project Rules & Educational Insert (this document).
    - The Alaska 4-H record book is optional, however, we encourage all 4-H participants to complete this record book. If you wish to participate in the State record book contest, this must be completed. A 4-H record book is also required in order to receive a year pin, and completion certificate.

**17. Record Book completion: Record Books must be completed by the 4-H/FFA student to the best of their ability.** The quality of students' record books will be judged based on what is considered developmentally appropriate. Younger students will have less sophisticated work, thus will be evaluated accordingly. Some parental help is expected where needed, especially for special needs cases. Please reach out to the district 4-H Agent by July 7th for accommodations. All accommodations will remain confidential. Please allow the student to do all the recording and writing they can complete. Those requiring accommodations will be reviewed by 4-H Agent at parent request or put aside to be reviewed by a committee member. A rubric will be used for reviewing record books.

**18. Record Book Submission:**

- Completed record books must be turned in to the CES office by September 25, 4:30 pm. Record books must be completed to receive their auction check. If Record books are not submitted timely or are incomplete, this may impact the participants eligibility to auction the following year. Fines will be incurred for late record books. See Fines & Fees # 32.
- FFA AET record books must be submitted to the FFA advisory to be evaluated by the advisor and volunteers following all deadlines listed above.

**19. Fair Week Requirements:** Small Livestock check in/market weigh in, Tuesday, September 1, 2026 from 3:00-6:30 pm; Large Livestock check-in/market weigh-in on Wednesday, September 2, 2025 from 3:00-6:30 pm at fair barn.

- Animals entered in open shows and already at the fair may begin weigh-in at 2:00pm
- Animals will be required to pass a vet check – large livestock must bring vaccination records.
- Entry weights will be used as the sale weights.
- Any animals over maximum sale weight may be sold, but weight over the maximum will not be charged to the buyer.
- Animals that do not reach the minimum weight will not be sold in the auction.
- Animals within 5% of minimum weight will be allowed to reweigh Friday morning prior to the auction, no later than 10 am. If the animal meets the minimum weight requirement, then it will qualify to auction. This reweigh must be done with at least 2 people present, and at least one board member. The second person should not be related to the participants whose animal is being reweighed. Every effort will be made to have 1 board member, and 1 member of the weights committee present for the reweigh. Animals that reweigh and are over the minimum weight on Friday may only sell at the minimum weight.

**20. Mandatory Meetings:** Participants must attend required meetings during the fair:

- Wednesday, September 2 @ 7:00 pm
- Saturday, September 5 @ 9:00 am
- Monday, September 7 @ 6:30 pm (a family member can represent at this meeting)

**21. Auction:** Participants must attend the auction from 8:00am-5:00pm **Saturday, September 5.**

- Lunch will be provided for participants
- A parent is expected to be there for the day and help where needed. This does not count towards required adult volunteer hours.

**22. Judges:** The Judge places the eligible animals on the American System, which will constitute the sale order. The judge's decision is final.**23. Required Shows:**

- **Large Livestock Show Registrations due (online google-form) August 10 @ 11:59pm**
  - Auction animals must be shown by the participant in the market show (conformation). If the participant has more than one animal in any given market show, they may ask for another 4-H or FFA participant to show their back up animal(s)
  - Large Livestock market classes are on Thursday, September 3rd at 4:00 pm.
  - Large Livestock showmanship: participants must show their auction animal or animal of the same species they own in the showmanship class on Friday, September 4 (Jr.

10:00 am, Int. 12:00 pm, Sr. 2:00 pm). The participant may not use an animal that is not owned by them or their family.

