

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

Check out our website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills>

Mills County Extension
415 Main St. Suite 2
P.O. Box 430
Malvern, IA 51551
712-624-8616
FAX: 712-624-8228
E-mail: xmills@iastate.edu

Mills County 4-H Newsletter

**DECEMBER
2008**

4-H Rocks!



Mills County Fair
17-22nd

Iowa State Fair
August 13-23rd

**Making
the Best
Better**



Dear 4-H Family:

Holiday Greetings to each of you!

This is a great time to look back on all that you have done throughout the year. We know that 4-H is only one source of the many activities you are busy doing. We appreciate the time you and your families have devoted to the program.

After reading your club reports, it is evident that you are all doing your part to try to make this a happier season for others in your communities. Many of you have made a commitment to help with the Love Tree, wrap gifts, and provide a helping hand in many other ways. Thank you for representing 4-H in such a positive way!

Make time to enjoy your family and friends.

Susan, Sarah, Denise, and I wish each of you a
Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Sherry Ford



DO NOT PANIC WITH THE NEXT MESSAGE!!!! ALL PRODUCERS ARE HAVING TO DO THIS, NOT JUST 4-HER'S COOL

(Country of Origin Labeling)

The COOL program will affect all 4-Her's who buy and sell beef, swine, goats, sheep, and poultry!

The information on the COOL program is located at the below website:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/>

All Leaders that attended the leader meeting on November 6th received information and packets for all 4-H families.

4-H'ers that buy and sell beef, swine, goats, sheep and poultry are required to have information on file for a minimum of 2 years that proves the animal came from the United States.

If the animal was born on your farm, then you keep birth records, etc. If you buy the animal from a producer, they will fill out and sign an affidavit and then the 4-Her keeps it on file.

Read the information on the website, talk with your leader and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to call the extension office and we will be glad to help you!

Love Tree

The Love Tree is a wonderful project for a 4-H club during the Christmas Season. The Love Tree began on Monday, November 10th through Friday, December 12th

Four sites to select the people from the Love Tree are:

Glenwood-Patti's Place (405 Sharp St)

Malvern-Malvern Trust & Savings

Silver City-Mills County Bank

Emerson-Houghton State Bank



4-H License Plate

Support Iowa 4-H with the new 4-H license plate. This is a great holiday gift for that special 4-H member, volunteer, leader or staff person! The Iowa 4-H Foundations has applied for an official 4-H license plate and to create this special designed plate, 5— pre-paid orders must be submitted within one year. Get your license plate today by filling out the application form online at www.iowa4hfoundation.org. License plates are \$35 for numbered plates and \$60 for personalized plates. Application and payment by check or money order are to be sent to: Iowa 4-H Foundation, 3630 Extension Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-3630. For questions contact Shelly Greving, shellyg@iastate.edu or (515) 294-1607.

2009 Iowa 4-H Scholarship Information

The Iowa 4-H Foundation is pleased to announce the 2009 scholarship programs for 4-H'ers attending or planning to attend college in the fall of 2009. Over \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded to Iowa 4-H members through the programs. There are several changes to the scholarship program for 2009, including new scholarships, changes in eligibility criteria for some scholarships, and changes in some scholarship amounts. For complete information, please check out the 4-H Scholarship website <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html> or contact the Extension Office for a scholarship packet. **Scholarship application materials must be received by the State 4-H Office by February 1, 2009**



Teen Club

All freshmen through senior high school 4-H members are invited to the next Teen Club meeting which will be held at the Malvern Community Building on Sunday, December 21st, 4:30 p.m.

The group will go caroling, have a business meeting and participate in a mystery dinner with a lot of added surprises. Please join us!

Attention All 7th and 8th Graders Apply for Intermediate Leadership Council

Deadline extended to December 15th

All 7th and 8th graders interested in joining intermediate leadership please apply. You will join a dynamic group that plans activities in Mills County for 4-Hers and gain knowledge on becoming a leader in 4-H.

Applications can be found on line at :
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/mills/kidsteens.htm>
Click on Intermediate Leadership Application located on the right had side of the page

Governor Terry E. Branstad Iowa State Fair Scholarship

Any senior graduating from an Iowa High School that has actively participated in the Iowa State Fair (past or present) and has plans to enroll at an Iowa college or university. There are four scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,000.

