

## Sheep

Description: The educational 4-H sheep program and related activities (such as workshops and tours) provide youth with a fun and hands-on learning experience which develops both sheep subject skills (such as nutrition, housing, and health care) and life skills (such as responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communications) under the direction of caring adults.

- Enroll in 4-H, pay annual program fee, and enter project in V2.4online by January 15
- Sheep must be ID in V2.4online by May 15
- Enter exhibit(s) in FairEntry by May 24, 2024. See page 7 Rule #24.

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. For more information about in-person trainings in our county, please contact your County Extension Office. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqca.org/>.

### GENERAL RULES:

1. Any questions not covered by the following rules shall be referred to the sheep executive committee.
2. Any 4-H member who would like to be entered in rate of gain must bring market lambs and commercial ewes to the spring county weigh-in to be weighed and tagged. Any member not attending Spring Weight-In must pick their tags up prior to spring weight-in and tag their own lambs. Purebred ewes must have registration papers and breeder identification tags.
4. Members are encouraged to attend sheep workshops. Attending sheep workshops may also count as an activity completed in the Sheep Activity Sheets. These workshops will be listed in the Clover Chronicle.
5. Current HEALTH RULES as specified by the Indiana Board of Animal Health must be complied with and all health papers checked by either the State Veterinarian or a representative before unloading. Health papers should be listed in the 4-Her's name, the 4-Her's and an immediate family member's name, or the 4-Her's and the family name. (Ex. John Smith & Sons, Jane Smith & Sons and Daughters, John Smith and Family).
6. All sheep required to be sheared, must be washed and slick sheared within 10 days prior to the Allen County Sheep Show. Sheep may be sheared during the week of the Allen County Fair.
7. No dogs allowed in sheep area.
8. The exhibitor may show 3 market lambs, 3 ewe lambs and 3 yearling ewes.
9. A Leader's Special Award will be given at the Auction.
10. Ownership: (See General 4-H Rules)
11. Rate of Gain must be a market animal and must be one of the animals shown by the 4-H'er at the 4-H County Show.
12. Exhibitors are required to clean their pen when animals are released or sold.
13. All lambs must weigh a minimum of 70 lbs to be sold through the Auction or consigned at the County Fair.
14. Muzzles may not be used.
15. During the Fair, ALL lambs must remain in the designated sheep barn and exercise areas of the grounds.
16. In the event that any of the forementioned rules are broken, then the 4-H'er will forfeit his/her ribbons/placings/ prizes and show only for participation.
17. Grooming assistance can be provided by anyone.

### BREEDING FLOCK RULES FOR YEARLINGS AND LAMBS:

1. Sheep must be purebred. The registration number of the sheep must be entered in the record book. The Breed Association tag must be worn by sheep. Registration papers are required for these animals. **(Exception - 4-H Commercial ewes.)**
2. All breeding sheep may be shown either shorn or with full fleece. (State rules recommend commercial ewes be shorn.)

### ADDITIONAL RULES ON EWE LAMBS:

1. Lambs must be dropped after September 1, of preceding County Fair. Animals exhibited in the lamb classes must show their lamb teeth.
2. Lambs must be in the possession of the club member or as a partner, where partnership contract exists, and the terms explained as of May 1. Records should start on or before May 1.
3. A top 5 will be named in the market lamb division. Grand Champion. Reserve Grand Champion, Third, Fourth and Fifth Over All.

### ADDITIONAL RULE ON YEARLING EWES:

1. Yearling ewe exhibitors must own animal to be exhibited by May 1. Records should start on May 1.

### MARKET LAMB RULES:

1. Must be owned by 4-H member by May 1.
2. All Market Lambs will be shown slick sheared.

3. Only one lamb may be sold at auction.
4. Breed classes will be offered for market lambs. Any breed with one or more animals exhibited at county fair will have a breed class. All breed champions will come back for the grand drive.
5. Lambs will be sifted to meet breed qualifications. Any lamb not meeting breed qualifications will be placed in the crossbred division.
6. A top 5 will be names in the market lamb division. Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, third, fourth, and fifth Overall.

### **SHEEP CLASSES AT ALLEN COUNTY FAIR**

1. Single Ewe Lamb
2. Single Yearling Ewe
3. Market Lamb - classes divided by weight and separated into Light, Medium and Heavy Weight.

### **Mini Sheep**

Mini 4-Hers can participate in mini sheep showmanship at the Allen County Fair. To be eligible, you must be a registered mini 4-Her, enter the ring with the assistance of an Allen County 4-H member 3rd-12th grade who will provide you with the use of their lamb for showmanship. If you do not know a 4-Her, please see the committee and we will help you find someone. Halters are encouraged. This is for participation only. See Mini 4-H project rules for poster exhibition.

### **Showmanship will be conducted in three divisions:**

Member will compete in level according to school grade as of January 1 of current exhibition year.

**Junior** for grades 3-4-5

**Intermediate** for grades 6-7-8

**Senior** for grade 9-10-11-12

**Overall** Showman for all current Junior, Intermediate, Senior, previous Senior *and previous Master* Showman winners. Winner is eligible to go on to Showman of Showmen (**See Showman of Showmen**)

1. Once an exhibitor has won a division they must compete in the next higher division the following year. Senior division winners **MAY NOT** compete for the senior division showman again.

**Showmanship participants must show their own animal which they exhibited in an earlier class**