



## LIVESTOCK INFORMATION

### IMPORTANT LIVESTOCK DATES

- ✿ Beef Weigh-in – January 3, 8:00AM-1:00PM
- ✿ Swine Weigh-in – March 21, 10:00AM-Noon
- ✿ Sheep Weigh-in – May 7, 6:00-9:00PM
- ✿ Blue Cards Due – July 1
- ✿ Iowa State Fair Livestock & Horticulture entries due – July 1
- ✿ Pullorum Blood Testing – July 23, 7:00-8:00PM

### COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING

What does Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) mean to Johnson County 4-H'ers and what steps will you need to follow? As many of you know, the USDA is preparing for the mandatory COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) that goes into effect September 30, 2008. There is an excellent website for those wanting to know more details on the Iowa Beef Center's webpage at, <http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/content/COOL.htm>.

#### What 4-H'ers Need to Do:

- The Iowa COOL Coalition has come up with a simple affidavit that can work for all species of livestock (beef, sheep, swine, poultry, goat). This affidavit is located at, <http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/content/COOL/COOL%20Forms.doc>. Page 1 explains the steps needed to be taken as well as example documents that can be used for an audit trail. Page 2 is the actual affidavit.
- **4-H'ers who raise their own livestock** for their projects need to fill this affidavit out and keep it on file for a minimum of two years. In the case of an audit, 4-H'ers can provide authorities with this affidavit along with other documents listed at the bottom of page 1 of the affidavit document (birth records (calving report, PigChamp, PigTales, etc.), purchase/sales receipts, etc.)
- **4-H'ers who purchase their livestock from others** MUST have the producer fill out the affidavit, give it to the 4-H'er, and the 4-H'er should keep the affidavit on file for a minimum of two years. For example, a 4-H'er goes to buy his steer from a producer. The 4-H'er needs the producer (seller) to fill out and sign the affidavit.

The USDA has given limited guidance on the implementation of COOL to allow for flexibility at the local level. All youth who exhibit dairy cattle, beef (market & breeding), swine, sheep, goats,

rabbits, poultry, and bucket bottle calves will need to use the affidavit. It is the RESPONSIBILITY of each 4-H member/4-H family to be in compliance with the Country of Origin Labeling guidelines.

It is recommended as part of this process that exhibitors who show large animals (beef, dairy, goats, sheep, and/or swine) apply for and obtain a premise identification number from the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship. The Extension Office has Premise Id applications forms. There is no cost to obtain a premise id and you only need to complete this process once for a family. All youth in a family would use the same premise id number. All swine exhibitors at the 2008 Johnson County 4-H/FFA Fair were required to obtain a premise id and have fulfilled this request.

If you have any questions please contact Gene Mohling 319-337-2145 or email at [mohling@iastate.edu](mailto:mohling@iastate.edu). Your patience is appreciated as we work towards meeting these new expectations for the 2009 county fair!

### BEEF WEIGH IN

The weigh-in and nomination date for the 2009 Johnson County 4-H/FFA Fair market beef show is set for Saturday, January 3 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Youth may nominate a maximum of 6 head and are eligible to show a maximum of 3 from those animals that are weighed, tagged and nominated. A maximum of 2 head maybe put into the auction on Friday, July 31. All second year bucket bottle calves that are intended to be shown in the market beef division must be brought to the weigh-in for tagging and nomination and count towards the 6 head maximum. Youth interested in the Advanced Feeder program may weigh and nominate additional cattle with a minimum of 3 head and maximum of 6 head for the project. The advanced feeder program is scored on rate of gain, uniformity, quality and yield grade and the financial reports submitted by the youth each month. Breeding beef (heifers and cows) do not need to be brought to the weigh-in. Breeding beef projects are nominated and forms submitted on or before May 15.

