



CLAY COUNTY 4-H SHEEP

*Updated for 2024

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ENROLLMENT:

- a) Premise ID numbers are required
- b) Enrolled animals must be owned by the 4-H exhibitor by said deadline of **May 15, 2024** and must be under the continuous care, responsibility, and ownership through the date of the show, except where change of ownership was to 4-H member's complete ownership. Siblings will be allowed to co-enroll sheep on 4HOnline.
- c) 4-H members must be enrolled in Clay County 4-H and in the Sheep Project on 4HOnline by the annual Spring ID Day (**May 4th & 5th, 2024**).
- d) All 4-H market lambs and ewes must be enrolled on [4HOnline](#) and identified with a county ID tag by the Annual Spring ID Day (**May 4th & 5th, 2024**). Registered ewes may use a flock tag for identification, but must be identified at tag-in. All market lambs will be weighed at this time for the Rate of Gain competition also.
- e) All market lambs and commercial ewes exhibiting at the Indiana State Fair must be RFID tagged at Tag Day. All sheep must have a DNA Hair Sample turned into the Extension Office by **May 15, 2024** at 4:00 p.m. to be eligible for State Fair.
- f) County Fair class entries will be due by **June 28, 2024** on [FairEntry.com](#).

HEALTH:

- a) All sheep must be unloaded outside of the barn.
- b) All sheep must be free of blankets when unloaded at the fair.
- c) No animal may enter the barn until inspection of the animal is completed by a veterinarian or the Sheep Superintendent(s).
- d) All sheep must have no more than ¼" wool growth at county fair check-in with the exception of breeding stock intended to be shown as fitted.
- e) No sheep may be exhibited that are showing signs of being infected with ringworm.
- f) No sheep may be exhibited that are showing signs of prolapsing.
- g) Health rules as provided by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health will be followed. In case of a health question, a veterinarian will be contacted.
- h) All female 4-H sheep projects (regardless of age) must be identified with the USDA approved plastic ear tag in order to be exhibited at shows unless it is registered and has a registration tag.
- i) **SCRAPIES CONTROL IN SHEEP.** All sheep from an area not declared scrapies free by the U.S.D.A. must be treated by a method approved by the U.S.D.A. and the board of animal health within fifteen (15) days prior to the opening date of the exhibition.

GROOMING:

4-H Exhibitors may receive clipping and grooming assistance only from members of their immediate family (father, mother, and siblings), from a legal guardian, from a current Indiana 4-H member, and from individuals enrolled in the Indiana 4-H Approved Animal Grooming Assistance Program. Please contact the Extension Office with questions on how to be approved or to see if you are already on the approved groomers list.

PENNING:

- a) The Superintendent will assign stall space prior to bringing sheep to the Fairgrounds.
- b) Sheep exhibitors will furnish bedding materials.
- c) No muzzles are allowed on the sheep at any time.
- d) Pens must be cleaned and inspected by the superintendent or a member of the barn committee on the night of release.
- e) There will be a pen/stall fee of no more than \$5 per pen/stall due at the beginning of fair. Please see your leader for further communication on this closer to fair.



SHOW:

- a) All 4-H Livestock must be shown by a current Clay County 4-H member.
- b) The Mini 4-H Show will include Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd graders that are enrolled in the Clay Co. Mini 4-H program and entered in the sheep project by **June 17, 2024**.
- c) If two animals are in the same class, a substitute showman (current Clay County 4-H member) may be selected by the 4-Her. Members must notify the leaders of all substitutions before the show begins.
- d) No ice is to be used on lambs. Cold, wet towels can be used. Ice can be used under the sheep's chin if sheep is overheated. This is with the approval of the Sheep Superintendent.
- e) No foreign objects are to be inserted or placed inside the sheep, except by a licensed veterinarian at the fairgrounds and/or approved by the Sheep Superintendent.
- f) **Ten market lambs, ten breeding ewes, one pair of ewe lambs, and one pair of yearling ewes may be exhibited by the 4-H member.**
- g) All breeding animals shown in breeding classes must be ewes.
- h) Breeding classes for registered breeding stock will be provided for all recognized breeds.
- i) Clay County show does not require registration papers; however, the State Fair does and breeds will need to pass classification.
- j) Market Class Lambs can be wethers or ewes (No Rams!). Market lambs will be divided into classes by breed, and then by weight at the superintendent's discretion.
- k) If an exhibitor has two animals that fall in the same weight class, they may show one animal in the next heavier class providing they have no other entry in that class.
- l) Ewe lambs may be shown in breeding class or market class, NOT in both classes
- m) The Grand Champion Market Lamb will be selected from all the breed champion market lambs. A Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb will be selected from the remaining breed champions and the reserve breed champion to the Grand Champion.
- n) The Grand Champion Ewe will be selected from all the breed champion ewes. A Reserve Grand Champion Ewe will be selected from the remaining breed champions and the reserve breed champion to the Grand Champion.
- o) For market lambs, including wethers and ewes only Clay County tags will be allowed during the time of exhibit. Clay County tags are a five-digit tag.

