

Project Title: Sheep

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).

Department Director: John Pratt

Assistant Department Director: Michele Mitchell

Committee Members: Elise Pratt, Ali Hetrick

State Fair Entries: Check with the IN State Fair for sign up deadlines without penalties. (web: <http://www.in.gov/statefair/>)

Level: For all levels

Exhibit Requirement Options

- One or more animals fed and cared for by member
- Read and complete county determined number of activities
- Sheep animal enrollment completed and submitted via 4-HOnline prior to May 15th. NO Late enrollments will be accepted.

General Rules, Terms and Conditions for Livestock Projects

In the interest of all breeders of livestock, all exhibitors, the Parke County 4-H Council, the 4-H Fair Board, Inc. the 4-H program, and the agriculture industry, the following general rules, regulations and listing of prohibited activities are presented to maintain, insure and present a wholesome, high quality educational program. As the showcase of Parke County, it is imperative to promote and allow only ethical behavior by exhibitors at the Parke County 4-H Fair.

The Parke County 4-H Council and/or 4-H Youth Extension Educator or designee reserves the final and absolute right to interpret any and all terms, conditions, rules and regulations contained in any and all parts of the premium book and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions or differences in regard there to, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incidental to the Parke County 4-H Fair. They further reserve the right to determine unforeseen matters not covered by general or department rules published in the handbook, to amend or add to these rules as in its judgment it may determine should any emergency exist and circumstances demand.

Fraud, deception, any prohibited activities, violations of general or departmental rules, or any activity determined to be improper or unethical by the 4-H Council, a Fair Board or a 4-H Youth Extension Educator shall not be allowed. Any exhibitor found in violation is subject to sanction and/or disqualification.

1. **TAMPERING, ALTERING, AND/OR MISREPRESENTATION** relative to any exhibit is prohibited. This prohibited activity includes but is not limited to breeding, age, ownership, and/or method of preparation or completion. (For example, with animal exhibits this includes, but is not limited to, coloring that alters or misrepresents breed characteristics, pumping, drenching, attaching hair/hair substitutes, or filling).
2. **PROHIBITED FITTING OF ANIMAL EXHIBITS** is defined as the administration of any substance (to include, but not limited to, drugs, blood, oils, air, steroids, chemical substances) or performance of any surgical procedure altering the animal's configuration or natural conformation of any part of the animal's body, or rendering its tissues unfit for human consumption is prohibited. Exceptions that are allowed to 1 and 2 above include hoof trimming, dehorning, removal of hair, manipulation of normally attached hair, castration, branding, tattooing, ear notching, docking of tails on sheep and swine and coloring that does not alter or misrepresent breed characteristics. Exception: Paint is not allowed in the sheep project.
3. **NO EXHIBITOR MAY TAKE EXCEPTION TO THE DECISIONS** of an official and/or judge in an unprofessional and/or public manner nor shall any exhibitor or person representing the exhibitor interfere with or show disrespect to any judge or show official.
4. **PLACINGS OF EXHIBITS WILL NOT BE ADJUSTED** after the placing becomes official.
5. **COMPETITION PLACINGS DO NOT BECOME OFFICIAL UNTIL** the completion of the following, but not limited to, all postjudging re-weighing, animal identification and evaluation.
6. **ADDITIVES, SUPPLEMENTS, AND PASTES may be administered according to label use or veterinarian directive. Questions can be directed to Parke County 4-H Council, 4-H Youth Extension Educator, or Livestock Superintendent.**

7. 4-H Exhibitors are expected to follow the federally approved label when using drugs and feed additives. 4-H Market animals shall not contain any foreign substance both on day of show and at harvest. This includes drugs, steroids, or chemicals greater than standards established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as permissible for sale for consumption as human food. Administration of these compounds must follow these guidelines:
- Feed additives may be used according to the label. Administration in excess of the label is prohibited. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to adhere to prescribed withdrawal times prior to harvest. If the withdrawal time is not met by the time the animal would normally be harvested by the packer, the exhibitor is to make other arrangements for harvest.
 - Exhibitors are expected to use federally approved drugs to treat sick animals. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to adhere to prescribed withdrawal times prior to harvest. If the withdrawal time is not met by the time the animal would normally be harvested by the packer, the exhibitor is expected to make other arrangements for harvest. Drugs may not be administered to 4-H animal exhibits at the Parke County Fair, except those administered or given by a certified veterinarian.
 - Administration of drugs to enhance gait or reduce lameness disqualifies the exhibit from participation in the Parke County Fair. Animals too lame to show will be withdrawn.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Requirement:

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through either the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program or the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program. Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care is taught in person in Parke County. YQCA can be completed online at yqcaprogram.org. For more information about in-person trainings in your county, please contact your County Extension Office.