Iowa State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben nominations will also be taken on January 3. DNA or retinal scans will be taken and the cost is \$5 per animal nominated for the state fair or Ak-Sar-Ben. If you nominate the same animal for both Ak-Sar-Ben and the Iowa State Fair, the cost will be \$6 per animal. All fees are paid on the day of the weigh-in. Registration information is required on all cattle intended to be shown in the breed divisions of the Iowa State Fair market beef show (please bring that information to the weigh-in). Iowa State Fair nominations without registration information after January 15 will show in the crossbred division.

## IOWA STATE FAIR SWINE NOMINATIONS

All swine intended to be shown at the Iowa State Fair must be taken to the regional weigh-in sites in late April and early May. By "ALL" swine, we are referring to breeding swine, derby and market swine. There is a cost for the nomination process that will need to be paid at the weigh-in site. Please read future newsletters this spring for the times, dates and locations for the regional site information.

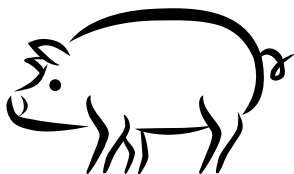
### PRODUCTION BROILER AND STANDARDIZED PULLET CLASS

Youth interest in participating in the "production broiler class" (class 14-153) and "standardized pullet class" (class 14-154) for 2009 need to contact the Johnson County Extension Office to register for the programs. For the "standardized pullet class" pen of 3, each youth will receive a set of day old pullets which are banded. The pullets come in lots of 12. The price of these pullets will be made available in early February. To sign up for the class you **MUST** contact the Extension Office by January 23. There will need to be a minimum of 8 youth in this class. Birds not used in the standardized class may be used in the egg production class pen of 3 pullets (class 14-111)

For the "production broiler class" pen of 3 each youth will receive a lot of 12 day old cockerels which are banded. To register for this class you must contact the Extension Office by May 1. The price of the birds will be made available in late May 2009. Birds not used in the production class may be used in the meat production class 14-131. All birds will be picked up at the Extension Office about 4 weeks after the entry date. Exhibitors will be contacted as to when the birds may be picked up 1-2 days before delivery. Payment is due at time of delivery. Questions contact Gene at 319/337-2145 or [mohling@iastate.edu](mailto:mohling@iastate.edu)

### FEEDER PIG PROGRAM

The Johnson County Pork Council will sponsor a maximum of 8 pigs/youth who are in grades 4 through 6 or are 1<sup>st</sup> time exhibitor of swine. Members will pay for the feeder pigs from sale proceeds after the county fair. Please contact Kevin Hotz at 319-629-5320 by February 20 for information.



### SHOWMASTER BOOT CAMP

Come learn with the experts at Showmaster Boot Camp 2009. This is a great educational opportunity for kids showing cattle, hogs, and sheep. This will be held on **March 14**, at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in **Iowa City, IA**, registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The day will be broken into specie segments starting with cattle. The experts will be covering daily care and management, clipping, fitting, feeding and showmanship. This year we are working with Iowa State University offering **FSQA certification**. Lunch will be provided with great door prizes. If you would like more information or would like to reserve your registration, please call Kim Lewis at 319-430-0474 by March 5.

## YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

### JOHNSON COUNTY PORK SCHOLARSHIPS

High school seniors are invited to apply for \$500 scholarships. Requirements include:

- Student or family needs to be a paid member of the Johnson County Pork Association for the current year plus at least two years following receipt of scholarship.
- Student needs to donate at least 6 hours to Pork Association events. Please plan to work some of these hours at the county fair on July 27 or 28. Parents are welcome to help but do not count towards your own hours.
- Prepare a 5-minute speech to the scholarship committee at a date yet to be determined. The speech can be on any aspect of the pork industry. There may also be a question and answer session on pork production and products.

Applications are available from the Johnson County Extension Website and from high school counselors. Deadline for applications is February 20. For more information contact Chris Cole, 648-5871.

Applicants and their parents will be invited to the Johnson County Pork Banquet on March 21, where scholarships will be awarded.

