

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



Junior Market Livestock Auction Project Rules & Educational Insert



This is a required component of your Auction Project Record Book.

Please direct any questions to
Samantha Blumenkonig, Mat-Su/Copper River 4-H Coordinator
at (907) 745-3679, sjrussell5@alaska.edu
or
the Livestock Committee Chair at mcrak-livestock@googlegroups.com

Participants must register online and be part of the
Mat-Su/Copper River District to participate in the auction.

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

Google Form Link is below for Registration

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

The Junior 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 Junior 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 7PM 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 at 10AM, February 14 at 10AM, March 12 at 6PM 2026.
- **Palmer High School Agriculture Building** - March 19 from 6-7:30PM
- 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. 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, 2026 Livestock Committee meeting.



6. Large Livestock Backup Animals: A participant's family may have multiple backup animals. A family with multiple participants may use 1 backup animal for all participants. If the animal is being used as a backup for multiple youth in the same family, the backup only needs to be registered under one participant. Please note on the registration that it is a family backup animal.

- **Small Livestock: Family Backup 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 manufacturer 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 Coordinator) 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 online 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.

13. Rally Days: Wednesday, June 10, 3–8PM

- **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 backup, 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 at 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 5, 4-7PM 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

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 coming).

- 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.

- 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
 - Alaska 4-H Livestock Project Insert (or FFA AET Record Book)
 - 4-H/FFA Junior 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 Coordinator by July 7 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 Coordinator 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, 4:30PM. Record Books must be completed to receive their auction check. If Record Books are not submitted timely or are incomplete, this may impact the participant's 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 on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, from 3-6:30PM; Large livestock check-in/market weigh-in on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, from 3-6:30PM at the fair barn.

- Animals entered in open shows and already at the fair may begin weigh-in at 2PM.
- 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 10AM. 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 at 7PM
- Saturday, September 5 at 9AM
- Monday, September 7 at 6:30PM (a family member can represent at this meeting)

21. Auction: Participants must attend the auction from 8AM-5PM **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 at 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 4PM.
 - 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. 10AM, Int. 12PM, Sr. 2PM). 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 3 at 11AM 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:** Clean pants or jeans without holes. **Footwear:** Clean boots or shoes with closed toes and closed heels are required.
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 - **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: 6:30-10AM for morning cleaning and feeding; 5-8PM 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 (8PM) 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 5PM 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/un-watered 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 4:30PM.
- 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 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-Copper River 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 participant's name with the participant's 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 8AM-5PM (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 deadline through September 30. Submissions will not be accepted after September 30. Failure to meet this deadline will result in ineligibility to participate in the auction the following year . Failure to submit the final Record Book will result in non-payment for the auction animal and any add-ons and ineligibility 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 4PM
- Sheep 4:15PM
- Swine 4:45PM
- Beef 5:30PM
- Yak 6PM

Friday Showmanship Schedule

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

Large Livestock Showmanship

- Juniors (8-11yrs): 10AM
- Intermediate (12-14yrs): 12PM
- Seniors (15-18yrs): 2PM

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

Be aware the fair does not open until 11AM, 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 2PM 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:
LARGE LIVESTOCK				
Reindeer	December 1, 2025	175#	30 months	March 1, 2024
Market Beef	December 1, 2025	850-1500#	20 months	January 1, 2025
Market Heifer	December 1, 2025	850-1500#	20 months	January 1, 2025
*Alternative Beef				
*Small Framed	January 15, 2026	650-850#	24 Months	September 15, 2024
*Dairy Beef	January 15, 2026	650-1600#	24 Months	September 15, 2024
Young Beef	April 1, 2026	400# 300#	8 months	January 1, 2026
Young Yak	May 1, 2026	500# 200-		September 1, 2024
Mature Yak	September 1, 2025	300# 100#		September 1, 2023
Market Swine	May 15, 2026	65-130#	9 months	January 1, 2026
Market Lamb	May 15, 2026	65-130#	10 months	December 1, 2025
Market Goat	May 15, 2026		12 months	September 1, 2025
Market Dairy Goat	May 15, 2026		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>				
*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; micro cattle or typical market breeds such as Angus, Hereford, etc.				



SMALL LIVESTOCK				
SPECIES	Possession Dates:	Minimum & Maximum Sale Weight	Maximum Age:	Animals Must Be Born On or After Date:
Market Goose (pen of 1)	May 15, 2026	13#	23 weeks	March 24, 2026
Market Ducks (pen of 3)	April 29, 2026	6# each	23 weeks	March 24, 2026
Market Rabbits (pen of 3)	July 29, 2026	3.5# each	12 weeks	June 9, 2026
Market Turkey: Tom Commercial* (pen of 1)	April 29, 2026	25#	21 weeks	April 7, 2026
Market Turkey: Hen Commercial* (pen of 1)	April 29, 2026	20#	21 weeks	April 7, 2026
Market Turkey: Heritage** (pen of 1)	March 4, 2026	15#	13 months	August 1, 2025
Market Chuckers/Pheasants (pen of 6)	April 29, 2026	1.5# each	27 weeks	February 24, 2026
Market Quail (pen of 6)	June 17, 2026	9 oz each	12 weeks	June 9, 2026
Market Chicken: Commercial* (pen of 3)	Cornish Cross July 7, 2026*** Other Commercial Breeds June 9, 2026	5.5# each	Cornish Cross 8 weeks Other Commercial Breeds 12 weeks	Cornish Cross July 1, 2026 Other Commercial Breeds June 3, 2026
Market Chicken: Heritage** (pen of 3)	June 1, 2026	5# each	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)

