

Iowa 4-H Livestock Project Regulations Pertaining to County, State and Interstate Shows



General Information:

Age of Exhibitor

1. To be eligible for a state or interstate show, including Ak-Sar-Ben. A 4-H'er must have completed 5th grade and be at least 10 years old through 12th grade.
2. To be eligible to exhibit at the Emmet County Fair, a 4-H'er must have completed 4th grade, but not more than 12th grade.
3. A 4-H'er becomes ineligible to exhibit beyond the county level upon completion of the calendar year of high school graduation. Note: In the event that a 4-H'er has dropped out of high school, the 4-H'er is only eligible to exhibit livestock through the calendar year that his/her class graduated.

Ownership - All animals must be owned by and identified to the individual 4-H'er. When registration papers are involved, the papers must either be in the 4-H'er's name or show a logical family relationship. The 4-H & Youth Committee has the policy that when an animal is identified to more than one 4-H member, it is mutually owned and considered a partnership for the duration of the project.

Animals changing ownership after being identified as a project are ineligible to be exhibited as 4-H animals for that 4-H year.

Animals offered for sale in an auction are considered to have changed ownership even though bought back by the original owner or if the owner refuses a bid or says, "NO SALE." "Ribbon or Premium Auctions" do not "offer an animal" for sale.

- Animals identified as part of a 4-H project cannot also be identified or exhibited as an FFA project.
- All market beef, feeder pen animals, market swine, and market lambs must be ear tagged with an official Iowa 4-H ear tag.
- All animals may be identified by only one 4-H'er.

Market Beef (includes market steers, market heifers and feeder pens)

Exhibitors may nominate a maximum of six market beef animals for exhibit purposes at the Emmet County Fair, the Iowa State Fair, and/or Ak-Sar-Ben. All beef projects coming to the fair must be on the Fair Entry form due July 11.

- All market beef animals must be in the possession of the 4-H'er and weighed at Emmet County established weigh-ins prior to January 1.
- The weigh ticket completed by the weigh-in helpers will be the identification form on file at our office.
- The animals must be tagged with an official 4-H ear tag, before they arrive at the weigh-in site.
- A steer can only be shown one way, either in the "pen-of-3" or as a market (lead) steer, **not both**. A market heifer may only be shown as a market class.

IA State Fair, Ak-Sar-Ben and the National Western Stock Show require a separate nomination. IA State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben nominations, including nose print and DNA samples are due Jan 15. National Western Stock Show nominations, including DNA sample, are due July 1.

When entering market beef animals to be exhibited at the Iowa State Fair, an Iowa 4-H Market Beef Identification Report form must be completed at the time State Fair entries are due in July.

Breeding Beef – You can identify up to six. Heifers must have an legible ear tag. Tattoos are required for all purebred and commercial beef heifers for fairs beyond the Emmet County Fair. For purebred heifers the tattoo must match the tattoo on the registration papers. The calfhood vaccination tattoo is not acceptable identification. The animal's birth date must also be listed.

Beef Heifer & Calf must have an legible ear tag. Tattoos are required for all purebred and commercial beef heifers for fairs beyond the Emmet County Fair. For purebred heifers the tattoo must match the tattoo on the registration papers. The animal's birth date must also be listed. If the calf is born after May 1 notify the office as soon as possible with tag number, birthdate, birthweight, sex and breed, as it must be listed on the ID sheet. (The heifer must have been shown as a beef heifer at the Emmet County Fair last year by the same 4-H'er or by immediate family member upon graduation.)

Special note:

- * A 4-H'er cannot identify a heifer as both a market heifer and a breeding heifer.
- * All breeding beef animals must be in the possession of the 4-H'er, identified with a ear tag, and listed on the 4-H Emmet form by May 1.

Feeder Calves are required to have ear tags and recorded on the breeding beef ID sheet. The animal's birth date must also be listed. For out of county shows a 4-H'er can nominate up to 6 head total. They must be listed on the breeding beef ID form 4-H 106b by May 15 for Ak-Sar-Ben, and for Clay County on the Clay County form by June 10.

Bucket/Bottle Calves must be born between March 1 and May 1 and ear tagged with 4-H ear tag. Bucket/Bottle ID sheet must be turned in by May 1 to the Extension office. 4-H'ers 4 - 6th grade can identify three and show one at the Emmet County Fair. Animals will not go through the auction.

Dairy and Dairy Goats must be identified by drawing, freeze brand, tattoo, or state coded ear tag. The calfhood vaccination tattoo is not acceptable identification. For animals registered with a respective breed association, use that number as identification and report it on the identification report. Also record the animal's breed, birth date, and identification as a grade or registered animal.

- Dairy and dairy goats must be identified by May 1 on the 4-H Emmet form.
- Dairy goats must be identified by tattoo or ear tag. Also record the animal's birth date, and identify it as a grade or registered animal.

Dog must be individually or family owned for handling classes. In dog obedience classes when the 4-H'er is the trainer, ownership of the animal is not required; however, the 4-H'er should take an active role in the care and training of the dog. When registration papers are involved, the papers must either be in the 4-H'ers name or show a logical family relationship. (This applies only to handling classes.)

- Dogs changing ownership after being identified as a project are ineligible to be exhibited as 4-H animals for that 4-H year.
- Dogs must be identified by name, rabies vaccination number, and information about training.
- Dogs trained through the county Dog Project meetings, must be exhibited at the fair. Dog and trainer must attend at least five (5) of the meetings.
- Dogs must be identified on ID form at dog obedience meeting.

Horse & Pony must be identified by May 1 on the 4-H horse form. A 4-H'er can identify up to 4 horses.

- To exhibit in classes where the primary emphasis of evaluation (showmanship & horsemanship) is the skill level of the 4-H'er, ownership is not required; however, the 4-H'er must take an active role of 75% care of the animal. Horses entered in confirmation (halter) classes must be owned by the 4-H'er or in partnership with a family member.
- The name of the horse, a sketch of its color markings, sex, height, and the horse's age are all required for identification. If a family includes more 4-H'ers than horses, more than one 4-H'er may identify a horse; however, in this situation a 4-H'er cannot identify more than one horse (i.e., if you jointly identify a horse with another 4-H'er, that is the only horse you can identify). **If you do not own the horse, complete the horse lease agreement – please note you can only have 1 leased horse.**

Sheep must be owned and identified by May 1. Additional market lambs and breeding ewe lambs can be identified by June 15 and be eligible to show at fairs and shows held after September 1. These animals are ineligible to show at 4-H shows held before September 1. Verification forms, nose prints and DNA samples must be completed and correct by May 15 in order to be eligible for state fair exhibition.

A maximum of twenty (20) market lambs may be identified during each period. Market lambs must be tagged with an official 4-H ear tag before weigh-in.

All market lambs must be weighed in at a county established weigh-in. The information recorded at the county weigh-in by the weigh-in helpers will be the identification form on file at our office

Lambs shown in breeding ewe classes may not be shown in market classes or vice versa.

Breeding ewes should be tagged with flock ear tags and have birth dates listed by May 1 on the 4-H Emmet form. Face color must be listed for commercial breeding ewes.

Swine must be owned and identified by May 1 on the 4-H Emmet form. Additional market pigs and breeding gilts can be identified by June 15 and be eligible to show at fairs and shows held after September (these animals are ineligible to show at 4-H shows held before September 1). A maximum of twenty (20) market swine may be identified during each period. All market and DERBY swine wishing to participate at the IA State Fair must be ear notched, tagged, identified and DNA tested at an official verification site.

Gilts shown in breeding classes may not also be shown in market classes or vice versa.

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