SHOW CLASSES:

Ewe Lambs	Pair of Ewe Lambs	Yearling Ewes
Pair of Yearling Ewes	Market Lambs	

AWARDS

Breed Champion Ewes	Breed Champion Market Lambs	Top 5 Ewes	Top 5 Market Lambs
Wayne Stearley Legacy Award	Grand Champion Clay County Born & Raised Market Lamb	Grand Champion Clay County Born & Raised Supreme Ewe	Champion Rate of Gain Market Lamb
Good Shepherd Award	Champion & Res. Champion Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship	Champion & Res. Champion, Champion of Champions Showmanship	

BORN & RAISED:

- a) **The Born and Raised sheep must be raised by the Clay County 4-H member. Exhibitor must notify sheep Superintendent at time of tagging weigh-in/tagging if their animal is homegrown.**
- b) The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Born and Raised selection will be held immediately following the selection of the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.
- c) Classes for the Born and Raised will be determined by weight.
- d) The number of classes will be determined by the sheep superintendents.
- e) If a 4-H member has two animals that fall in the same weight class, he or she may show one animal in the next heavier class providing that he or she has no entry in that class. If both fall in the heavier class, both may be shown in that class.



RATE OF GAIN:

The Rate of Gain award will be presented to the market animal that has gained the most weight from tag-in day to the weigh-in at the fair.

SHOWMANSHIP:

4-H members who participate in 4-H sheep showmanship classes may only show their own animals that will be exhibited by them in a regular 4-H class.

- a) **Junior Showmanship – 3rd through 5th graders** as of **January 1, 2024** are eligible. Once an exhibitor is the overall Junior showman, the 4-Her is only eligible to compete in the Intermediate showmanship class the following year.
- b) **Intermediate Showmanship – 6th through 8th graders** as of **January 1, 2024** and anyone who was won Junior Showmanship. Once an exhibitor is the overall Intermediate showman, the 4-Her is only eligible to compete in the Senior showmanship class the following year.
- c) **Senior Showmanship – 9th through 12th graders** as of **January 1, 2024** and anyone who has previously won Intermediate Showmanship. The winning 4-Her is eligible to compete in the Champion of Champions classes in the same year and future years once he or she has won senior.
- d) **Champion of Champions Showmanship** – All previous Senior Division Champions, including the **2024** Senior Division Champion.

STATE FAIR INFORMATION:

- a) Entries required by June 1st or by the date set by the Indiana State Fair on the Exhibitor Corners website (<https://bit.ly/3SMqDra>).
- b) All market lambs and crossbred ewes must have an RFID tag, 5-digit county ear tag and a DNA sample.
- c) 4-H/FFA Wool Show and Trimming Contest entries are made in July and on the State Fair online site.
- d) All registered ewes must have an RFID tag, can be identified by the ear tag that corresponds to the tag number listed on the Ewes registration paper and a DNA sample.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training. This is an annual program that can be completed in-person by attending one of the classes on the following dates at the Fairgrounds:

- **March 25, 2024**
- **April 30, 2024**
- **May 22, 2024**
- **June 19, 2024**

CLAY COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION:

Only animals in market classes may sell.

The Livestock Auction/Benefit for the Barns Event will be held upon the conclusion of the fair. In order to be eligible, you must show an animal at the fair and have a designated animal for auction. A small percentage auction fee will be deducted from each member's check. Detailed auction information will be finalized closer to fair.

WOOL SHOW

- a) Each exhibitor is limited to two (2) fleeces in the show. Fleeces will be placed in proper class by the wool judge.
- b) Fleeces will be displayed at the Exhibit Hall except when being judged at the sheep show.
- c) Fleeces must be from the member's sheep flock animal. All fleeces for exhibit must be tied with paper twine (Standard wool twine).
- d) Exhibitor must sign fleece(s) in with superintendent on same day of Livestock check in.


REFERENCES:

- [Purdue Extension Sheep Project](#)
- [Indiana State Fair Book](#)

IMPORTANT SHEEP DATES:

May 3, 2024 (5:00 – 7:00 PM)	Sheep ID Day at the Fairgrounds
May 4, 2024 (9:00 – 11:00 AM)	Sheep ID Day at the Fairgrounds
May 15, 2024	Deadline to enroll sheep online—The enrollment will not be complete if your sheep are not enrolled online. Exhibitors who fail to register their animals online before the May 15th deadline will not be eligible to exhibit sheep at the county or state fair.
May 15, 2024	DNA Samples must be returned to office if going to State Fair.
June 17, 2024	Mini 4-Her's must be signed up to participate in sheep show.
June 28, 2024	Fair Entry due
TBD	Deadline to register Sheep online for the State Fair.
July 13-19, 2024	Clay County Fair
July 12, 2024 (6 – 9:00 PM)	Sheep check-in at Clay County Fair
July 13, 2024 (7 – 10:00 AM)	Sheep check-in at Clay County Fair
July 14, 2024	Mini 4-H Sheep Show
July 16, 2024 (9:00 AM)	Sheep show at Clay County Fair
July 18, 2024	Sheep released
July 19, 2024	Clay County livestock auction
August 2 - 18, 2024	Indiana State Fair
August 2 - 3, 2024	State Fair Lamb Shows
August 8-10, 2024	State Fair Breeding Ewe Shows