- Large Livestock Participants must wear appropriate show attire for all livestock shows during the fair. Large livestock show attire is nice pants- no holes; long-sleeved, button-down shirt (no logo wear except 4-H and FFA). Large Livestock participants must wear sturdy leather boots. Auction attire must be neat attire and may only represent 4-H or FFA.
- All back up animals must be shown in conformation to be eligible to auction.
- **Small Livestock Registrations due (online) July 31.**
  - **Small Livestock Market Conformation:** Wednesday, September 2: Animals will be judged in pens. Participants will not be involved in judging but are welcome to watch and learn.
  - **Small Livestock Showmanship:** Thursday, September 3rd at 11 AM in the barn.
    - Required Small Livestock Showmanship Attire
      - **Shirt:** A clean, white button-down, long-sleeved shirt (tucked in).
      - **Logos:** Only 4-H or FFA logos are allowed.
      - **Pants:** Choose clean pants or jeans without holes.
      - **Footwear:** Clean boots or shoes with closed toes and closed heels are required.
      - **Long hair must be pulled back. No jewelry.**
      - **Optional:** In addition to the above, a show apron or show coat may be worn.
    - Small Livestock Showmanship categories include: Chicken, Turkey, Game Bird, Waterfowl (Duck or Goose), Rabbit, and Cavy.

#### 24. Required Care and Supplies at the Fair:

- Participants are responsible for feeding, watering, and cleaning their animal's pen morning and night at the fair.
- Participants and parents will need fair tickets to get into the fair; you can request a participant fair pass at Rally Days. Parents can request and pay for parking passes.
- Barn hours: 6:30 am-10:00 am for morning cleaning and feeding; 5:00 pm-8:00 pm for evening feeding & spot cleaning as needed.
- Specific instructions for small livestock pen bedding and cleaning will be posted at the fair.
- Participants will bring feed and water dishes as needed for their animals.
- Participants will bring feed for their animal; the fair will provide hay & straw.
- Participants will make a poster for their pen that includes participant name, club or chapter, animal name, breed, age, breeder, tag #, and weight.
- Every pen and cage must have a poster or card with the required information.
- Animals must remain at the fair until check out (8:00 pm) on Monday, September 1 (except animals delivered to the slaughterhouse Monday night or taken to the small livestock processing facility).
- Large livestock auction animals going to harvest Monday night will be loaded at 5:00 pm unless the buyer has made other arrangements with the barn superintendent. Loading instructions for all other animals will be provided during the mandatory meeting. You may be required to bring your animal home and deliver it to the slaughterhouse or other processor at a later date.
- All pens must be completely cleaned and checked off before leaving the fair either Monday, September 7 or Tuesday, September 8. Dates may change based on availability for harvest.
- Fines will be issued for dirty pens and unfed/unwatered animals. See Fines & Fees # 32.



**25. Herdsman:** Participant is required to work a herdsman shift at the fair. Sign-up will be available at Rally Days and online. During herdsman shift you're asked to clean up the barn, engage with the public and talk to them about 4-H/FFA, and/or sell raffle tickets. If you sign up for herdsman duty outside of the 4-H/FFA week, you will be required to purchase a ticket at your expense. If you miss your herdsman shift, contact the Livestock Committee for a make up day or assignment. This is a requirement to auction. Not completing herdsman duty will make you ineligible to auction the following year.

**26. Hospitality Shift:** This is not required but appreciated. Adults willing to work a hospitality shift at the June Tull 4-H building will receive one admittance ticket to enter the fair and one additional ticket. Sign-ups will be made available through the 4-H office and tickets available for pick-up at Will-Call the day of the hospitality shift. During this shift you'll answer questions about 4-H and keep an eye on the static 4-H exhibits.

**27. Thank you Cards:** Participants will write notes to their buyers as well as to the businesses that added on funds.

- Cards will need to be turned into the CES office by September 25 at 4:30 pm
- Cards need to be unsealed, addressed, and stamped.
- Envelopes to the buyer must be 5x7" so we can add a photo.
- Participants must purchase and apply appropriate postage for each card.
- Cards must be handwritten; addresses may be printed.
- Addresses will be provided the week after the auction.
- A preliminary list of Add-On donors and buyers will be provided at the Monday meeting after the auction.
- Please write a minimum of 3 sentences. More is better!
- Thank you cards will be checked by the Livestock Committee and volunteers.
- Please let the committee know one week in advance if there are special considerations that need to be made.
- Late record books and/or cards will incur a fine, see #32 for fines and fees
- Auction checks will not be released until record book and thank you cards are received. Items received after September 26, will impact your eligibility to auction the following year.

