

Additional Livestock Information

Livestock projects require significant investment in time, money, and resources but can teach youth valuable lessons in responsibility, time management, money management, and many other life skills. Livestock projects require a few extra steps and have important, non-flexible deadlines that must be met.

- In addition to enrolling in the livestock project by in the fall and winter, beef, sheep, goat, swine, and horse and pony exhibitors must also declare your animals and enter them into your family's 4-H Online profile by **May 15** to be eligible to exhibit at the county or state fair; animals must meet certain identification requirements. That chart can be found on the livestock web pages on the Tipton County 4-H webpage.
- Rabbit and Pocket Pet exhibitors have paper forms that must be turned into the Extension Office by **May 15**; Poultry enrollment forms are due to the Extension Office by **June 1**.
- Livestock Exhibitors will also be asked to declare how many pens or stalls they will need for the fair when they pre-register projects in FairEntry in June.
- If you are interested in exhibiting at the Indiana State Fair, you must check the appropriate box when you identify the animals in your 4-H Online profile. This does NOT register you for the Indiana State Fair. That process occurs independent from the Indiana 4-H program and can be done through www.indianastatefair.com.
- All livestock entered in the Indiana State Fair must meet State Fair identification guidelines. This sheet is available in late fall and winter.
- All youth who exhibit a food animal (beef, sheep, goats, swine, rabbit, poultry) will complete a Quality Assurance program before exhibition. You have two options:
 - o If you plan to attend certain open shows or national shows, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) may be required. You can participate in this certification online at <https://yqcaprogram.org>. The program costs \$12.
 - o If you plan to show at the county or State Fair level, you can participate in an instructor-lead *Indiana 4-H Quality Care of Animals* program. This will be offered in person a few times through the spring and summer.
 - o You **MUST** participate in **one** of these programs to exhibit at the Tipton County 4-H Fair; you do not need to do both. A current certificate from either of these programs will be accepted by Indiana 4-H.
- Animal barns will be set up the Saturday before the 4-H fair begins. This is also when livestock members will turn in completed record sheets.
- Beef, sheep, goats, and swine exhibitors are able to sell one animal in the livestock auction at the end of the 4-H Fair and earn a premium. Youth will need to declare an animal and sign up for the sale prior to the fair; watch for an e-mail a week before the fair. Animals can also be put on an 'out' truck and sold at market price. More details about this will be distributed closer to the 4-H fair.