Project Requirements and Guidelines

- Project books (1/3 per year) or record sheets may be completed for the project in place of exhibiting at the Parke County 4-H Fair for completion.**
- Each 4-H member shall own his/her own exhibit. Ownership must be in effect on or before the county enrollment deadline and continue through the State Fair 4-H show. Llamas, Alpacas, Horses, Ponies and Dairy are the only animals eligible to lease their animals. 4-H animals purchased, sold or offered for sale after the enrollment deadline and prior to the Indiana State Fair shall not be eligible to show at the State Fair. 4-H animals exhibited after the animal enrollment deadline of May 15 at any show by anyone other than the person listed on the Indiana 4-H animal enrollment will not be eligible to be shown in the 4-H show at the county or Indiana State Fair. The term/condition does not apply to siblings and parents, who may show each other's animals at any show during the year without jeopardizing state fair eligibility. This policy applies to all 4-H animal projects. For animal projects without enrollments, the person who enters them in the county or Indiana State Fair 4-H show is the equivalent of the enroller of the animals.
- 4-H animal projects that require registration papers in 4-H breeding classes will NOT be accepted which are registered in a father's name only, farm name only, or partnerships with unrelated persons (such as "Smith View", "Smith Oak", "John Doe & William Smith", "Long Oak & William Smith", etc.). Acceptable registrations are (1) in the 4-H member's name, (2) John Smith & Sons, (3) John Smith, Sons & Daughters, (4) John Smith & Family (family includes sons, daughters, and legal guardian youth only), (5) Mark Smith (brother) & Mary Smith (sister), (6) Family Corporations, where the 4-H members' name appears as a holder of stock in the corporation, and proof of same must be supplied on or before the enrollment date, (7) Family Partnership where the 4-H'ers father, mother, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandparent, and/or legal guardian is also in the family partnership and the 4-H'ers name appears on the legal, notarized partnership. A copy of the written document must be completed and turned in to the Extension Office prior to May 15th.
- Refer to the Parke County 4-H Program Policies for 4-H Animal Grooming Guidelines.
- All animals must be enrolled on the 4-H Sheep Livestock Enrollment by May 15th. All 4-H sheep must be brought to the 4-H Sheep tag-in to be identified. All wethers and commercial ewes will be tagged with a county tag. Registered ewes will require either a county tag, flock scrapie tag or tattoo that can be matched with a breed registration form.
- At the conclusion of weigh-in, classes will be determined. No revisions will be made after all classes are divided.
- A member may enroll a maximum of 10 wethers, 10 ewe lambs and 10 yearling ewes in the 4-H sheep project. **ALL PUREBRED EWES MUST BE REGISTERED AND PAPERS WILL BE CHECKED AT THE COUNTY FAIR.**

8. Market lambs will consist of wethers and ewe lambs. Ewe lambs shown in market class may not be shown as breeding animals. Market lambs will be divided into weight classes by breed (1 or more animals constitute a breed) with approximately the same number of lambs in each class. A member may bring up to 8 market lambs to the County Fair. A member may show 4 lambs in singles classes.
9. If lambs fall in the same weight class, other Parke County 4-H members in grades 3 – 12 must show the second lamb or lambs. Classes will be established after weighing at County Fair. All wethers must be slick sheared and free of all blankets at time of arrival at the fair for inspection.
10. 4-H market lamb pair classes will be offered at the County Fair. Weight classes will be determined by weight of the heaviest lamb in the pair. A member may show 2 pair (only 1 entry per class). The lambs shown in the pairs classes may or may not be the same lambs shown in the singles classes.
11. Due to health papers not being required, the Sheep Committee will inspect all animals to be in good health, and suitable for exhibition (i.e. ringworm and fungus).
12. Record books must be completed and given to the Sheep Superintendent as animals arrive at the fair.
13. County Born and Raised Class: To be eligible for this class, the lamb must have been born and raised in the county.
14. Once a sheep is designated as a crossbreed, then it may not be shown as a purebred animal in a breed class.
15. After check-in, sheep may not be taken to any trailer until release day. Animals taken to trailers will be disqualified.
16. Painting of animals is not allowed for exhibition.
17. Drenching of animals is not allowed during the fair.
18. No direct application of ice or freon type products are permitted during the Parke County 4-H Fair.
19. Market Lambs must be less than 1 year of age on the day of the show and still have milk teeth intact.

Sheep Classes - The detailed list of 4-H Sheep Classes can be found on the Parke County Extension Office Website

Lot No. 1 - Ewe Lamb born between Sept. 1- Dec. 31

Lot No. 2 - Ewe lamb born after January 1

Lot No. 3 – Pair of lambs

Lot No. 4 - Yearling ewe: 1 year but under 2 years of age

Lot No. 5 - Pair of yearling ewes

Lot No. 6 - Market Lambs

Lot No. 7 - Pairs of Market Lambs

Lot No. 8 – County Bred Market Lamb

Lot No. 9 – County Bred Breeding Ewe

Sheep Showmanship Classes

There will be three divisions in showmanship by age. Ages are to be determined upon the date of the show. The age divisions are:

Junior Showmanship – Ages 9, 10, 11 & 12

Intermediate Showmanship - Ages 13, 14 & 15

Advanced Showmanship – Ages 16, 17, 18 & 19

The Sheep Master Showman entry shall be the winner of a runoff of the age division winners.

4-H sheep members are eligible to win in Junior and Intermediate only once. A previous winner in Junior division automatically moves up to Intermediate division the following year regardless of age, and an Intermediate winner must move up to Advanced the following year. A member may participate in only one 4-H sheep showmanship age division each year.

4-H SHEEP POSTER EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT

See “*Animal Education*” project requirements. Animal Education projects should be checked in with all other static exhibits at the appointed time and will be displayed in the 4-H Building. These must be accompanied by a livestock record sheet to complete the sheep project.

Note: All animal posters that do not have state fair poster options will be judged by specie.