## 28. Small Livestock Processing:

- **Exhibitor Responsibility:** Exhibitors who successfully auction small livestock animals are required to assist with the processing of their animal and participate in group small livestock processing September 7, 2026. This includes providing any requested supplies specific to their species, in coordination with the Small Livestock Committee.
- **Required Parental/Guardian/Adult Involvement:** A parent/guardian or adult sponsor must be present to assist their child. Please note, these hours do not count toward the required adult volunteer hours.
- **Volunteer Hours:** Parents/guardian/adult sponsors who sign up for shifts to assist at processing stations can receive volunteer hours that count towards Adult Volunteer Hours. Shift times and station assignments will be released by the Small Livestock Committee as we get closer to processing day.
- **Market Animal Delivery:** Small livestock participants must deliver their processed market animal to their buyer no later than September 9, 2026.
- **Proof of Delivery:** Participants must email the Small Livestock Committee at [smallstock4h@gmail.com](mailto:smallstock4h@gmail.com) by September 9, 2026 with a photo confirming delivery.
- **Freezing Requirement:** If the animal is not delivered within 48 hours of processing, please freeze the product to ensure its quality.
- Auction check will not be released until the animal has been delivered. Items not delivered or untimely communication will impact your eligibility to auction the following year.

**29. Auction Sales Fee:** A 5% sale fee is collected by the district Livestock Committee from the funds received by the 4-H/FFA member to help cover expenses related to the Livestock auction and supporting youth activities. Some of these items include marketing materials, fitting stands, judge, livestock camp and workshops, etc. *Disclaimer, if other slaughter arrangements are necessary the auction sales fee could be increased, a fee adjustment would need to be voted on.*

**30. Livestock Committee:** The Mat-Su Livestock Committee has final authority on interpretation of all rules for the market livestock project. If a participant needs an exception, please email the committee and plan on attending a Livestock Committee meeting to formally request an exception. Requests for exceptions must be presented and approved at a Livestock Committee meeting if possible. If there isn't a meeting available due to timing, the Executive Board can meet and approve or deny the exception.

**31. Auction Payment:** Livestock sales checks will be available for pickup at the CES office once buyer payments have been settled. Date varies and is based on when buyer funds are received. Each participant must provide a W-9 prior to auctioning. This must be in the participants name with the participants tax ID.

**32. Volunteer hours:** A Parent/Guardian/Friend/Family Member will sign up for and perform a minimum of 6 hours of volunteer duties in connection with the 2025-2026 Livestock program. They will also volunteer on the day of the auction from 8:00 am-5:00 pm (auction day itself does not count for volunteer hours). This can be 1 person, or a combination of helping adults (e.g. grandparent, friend, aunt, etc.). A list of volunteer opportunities will be provided by the Livestock Committee. See additional information below. Volunteer hours are a requirement to auction.

**33. Revisions:** Changes may occur due to unforeseen circumstances (pandemic, slaughterhouse closure, etc.). In the event changes occur, the Committee will determine a new plan of action. Each participant will be given the opportunity to continue or discontinue their involvement with the program.