APPLY ON LINE AT

www.iowacollegeaid.gov/commissioncentral/schgrants/sch.html

2009 Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award

Applications are now available for a \$5,000 scholarship program for Iowa high school juniors. Students are not evaluated on the basis of grades, test scores, essays, or financial need. Applicants submit a proposal for a goal they want to accomplish. Approximately 15 students are selected each year on the basis of their stated project goal and detailed plans to reach that goal. Two letters of recommendation are also required.

Finalists spend a required expense-paid weekend in West Branch (just east of Iowa City) during the summer between their junior and senior year. In October of their senior year, at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, finalists make presentations about their projects. Each student receives \$750 at that time. Three of those students are chosen to receive a \$5,000 scholarship award for study at an accredited two or four year college or university anywhere in the country.

The postmark deadline is March 31, 2009. For more information, contact Patricia Hand at 800-828-0475 or at scholarship@hooverassociation.org, visit www.hooverassociation.org, or see a high school guidance counselor. The award is sponsored by the Hoover Presidential Library Association, a nonprofit support group for the Hoover Presidential Library-Museum and National Historic Site in West Branch.

North Central Iowa Youth Beef Conference

An educational program sponsored by Iowa State University Extension for North Central Iowa youth involved with beef production will be held Saturday, January 24, 2009, at Ellsworth Community College.

There is no cost for youth to attend and a noon lunch will be provided. Parents are welcome to stay. Please pre-register by January 16, 2009 at your local County Extension Office. Registrations must include the Iowa 4-H Medical Information/Release Form. Both forms are available on line at www.extension.iastate.edu/franklin For more information con-

For Sale-CHEAP
8 Stainless steel pig feeders
2 big stainless steal wet feeders
Call Floyd Bowen
624-8754

Cyclone Horse Judging Camp

3 day camp for youth interested in horses and horse judging. June 11-13, 2009, Iowa State University Youth ages 12 to 18 years interested in horses, judging
Camp fees will include on-campus housing, food, instruction and evening fun! Register by May 15, 2009! For registration and forms: <http://www.ans.iastate.edu/faculty/index.php?id=nikkif> For questions: Contact Nikki, nikkif@iastate.edu or 515-294-3996

Southwest Iowa 4-H Recognition Event **March 29th, 2009**

Contact the Extension Office for
Information and Application
Deadline January 26, 2009

Beef Weigh-In

Saturday, December 20, 2008, 8:30-10:00
at the Mills County Fair Grounds.

Club Corner

Strategies for successful 4-H Clubs

4-H has been termed a “family affair.” Even though there are many individuals who influence a child as they are growing up, parents are the most important. 4-H is unique in encouraging you and your youth to work together to pass on your skills and attitudes about learning. In fact parents are so important to the 4-H learning experience that our research has shown 4-H’ers without an active interested parent in their 4-H learning; quit the 4-H club shortly into the second year. 4-H is designed for adults and kids to discover, experiment, and learn together. How can you as a club help families feel more welcome as part of your meeting and workshops?

- Be sure families know they are welcome at workshops, meetings, and club community service projects.
- Plan a welcome meeting for families, where parents can share learning experiences that they have had with their 4-H’er through their projects, communication, or leadership experiences.
- Design a booklet about your club to share with families when they join.
- Plan a club tour where you get a chance to visit each 4-H’ers home and learn about their 4-H project exhibits a month before fair.
- Have your club officers go and visit a new 4-H family to do a personal interview with new families as they join your club. This would allow the family to ask questions of experienced members and for the officers to learn about the interests of the family.
- Set up a “Family Buddy System” so that for the first year in 4-H each family has a special “friend family” with experience in the club.

Remember to ASK families to be involved in your 4-H club. Some families may never have become involved in the club because they were never asked. Have some specific ideas in mind that help support the club in a meaningful way as you encourage families to be involved.

As families feel welcome and needed, our clubs will be stronger and play a stronger role in strengthening our families through the 4-H experience.

Source: David Seilstad, Iowa State University Extension 4-H & Youth Field Specialist.

Game of the Month-Help new 4-H families by playing a game at the 4-H meeting where you hang up a bunch of “4-H phrases and acronyms” that a new family needs to know to survive their first year in 4-H.
Or brainstorm a list of important 4-H terms, then assign each 4-H family a few that they must share in a fun way to the group at the next meeting.

