



Ringgold County 4-H News

June 2009

Important Dates to Remember:

June 6th: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension Office (PLEASE NOTE: last one for this 4H year—no meeting in July or August)

June 6th: County Council Gazebo Workday starting at 10:00 am

June 14th–17th: Southwest Iowa Area Junior 4H Camp at Madrid

June 15th: Feeder Calf ID forms and Bucket Calf ID forms due to Extension office (forms in “4H’er Fair Book)

June 26th: County Fair Entry Forms due to Extension Office (forms found in your 4-H’er Fair Book)—includes all livestock, small animals, communications, clothing events, 4H pie fundraiser

June 26th: Iowa State Fair Entry Forms due to Extension Office (livestock, small animals and horticulture)—contact Extension Office for forms

June 30th–July 2nd: State 4H Conference/Animal Science Roundup at Ames

July 1st: Deadline for all county fair swine & all state fair exhibitors to obtain FSQA certification (contact the Extension Office)

July 8th-12th: Ringgold County Fair—“Find Me At The Fair!”

August 1st: American Royal DNA deadline for all species (steers, lambs, hogs and goats)—order envelopes at www.americanroyal.com

August 14th: AK-SAR-BEN Entry Forms due to Extension Office—contact Extension Office for forms

August 13th–23rd: Iowa State Fair—“State Fair Time”

September 10th: American Royal Entry deadline (entries found at www.americanroyal.com)

September 22nd-27th: AK-SAR-BEN 4-H Livestock Exposition in Omaha, Nebraska

September 25th: 4H Record Books due to Extension Office

October 11th: 4H Celebration @ 4:30 pm @ Fairgrounds

October 27th-November 1st: American Royal Livestock Show in Kansas City, Missouri

County Tidbits

Newspaper County Fair Tab–

Families are asked to submit photos of their 4H member(s) with a project to the Extension Office to be included in the Mt. Ayr Records News' county fair tab. Photos may be emailed to dawnd@iastate.edu or brought in. Photos MUST BE submitted by June 15th to be included in the newspaper.

County Fair Rule Correction–

There has been a correction made to the final print of the fair book regarding the horse show. In the "Horse Department" rule # 2 will state that leased horses are only allowed to be entered in halter showmanship, riding and driving classes. The reason for this is that these classes are judged on the 4H'er's ability to exhibit the animal, not on the quality of the animal (halter classes judge the quality of the animal).

County Fair Reminders–

Correction to T-Shirts: Each exhibitor must wear a 4-H, FFA or white shirt while exhibiting their project(s) in front of the judge. 4-H shirts that are considered exhibition shirts are:

- Livestock/Small Animals—the white shirt that has the "Iowa 4-H" across the front in a streak of green OR a plain white shirt **OR your 4H club shirt**
- Exhibit Building Projects—the white shirt that has the "Iowa 4-H" across the front in a streak of green OR your 4-H club shirt

If you want to purchase a white shirt with the "Iowa 4-H" streak, please contact the Extension office by Friday, May 30th. Some shirts are on hand, but an order may need to be placed.

Lost Ear Tags: If any animal that had a 4-H ear tag loses it, please contact the Extension office as soon after it happens as possible. If possible the old tag needs to be returned to the Extension office before a new one is issued.

Horse Helmet Rule: All 4-H related horse events across the state require the use of STM/SEI approved headgear WITH chin strap and properly fitted harness when mounted and riding or driving—every time, every ride. This includes 4-H horse project workshops. Contact the Extension office if you need help getting a helmet.

Livestock Bedding: Horse and Beef exhibitors are required to pay a \$5/head stall fee due the same time you turn in county fair entry forms (deadline: June 26th). This fee will help cover the costs of superintendents getting/hauling a common bedding in for the horse and beef barns.

All other exhibitors (swine, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits) are required to furnish their own bedding.

Poultry and Rabbit Exhibitors: In the past we have had problems having enough pens for all of the exhibits that come to fair. We ask that each exhibitor please try to bring at least one pen of their own to be used for the duration of the fair.