## **SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

The Iowa 4-H Foundation announces the 2009 scholarship programs for 4-H'ers attending or planning to attend college fall 2009. More than 95 scholarship programs totaling over \$100,000 may be awarded.

The various awards range in amounts from \$500 to \$5,000. Some of the scholarships are open to students pursuing any field of study, while others are open to students pursuing degrees in agriculture, food and nutrition, ag business, animal science, and journalism. Former Iowa 4-H'ers and current 4-H'ers graduating from high school are eligible applicants.

The majority of the scholarships will be awarded to students attending Iowa State University. Some scholarships are also available to students planning to attend another Iowa Regent university, Iowa private college, or Iowa community college.

Scholarship packets are available at the Extension Office. 4-H Scholarship information, forms, and applications are also available on the 4-H public web page:

[www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html)

Applications are due before or on February 2, 2009, to 4-H Scholarships, Extension 4-H Youth Bldg-ISU, Ames, Iowa 50011-3630.

## **PORK QUEEN & PRINCESS CONTEST**

Open to senior 4-H members. Winners announced at Johnson County Pork Banquet on March 21. Applications and more information is available from Linda Reynolds, 828-4415. If crowned, you will be expected to attend certain events, parades, etc. sponsored by the Johnson County Pork Producers.

## **APPLY FOR STATE RECOGNITION & TRIPS**

You deserve to be recognized for your efforts and have some fun, too! If you are a ninth through twelfth grader, there are many opportunities available to you for recognition awards or to represent Iowa on the state and national levels. These include National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Congress, State 4-H Council, Iowa Youth Technology Team, National 4-H Dairy Conference, and State 4-H Project Awards. Learn more about applying for these opportunities by contacting the county extension office and asking for a packet of information. Applications are due in the county office by January 28.

## **HILLS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY LEADERSHIP GRANTS FOR JUNIORS**

The Iowa 4-H Foundation announces the 2009 Hills Bank and Trust Leadership Grants for current high school juniors planning to attend college fall 2010. Twenty grants totaling \$40,000 will be awarded.

Applicants will be evaluated on their demonstrated involvement in leadership, entrepreneurship, community service and student group activities, work experience, and high school scholarship information, which includes a grade point average of 2.8 or higher.

Recipients of a grant agree to attend a minimum of nine hours of Hills Bank sponsored Leadership Training during their senior year. Upon college enrollment, eligible recipients will receive a \$2,000 scholarship (\$500 per semester for their first two years). The scholarship may be used at any of Iowa's accredited universities, colleges, or community colleges.

Information, forms, and the application are also available on the 4-H public web page: [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/grants.html).

Applications are to be received before or on February 2, 2009.

## **THE POWER OF YOUTH – IOWA 4-H**

Formerly known as 4-H Legislative Day. The program has changed slightly. The new focus will be on intermediate 4-H'ers in grades 7 and 8. A county team will consist of 3-4 4-H'ers and a chaperone. We will still request community service displays but they can be more comprehensive focusing on service activities throughout the county not just a single club accomplishment. Our program focus will be slightly revised to focus on how 4-H'ers can impact their communities and government. The opportunity to share with legislators and public officials will remain a prominent feature.

The date for the next event will be Tuesday, March 31, 2009. If you have a group interested in attending please notify Dianna.

## **YOUTH & ADULT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **4-H MARKETING COMMITTEES (Youth, Parents and Leaders)**

Please join our new Marketing Committee. This committee will meet up to three times a year to oversee 4-H marketing plans and to make plans for the Gazette special section.

Contact Dianna with questions or to volunteer.

## GROWING GREEN

**Growing Green** is the theme for the 2009 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for Friday, February 6, and Saturday, February 7, centrally located at the DMACC facility in Ankeny. **\*\*Note the change to the Ankeny facility\*\***

The retreat will bring together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members to network and learn about innovative programs that will help bring fresh perspectives and activities to Iowa 4-H programs. Friday evening is a networking/fellowship type gathering with hands-on activities. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 7.