**34. Fines & Fees:**

| <u>Action</u>  | <u>Description</u>   | <u>Fee, Fine, Eligibility</u>   |
|--|--|---|
| Missed Registration                                  | Initial registration is missed to participate in the auction.  | Ineligible to Auction for the current year  |
| Missed Auction information meeting (Jan, Feb, March) | Mandatory meeting providing information related to the auction. Goes over Project and rules document.            | Ineligible to Auction for the current year.   |
| Missed Rally Days                                    | Unless otherwise communicated with the Committee, Animals not at Rally days do not meet the auction requirement. | Ineligible to Auction for the current year  |
| Late Buyer Contacts                                  | Buyer contacts not submitted via google docs (link to be provided) by the deadline.                              | \$50/day late including weekends. If contacts are not received by July 10 participants will be ineligible to auction for the current year.  |
| Missed Fair Mandatory Meetings:                      | Mandatory meeting(s) not attended by the participant.  | 10% of auction check not to exceed \$150. Missed mandatory meeting will result in ineligibility to auction the following year.  |
| Dirty Pens or Unfed/Unwatered animals at the fair:   | Animals must be fed, watered, and have clean pens every day at the fair.   | \$50/day. If fines exceed \$300/Large Livestock, or \$150/small livestock, then participant will not be eligible to auction. If pen fines continue after the auction, participants will not be eligible to auction the following year.  |
| Final Record Book check and Thank you Cards          | Final record books and thank you cards not submitted timely and/or has deficiencies.                             | A late fee of \$50 per day, including weekends, will be assessed for any required materials submitted after the September 25 <sup>th</sup> deadline through September 30 <sup>th</sup> . Submissions will not be accepted after September 30 <sup>th</sup> . Failure to meet this deadline will result in <b>ineligibility to participate in the auction the following year</b> . Failure to submit the final record book will result in <b>non-payment</b> for the auction animal and any add-ons and <b>ineligibility</b> to participate in the following year's auction. |



**35. 4-H/FFA Alaska State Fair Shows – Shows subject to change.**

**4-H/FFA Shows Alaska State Fair 2026 September 1-7, 2026**  
**Alaska State Fairgrounds Farm Exhibits Building (Barn)**

**Thursday Show Schedule**

*These times are an approximation; however, shows will NOT start before the given time*

**Small Livestock Showmanship**

11am

\*Small livestock conformation will take place Wednesday in pens. Exhibitors can be present.

**Large Livestock Market Classes**

Goats 4:00 pm

Sheep 4:15 pm

Swine 4:45 pm

Beef 5:30 pm

Yak 6:00 pm

**Friday Showmanship Schedule**

*These times are an approximation; however, shows will NOT start before the given time*

**Large Livestock Showmanship**

Juniors (8-11yrs): 10:00 am

Intermediate (12-14yrs): 12:00 pm

Seniors (15-18yrs): 2:00 pm

Species order: goat, sheep, swine, beef, dairy, yak, round robin.

Be aware the fair does not open until 11:00 am, if you have people coming to watch they can enter through the livestock gate. (Other arrangements may be announced)

**Monday Breeding Show Schedule**

Breeding shows will begin at 2 pm and proceed in the following order.

Goats

Sheep

Swine

Dairy

Beef

Yak



## Animal Requirements (table 2):

| SPECIES   | Possession Dates: | Minimum & Maximum Sale weight | Maximum age: | Animals must be born on or after date: |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>LARGE LIVESTOCK</b>  |                   |                               |              |  |
| Reindeer  | December 1, 2025  | <b>175#</b>                   | 30 months    | March 1, 2024                          |
| Market Beef   | December 1, 2025  | <b>850-1500#</b>              | 20 months    | January 1, 2025                        |
| Market Heifer   | December 1, 2025  | <b>850-1500#</b>              | 20 months    | January 1, 2025                        |
| *Alternative Beef   |                   |                               |              |  |
| *Small Framed   | January 15, 2026  | 650-850#                      | 24 Months    | September 15, 2024                     |
| *Dairy Beef   | January 15, 2026  | <b>650-1600#</b>              | 24 Months    | September 15, 2024                     |
| Young Beef  | April 1, 2026     | <b>400#</b>                   | 8 months     | January 1, 2026                        |
| Young Yak   | May 1, 2026       | <b>300#</b>                   |              | September 1, 2024                      |
| Mature Yak  | Sept 1, 2025      | <b>500#</b>                   |              | September 1, 2023                      |
| Market Swine  | May 15, 2026      | <b>200-300#</b>               | 9 months     | January 1, 2026                        |
| Market Lamb   | May 15, 2026      | <b>100#</b>                   | 10 months    | December 1, 2025                       |
| Market Goat   | May 15, 2026      | <b>65-130#</b>                | 12 months    | September 1, 2025                      |
| Market Dairy Goat   | May 15, 2026      | <b>65-130#</b>                | 12 months    | September 1, 2025                      |
| <i>*Small framed and Dairy beef listed under Alternative Beef will be shown in one class under Alternative Beef</i>   |                   |                               |              |  |
| <p>*Alternative beef; example of eligible breeds dairy/dairy cross; Holstein, Jersey, Brown swiss, etc (weights 650-1600) Scottish Highland, Dexter, Galloway, Wagyu, other recognized alternative or dual purpose breeds. Not permitted; mirco cattle or typical market breeds such as Angus, Hereford, etc.</p> |                   |                               |              |  |