*** Possession date is considered the ship date

JUNIOR MARKET AUCTION

2026 LIVESTOCK IMPORTANT DATES

JAN. 19 from 10AM-12PM 1st Mandatory Informational Meeting
at the CES Office *(Must Attend 1 of 4)*

FEB. 14 from 10AM-12PM 2nd Mandatory Informational Meeting
at the CES Office *(Must Attend 1 of 4)*

MAR. 12 from 6-8PM 3rd Mandatory Informational Meeting
at the CES Office *(Must Attend 1 of 4)*

Mar 19 6-8pm 4th Mandatory Informational Meeting
at the Palmer High Ag Building
(Corrected date) *(Must Attend 1 of 4)*

APR. 14 at 11:59PM Auction Registration Due Online
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.

JUN. 5 from 4-7PM Alternate Rally Days
at the Palmer High Ag Building Large Livestock Weigh-In and Paperwork Day. Must register to participate.

JUN. 10 from 3-8PM Rally Days
at the Fairgrounds Large Livestock Weigh-In and Paperwork Day. Small Livestock Sign-Ups.

JUN. 11 - time TBA Optional Workshops Day
at the Fairgrounds

JUL. 6 at 4:30PM Paperwork Due
at the CES Office Large Livestock Fair Pen Requests and Parking Requests for All Livestock Exhibitors

JUL. 10 at 11:59PM Buyer Contacts Due
Online Fill in Google Form provided; Link on 4-H website.

JUL. 13 at 12AM Small Livestock Class Fair Registration OPENS
Online Registration includes Pen Request.

JUL. 23-24 - All Day Small Stock Camp
at the 4-H Building

JUL. 31 at 11:59PM Small Livestock Class Fair Registration CLOSES
Online

AUG. 10 at 11:59PM

Online

Large Livestock Class Show Registration Due Online

Submit one form for each animal; Link on 4-H website.

SEP. 1 from 3-6:30PM

in the Barn

Small Livestock Check-In and Market Weigh-In

SEP. 2 from 3-6:30PM

in the Barn

Large Stock Vet Check and Market Weigh-In

Bring Your Animal and Shot Records.

SEP. 2 at 7PM

at the Bleachers in the Barn

Mandatory Meeting: All You Need to Know About Shows and Fair Procedures

SEP. 2 - All Day

in the 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.

SEP. 3 at 11AM

in the Show Ring

Required Small Livestock Showmanship

SEP. 3 at 4PM

in the Barn

Required Large Livestock Conformation Shows

SEP. 4 at 10AM

in the Barn

Required Large Livestock Showmanship

(Jr. 10AM, Int. 12PM, Sr. 2PM)

SEP. 4 at 7:30PM

at the Barn

Auction Ring Set Up - Come If You Can!

SEP. 5 at 9AM

at the Bleachers in the Barn

Mandatory Meeting: Auction Information and Set Up

SEP. 5 at 11:30AM

at the Barn

Auction Starts

SEP. 7 at 2PM

at the Bleachers in the Barn

Optional Large Livestock Breeding Shows

SEP. 7 at 6:30PM

at the Bleachers in the Barn

Mandatory Meeting: Fair Wrap-Up

SEP. 7 - Time TBD

at the PHS Ag Building

Small Livestock Processing Day - Sign Up Required!

SEP. 25 at 4:30PM

at the CES Office

Thank You Notes and Record Books Due





Workshops: You are required to attend 3 approved livestock workshops and have a current certificate for “Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)” course available online .Completion Certificate must be attached for credit .
In-personworkshops will be announced in the district emails, newsletters, website, Remind app, and on the Facebook page.
Include Date, Subject Taught, and Describe What YOU learned. Three workshops are required for auction but doing more will increase your score on record book rubrics. Attach additional pages as appropriate.

First Workshop

Second Workshop

Third Workshop

Required YQCA course. Insert Completion Certificate as the following page (if completed in 2024/2025 4-H/FFA year, include that copy).

If attending more than the minimum required number of workshops, attach additional sheets detailing what was learned. The more you write about, the more points you earn on the scoring rubric—though only three are required to auction.



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 coordinator before it can be offered to members of the livestock program).

Please list and describe your volunteer hours:



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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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.

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