December Meeting Suggestions:

1. Hold a club holiday party and enjoy the time spent with your greater 4-H family!
2. Complete a community service project for those less fortunate.



Important Information for Beef Project Members

*****Please note that the information below is subject to change.*****

Please keep up-to-date on your project requirements by reading your monthly 4-H newsletter.

Key Points to Remember and Complete for Market Beef projects:

- **Beef weigh-in will be Tuesday, December 20, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. at the fairgrounds in Malvern.** If you have market beef for county fair, state fair, or Ak-Sar-Ben, you must weigh in your animals on this date.
- All market steers and market heifers must be weighed and entered at this time. Each exhibitor is allowed to tag and weigh in up to six (6) market beef on weigh day. Market beef can be of either sex.
- After the calves are weighed the entry forms must be filled out and signed by the 4-Her and the 4-Her's parent. The form will then be given to the Extension Office. **ALL FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED THAT MORNING**, including breed information if necessary. If the animal is identified as a breed steer, the steer will be checked for a **LEGIBLE** tattoo and that information must be recorded on the identification form at weigh-in. If it is not recorded at this time, it will be entered as a crossbred animal for future shows.
- **NEW!**—Retinal imaging will take the place of noseprints and DNA hair samples of market steers and heifers for the Iowa State Fair, but hair samples will be taken for calves nominated for Ak-Sar-Ben. The Extension Office will provide the necessary materials. Iowa State Fair **OR** Ak-Sar-Ben Verification (nomination) will cost \$5.00 per head for Mills County 4-H'ers. An additional \$1.00 fee per head will be collected for those animals being verified for both the Iowa State Fair **AND** Ak-Sar-Ben (i.e., total cost of \$6.00 per head).
- Please pay attention to future 4-H newsletters for more information on entry deadlines, etc., for the State Fair, Ak-Sar-Ben, and other major livestock shows.
- Please thank the Mills County Fair Board for covering the cost of the eartags.

Key Points to Remember for Breeding Beef Projects:

- Breeding beef are not required to weigh-in.
- Identification forms for all breeding beef are due to the Extension Office by May 15, 2009. ID forms are available at the Extension Office. Each 4-H'er must identify their own animals with a tattoo or an eartag for the county fair. All purchased animals are to be purchased and under the 4-H'ers care by May 15, 2009.
- If you plan to show a breeding heifer at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben, you will have to have a **TATTOO** in the ear of your breeding heifer. It is your responsibility to get that done. Be sure that the tattoo is legible and put it on your breeding beef ID form. **NOTE: AN EARTAG NUMBER IS NOT A TATTOO NUMBER!**
- Each exhibitor may identify three (3) breeding heifers born the year prior to the fair and three (3) breeding females born prior to the previous year, with ear tags, or be identified by a tattoo, within 30 days after ownership.
- If you list a heifer on the ID form as an Angus, Simmental, or Charolais or any other breed, you have to have a registration number and registration papers. Otherwise, the heifer will show as a commercial heifer. Example: If you have a black heifer, do not put "Angus" down on the form under "Breed" unless she is a purebred and you have the appropriate paperwork.

Key Points to Remember for Feeder Calf Projects:

- Each exhibitor may identify six (6) feeder calves born in the year fair is held. They are to be tagged with official 4-H tags. **ID to be verified and signed by a non-relative: 4-H Leader, Youth Committee member, or Beef Superintendent.**
- Identification forms for all feeder calves are due to the Extension Office by May 15, 2009. ID forms are available at the Extension Office. (ID feeder calves on breeding beef form.) Each 4-H'er must identify their own animals. All purchased animals are to be purchased and under the 4-H'ers care by May 15, 2009.

Key Points to Remember for Bucket Calf Projects:

- Same as Feeder Calf.

Remember : It is YOUR responsibility to see that ID forms and entry forms are turned in on time!!! If you have a question, contact the Extension Office BEFORE it becomes an emergency!

December 2008

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Market Beef Weigh-In 8:30 –10:00
21 Teen Club Caroling and Mystery Dinner 4:30 P.M.	22	23	24	25 Office Closed 	26 Office Closed	27
28	29	30	31			

Other important dates to remember

January:

State Council Winter Retreat.....January 10-11, 2009

New Member Workshop.....January 18, 2009

County Council Meeting.....January 18, 2009