| <b>SMALL LIVESTOCK</b>                       |                          |  |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>SPECIES</b>                               | <b>Possession Dates:</b> | <b>Minimum &amp; Maximum Sale weight</b> | <b>Maximum age:</b>  | <b>Animals must be born on or after date:</b>                            |
| Market Goose<br>(pen of 1)                   | May 15, 2026             | <b>13#</b>                               | 23 weeks   | March 24, 2026   |
| Market Ducks (pen of 3)                      | April 29, 2026           | <b>6# each</b>                           | 23 weeks   | March 24, 2026   |
| Market Rabbits<br>(pen of 3)                 | July 29, 2026            | <b>3.5# each</b>                         | 12 weeks   | June 9, 2026   |
| Market Turkey: Tom<br>Commercial* (pen of 1) | April 29, 2026           | <b>25#</b>                               | 21 weeks   | April 7, 2026  |
| Market Turkey: Hen<br>Commercial* (pen of 1) | April 29, 2026           | <b>20#</b>                               | 21 weeks   | April 7, 2026  |
| Market Turkey: Heritage**<br>(pen of 1)      | March 4, 2026            | <b>15#</b>                               | 13 months  | August 1, 2025   |
| Market Chuckers/<br>Pheasants (pen of 6)     | April 29, 2026           | <b>1.5# each</b>                         | 27 weeks   | February 24, 2026  |
| Market Quail<br>(pen of 6)                   | June 17, 2026            | <b>9 oz each</b>                         | 12 weeks   | June 9, 2026   |
| Market Chicken:<br>Commercial* (pen of 3)    | July 8, 2026             | <b>5.5# each</b>                         | 8 weeks (Cornish Cross)<br>12 weeks (other commercial/hybrid breeds) | July 7, 2026<br>Cornish Cross<br>June 9, 2026<br>Other commercial breeds |
| Market Chicken: Heritage**<br>(pen of 3)     | June 1, 2026             | <b>5# each</b>                           | 20 weeks   | April 14, 2026   |

\*Commercial poultry breeds include hybrids/crossbreeds such as Broad Breasted White, Cornish cross, red/freedom rangers, etc

\*\*Heritage poultry breeds include standard breeds, which are recognized in the American Standard of Perfection (APA)