A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. The registration cost is \$25 and includes lunch and snacks.

2009 Volunteer Retreat Information and Registration forms are at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volretreat.htm>

## ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

### SESS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

The Spring 2009 4-H Safety and Education of Shooting Sports instructor training is scheduled for March 27-29, 2009 at the Iowa 4-H Center near Madrid. The registration information has been posted on the 4-H SESS website under "Trainings Events and Activities". The direct link to the material is:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/SESS/Documents/SESSstateLeaderTrainingSpring09.pdf>

The program continues to see a growth in the 4-H SESS program. The spring training is always our largest training of the year. Please complete registrations early.

## 4-H AWARDS NIGHT WRAP-UP

### THANK YOU

Have you sent a thank you yet for your award? If you need the contact information again please call Dianna.

**Also take the time** to send an additional thank you to South Slope for the use of their facility for our Awards Night celebration:

South Slope Communications  
980 North Front Street; P.O. Box 19  
North Liberty, IA 52317

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### 4-H MILLION TREES PROJECT

4-H clubs and members are invited to participate in the 4-H Million Trees (4HMT) project. Members of the Belmont and Pacifica (California) 4-H Clubs launched the 4HMT project, a large-scale service-learning project with the goal to plant 1,000,000 trees across the United States to beautify America, absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide, and combat global climate change. The project founders hope that every one of the approximately 90,000 4-H clubs and units in the U.S. will participate in this community service, and plant at least a dozen native trees in their areas during the current 4-H year. They hope that clubs will accept their invitation and adopt the project so members can enjoy the satisfaction of joining with millions of fellow 4-Hers to make a big difference in the world.

4HMT is supported by National 4-H Headquarters and the Arbor Day Foundation. To learn more about 4HMT, or to register as a participating club, visit the 4HMT web site at <http://www.4hmilliontrees.org/>

## RECRUITMENT

### GROW JOHNSON COUNTY 4-H

**Ask a friend or neighbor to join 4-H with you. Invite them to come to your next 4-H meeting!!**

### ENROLLMENT COMPETITION

Again we will have a competition for increasing membership to your club. There are two ways to win:

- 1) – total number of new memberships and
- 2) – percentage gain of membership compared to last year.

Enrollment must be completed by May 15. Winners in each category will win a pizza party for their 4-H members. Good Luck!

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS/FAMILIES

Feeling dazed and confused? Check out the 4-H New Family Quarterly Newsletters at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/restrict/expandingclubs.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/restrict/expandingclubs.htm). Look under First Year Member/Parent Support. These handy, one-page (front-back), newsletters provide seasonal information about the 4-H program and activities and offers additional support to you as a new family.

**2009 JOHNSON COUNTY FAIR**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – The 2009 Johnson County Fair will be July 27-30. Montgomery Hall judging will be July 25 and the Auction will be July 31.

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**✿ KEEP UPDATED ON 4-H ACTIVITIES AT:**

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson/kidsteens.htm>

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**4-H LICENSE PLATE**

Support Iowa 4-H with the new 4-H license plate. The Iowa 4-H Foundation has applied for an official 4-H license plate and to create this special designed plate, 500 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](http://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](mailto:shellyg@iastate.edu) or (515) 294-1607.

**COUNTY FAIR IDEA**

**LIVE HEALTHY IOWA KIDS**

Formerly Go The Distance, Live Healthy Iowa Kids, is a FREE, 100 day program for Iowa youth from January 21 – April 30. It is a positive way to teach kids the importance of healthy eating, being physically active and show them that fitness is fun!

Activities from the program can be developed into a fair exhibit. See page 54 of the 2008 Johnson County Fair Book for more details.

Brochures on the 2009 program can be obtained at the Extension Office.

