



# SHOW READY: LIVESTOCK STARTER GUIDE

## Llama & Alpaca



**Q** How do I identify and enter my animal in the fair?

**A** All livestock species, except Poultry, must be identified in the 4-H Online system (<https://v2.4honline.com>) by May 15. Ensure that you are meeting the animal ID requirements listed in the 4-H handbook when entering your animal. Poultry exhibitors will identify their animals at <https://tinyurl.com/26Poultry>. Identify any animals you may want to show. By July 1, go to <http://vanderburghcountyin.fairentry.com> to enter what classes your animal(s) will be participating in. This is where you'll select which animals you will be bringing to the fair, what classes they will be in, and you can enter showmanship. To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry, pygmy goats, rabbits, sheep and swine, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program by July 1. If you plan to exhibit at the Indiana State Fair, be sure to check out state guidelines and registration details at <https://indianastatefair.com>. Suggestion - if showing multiple animals/species, create a list of all ID information to help with animal ID entry. Enter all possible entries on May 15. Only animals entered by May 15 can be shown. Just because they are entered, does not mean they have to go to the fair; however, if they are not entered, they are not eligible.

**Q** How do I prepare for fair?

**A** Come to the llama/alpaca workshops, work with your animal on different obstacles, and practice how to present your animal in the show ring (j-lead, backing, switching sides)

**Q** Where do I find set-up, check-in, check out, and clean up times for my species?

**A** You will find this in the handbook, in the summer LINK newsletters, and in a mailing that goes out before fair.

**Q** How does check-in work? What do I need to have with me?

**A** Animals can be brought in during arrival times. If you are leasing an animal, check with the person who is bringing the animal about the time of arrival.

**Q** What supplies/equipment do I need to have at fair?

**A** Grain and Hay, Black Halter and Lead, Washing and Grooming Supplies. If you want: different bedding or individual fans, and a 4X6 Picture of you and your animal for your pen

**Q** How do I care for my animal during fair?

**A** It is expected that the 4-H member provides regular care for their animal during the fair. This includes making sure your animal has access to clean water at all times and is fed regularly. The fair is often very hot so make sure you have a plan to keep your animal cool and to prevent overheating

Q How does check out work? What do I need to do to clean up?

A Animals can be released at designated dates/times. If leasing, you can be there to help load animals into the trailer. We will tear down pens on Sunday morning after the fair is over.

Q How do I participate in the livestock premium auction (if eligible)?

A To participate in the livestock premium auction, complete the auction card that will be mailed to you and return to the Extension Office at the fair by noon on Monday of the fair. If you decide to change the animal or species you plan to exhibit in the auction, let the Extension Office know by 5:00 pm on Thursday of fair week. Photos will be taken of you with your animal immediately after you take your animal in the ring. You will also be asked to write thank you notes to your auction buyers after you have exhibited in the auction. Exhibitors will be asked to pick up their auction check when available (typically about 1-2 months after the auction) and checks must be cashed/deposited within 90 days.

Q What do I wear on show day?

A Dress in show attire: white shirt, black pants, and closed toe shoes

Q What supplies do I need to show?

A Black Halter and Lead

Q How should my animal be prepped for the show?

A The llama/alpaca will be washed the day of arrival, then blown dry and brushed. The day of the show, the animal should be brushed.

Q How do I make my animal look its best in the show ring?

A With llama/alpacas it takes several rounds of brushing to get most of the debris out of their wool. When the animals arrive, you can work on brushing each day before the show.

Q What does the judge expect of me?

A Have fun, Spend time with your animal, Learn facts about llamas/alpacas (body parts, differences, etc), J-lead in the show ring, and Switching sides depending on where the judge is.

Q Who can I contact if I have questions?

A Your species superintendent or assistant superintendents can answer your questions. Their contact information can be found in the 4-H handbook in the livestock section. You can also reach out to the Purdue Extension Office at (812) 867-4935 with questions.