## Important Dates:

|           |       |              |                          |  |
|-----------|-------|--------------|--------------------------|--|
| January   | 19    | 10am-12pm    | CES Office               | 1 <sup>st</sup> mandatory informational meeting (must attend 1 of 4)   |
| February  | 14    | 10am-12pm    | CES Office               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> mandatory informational meeting (must attend 1 of 4)   |
| March     | 12    | 6pm -8pm     | CES Office               | 3 <sup>rd</sup> mandatory informational meeting (must attend 1 of 4)   |
| April     | 3     | 5:30-7:30pm  | Palmer High Ag Bldg      | 4th mandatory informational meeting (must attend 1 of 4)   |
| April     | 14    | 11:59 pm     | Online                   | Auction Registration due online: register every animal you may want to sell. Fill in Google Form provided; link on 4-H website. If you do not complete the auction registration, you will be ineligible to auction for the current year. |
| June      | 5     | 4pm-7pm      | Palmer High Ag Building  | Alternate Rally Days: Large livestock weigh in and paperwork day. MUST register to participate   |
| June      | 10    | 3pm- 8pm     | Fairgrounds              | Rally Days: Large livestock weigh in and paperwork day. Small livestock sign-ups   |
| June      | 11    | TBA          | Fairgrounds              | Optional Workshops Day   |
| July      | 6     | 4:30 pm      | CES Office               | Paperwork due: Large livestock fair pen requests and parking requests for all livestock exhibitors.  |
| July      | 10    | 11:59 pm     | Online                   | Buyer Contacts due: fill in Google Form provided, link on 4-H website  |
| July      | 13    | 12:00 am     | Online                   | Small Livestock Class Fair Registration OPENS (registration includes pen request)  |
| July      | 31    | 11:59 pm     | Online                   | Small Livestock Class Fair registration CLOSES   |
| July      | 23-24 |              | 4-H Building S Georgeson | Small Livestock Camp   |
| August    | 10    | 11:59 pm     |                          | Large Livestock Class Show Registration due online: Submit one form for each animal; link on 4-H website   |
| September | 1     | 3:00-6:30 pm | Barn                     | Small Livestock check-in and market weigh in   |
| September | 2     | 3:00-6:30 pm | Barn                     | Large Stock vet check and market weigh in; bring your animal and shot records.   |
| September | 2     | 7:00 pm      | Bleachers in Barn        | Mandatory Fair Meeting: All you need to know about Shows and Fair Procedures   |
| September | 2     | All Day      | Barn                     | Small Livestock Conformation Shows: Animals will be judged in pens starting. Participants will not be involved in judging but are welcome to watch and learn.  |
| September | 3     | 11:00 am     | Show ring                | Required Small Livestock Showmanship   |
| September | 3     | 4:00 pm      | Barn                     | Required Large Livestock Conformation shows  |
| September | 4     | 10:00 am     | Barn                     | Required Large Livestock Showmanship (Jr. 10:00 am, Int. 12:00 pm, Sr. 2:00 pm)  |
| September | 4     | 7:30 pm      | Barn                     | Auction Ring set up, come if you can!  |
| September | 5     | 9:00 am      | Bleachers                | Required meeting: Auction Information and Set up   |
| September | 5     | 11:30 am     | Barn                     | Auction starts   |
| September | 7     | 2:00 pm      | Barn                     | Optional Large Livestock Breeding Shows  |



|           |    |         |              |   |
|-----------|----|---------|--------------|---|
| September | 7  | 6:30 pm | Bleachers    | Required meeting: Fair Wrap-Up                    |
| September | 7  | TBD     | PHS Ag Bldg. | Small Livestock Processing Day - Sign Up Required |
| September | 25 | 4:30 pm | CES Office   | Thank you notes and Record Books due              |

**Signatures:**

My parents/guardians and I have read and discussed the rules above and understand the requirements of this project.

4-H/FFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

As Parent/Guardian/Project Supervisor, I agree to abide by the terms of this program. I will sign up for and perform volunteer duties in connection with the livestock program. I understand that if I fail to participate as a volunteer, my child may not be able to participate in the auction.

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Volunteer Log:**

Each 4-H/ FFA member who is participating in the auction program is required to have a parent, or other adult, volunteer for a minimum of 6 hours per family. We also require an adult volunteer to be present and help the entire auction day. Note: small livestock slaughter day, hospitality, and herdsman shifts do not count for these volunteer hours. Those are additional requirements.

This program works because of volunteers who work together to make it a great experience for the kids, and we can't do it without a lot of help.

Volunteer opportunities will be made available and shared. Please keep an eye out and sign up to help (Examples: Rally Days helper, stuffing and mailing marketing materials, record book checks, thank you card check, help sweep the barn, set up the for the auction prior, run a pig board during shows, help with weigh in, or host an educational workshop. \*Workshops must have a plan and be approved by the 4-H agent before it can be offered to members of the livestock program).

**Please list and describe your volunteer hours:**

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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