

2024 Livestock Sale – 4-H member

Sale Order: Dairy Products - Sheep - Goats - Swine - Poultry - Rabbits - Beef

Date: Wednesday, July 17th, 2024 at 1:00pm

GENERAL

1. In order to participate in the Livestock Auction, a 4-H member must sell an animal, owned and shown by said 4-Her, from the species in which he or she participated. Auction exceptions only for Dairy Cow and Goat group auction items.
2. Sales order for 2024 will be Dairy, Sheep, Goats, Swine, Poultry Rabbits, and Beef.
 - a. Animals in each section will sell in the following order, if applicable. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, 10 year members, 1st year members and finally alphabetical or randomized order.
3. **ALL 4-H MEMBERS are highly encouraged to properly thank their buyer from the previous year's auction by creating a display no larger than 22" x 28" and display it at their pen. For species that prohibit hanging it at their pen, a designated area to display these posters will be made available. Posters will be judged (by specie) and the winner (considering creativity, craftsmanship, and design) will chosen by committee. Posters should be brought with you when you check in your animal for the fair.**
4. An individual or business should feel free to buy an animal, but no special pressure shall be brought to bear by any individual to over inflate the price of any animal.
5. The Auction Committee shall have final determination of the interpretation of all rules.

PRE-AUCTION

1. Appraised price will be obtained on all species in the sale and agreed upon between the 4-H member and sale barn.
2. All animals entering the ring must sell. All sales are final and animals will be marked SOLD in 4-H Online. All animals participating at the auction are NOT ELIGIBLE at the Indiana State Fair. Any animal entering the auction ring becomes the sole ownership of the Decatur County 4-H Council and will be loaded onto the market truck. ANY ANIMAL GOING THROUGH THE AUCTION MAY NOT RETURN HOME.
3. Weighing times and conditions:
 - a. Cattle, swine, sheep and goats will use weight of entry to the fair for weight of sale.
4. Each 4-H member may sell one animal except rabbit and poultry which may sell a meat pen as one unit. Dairy Cow members have the option to collect their portion of Dairy project premium or enter an alternative species, NOT both.

5. Sale weight requirements:
 - a. Swine must weigh at least 200 pounds and not more than 320 pounds to be sold in the sale.
 - b. All market lambs must weight at least 80 pounds to be sold in the sale.
 - c. Each rabbit in a meat pen must weigh between 3.5-5.5 pounds to be sold in the sale.
6. All 4-H members who wish to participate in the livestock auction must pay a \$10 fee at the same time the grounds fee requests are done, usually in May or June.
7. The Livestock Auction Committee reserves the right to reject any sale animal or extra it deems sick, inferior, tainted, unqualified or for any other reason deemed appropriate by the Livestock Auction Committee Chairperson or his/her designee. Specifically, but without limitation, no sale animal shall have any substance present or alteration that: 1. Violates standards established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 2. Violates standards established by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or 3. Provides any potential performance enhancing quality (e.g., gait altering) and/or any potential showing advantage (including but not limited to tampering, altering, and/or misrepresenting any exhibit; coloring that alters or misrepresents breed characteristics; pumping air or other substances to alter conformation; methods to induce artificial fill; performing surgical and/or non-surgical procedures to alter the animal's configuration or natural conformation of any part of the animal's body; and unethical fitting – allowed exceptions include hoof trimming, dehorning, removal of hair, castration, branding, tattooing, ear notching, and docking of tails).

DURING THE AUCTION

1. Auction participants are responsible to be in the proper position to enter the auction ring when their time to sell comes. It is required that 4-H members wear proper attire during the auction. Participants are encouraged to begin lining up at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to their sale time. Any participant failing to be in position (except for emergency circumstances) at such time is subject to being removed from the auction order without recourse.
2. Dairy Cow Grand Champions will sell a gallon of cow milk or a block of goat cheese. These products represent the 4-H member's animal and that animal is not allowed to return to the fair if the animal is 2 years old or older. Remaining Dairy Cow members will sell a basket of cow cheese or a basket milk products. Remaining members will share the proceeds equally between 4-H members.
3. 4-H members are required to support the auction by participating in the variety of activities assigned out, including but not limited to set-up, eating lunch with the buyers, ring support with snack/drinks, tear-down, etc. By participating in the auction, the 4-H member will gain more interaction with the buyers and learn networking skillsets.

POST-AUCTION

1. Auction Participants are required to write a written Thank You note to the successful bidder of their premium amount (thank you notes to contending bidders are also encouraged). Please remember without the dedicated bidders, there would be no auction.
 - a. Thank you notes will be submitted to 4-H Council to receive the auction check distributed at the annual end-of-the-year celebration. Thank you notes should be addressed to buyer and include stamp.
2. Auction buyers will pay premiums to 4-H Council. 4-H Council will pay the 4-H member directly for both market price and premium.
3. There will be dates distributed for check pick-up and thank you note turn-in, usually in August. **Auction checks must be picked up AND cashed or deposited by November 1st or the funds will be forfeited (checks will have a stop payment executed) and utilized to fund the 4-H Grows Here Fund!**
4. **Any participant that fails to comply with the guidelines outlined above will forego their premium proceeds from the current year's auction. Those proceeds will be donated to the 4-H Grows Here Fund. Eligibility for the successive year's auction will be determined by the Auction Committee after investigation into non-compliance.**

Decatur County 4-H Auction Committee Members and Contact Information:

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