Flower Pots: Clubs are encouraged once again to create a flower pot arrangement as a club fundraiser at the fair. Flower pots need to be brought to the 4-H Exhibit Building on Wednesday, July 8th. They will be set outside the 4-H Exhibit Building for the duration of the fair, BUT will be auctioned off during the livestock auction on Sunday night of fair.

Exhibit Tags: Each and every project exhibit that comes to be judged on Wednesday, July 9th in the Exhibit Building needs to have an exhibit tag attached to it. Those tags may be picked up at the Extension Office or they will be available at the Exhibit Building on that Wednesday.

Extension programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap.

Visit the Ringgold County website at: www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold

Preserved Food Exhibits: Preserved food exhibits MUST have used current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation methods. The exhibit must also have a special canning label that is available at the Extension Office.

State Photography Contest—"4-H'ers in Action!" : The Iowa 4-H Foundation announces a special opportunity for 4-H members to participate in a statewide photo exhibition titled, "4-H'ers in Action!" The exhibition will feature the best photo from each county on display at the 2009 Iowa State Fair. Photos selected will also be considered for a 2010 calendar and other 4-H promotional materials.

Any 5" x 7" color photograph (vertical or horizontal), that shows a 4-H'er or group of 4-H'ers involved in a project, doing community service, giving an educational presentation, enjoying a recreational activity, or anything else related to the 4-H youth program. Photos should reflect any of the many aspects of 4-H throughout the year.

Because your photo may be selected for exhibition at the Iowa State Fair, negatives or digital copies of the photos should be kept. Include a photo caption to tell what's happening in the photo and explain why you think it's the best example of "4-H'ers in Action!" Captions are limited to 75 words or less. Limit of one entry per exhibitor for this contest.

Bring your photo entry to the Exhibit Building on judging day (Wednesday, July 8th). One photo will be selected to represent Ringgold County in the state fair exhibition.

New 4H Info Page—

A "one stop shop" has been created to help you find all the 4H paperwork you might need electronically. It includes: listing of important dates and events, past and current newsletters, county fair forms, record book forms and other 4H related resources. You will find this page at:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold/info/4H.htm> (bookmark it to find it in a jiffy).

State Tidbits

2009 Iowa State Fair—

The Iowa State Fair will be held August 13th–23rd. 4H exhibitors who have completed 5th grade through 12th grade are eligible to exhibit at the Iowa State Fair. All rules, schedules and other information can be found online at: www.iowastatefair.org. **Be sure to look at the 4-H Rules (Competition tab, "How To Enter/Premium Book")**.

4H entries for the Iowa State Fair (livestock and horticulture) are made through the Extension Office. Iowa State Fair entry forms usually come available at the Extension office mid-June and are due back to the Extension office by June 26th. To see an Iowa State Fair premium book, you will need to go online at: <http://www.iowastatefair.org/competition/howtoenter.php#4h> ; select 4H from the pull-down window.

****PLEASE NOTE:** Livestock and horticulture 4H exhibits do not have to participate in the county fair in order to be eligible to be exhibited at the Iowa State Fair. However, static exhibits (those found in the Exhibit Building; ex: photography, food and nutrition, home improvement, etc) that go on to the Iowa State Fair **MUST** be judged at the county fair and **THEN SELECTED** to go on to the Iowa State Fair by the county fair judges.

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State Fair Time: 4H Volunteers Needed–

The 2009 Iowa State Fair, August 13-23, *State Fair Time*, is getting closer, and we are doing our best to make sure that the 4-H building is a positive and friendly place.

One of the key ingredients needed is VOLUNTEERS!!! You can volunteer for the whole fair or just one day. We also have volunteer opportunities Aug 10-12 preparing for the fair and Aug 24 for final clean-up.

If you come, bring a car full....gas is too expensive for just one! Volunteering at the Iowa State Fair is a great idea for County Councils. Don't worry about the cost of staying somewhere, sign up to stay at the Cultural Center or Youth Inn and be surrounded by lots of others who share your love for 4-H. There are opportunities to volunteer in the morning, afternoon, and evening. Come volunteer for the day and enjoy the fair at night.

Volunteer Applications are due July 1 and are available online at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/StateFair/StateFairInfo.htm>. There is a difference in forms for youth, adults, and evening exhibit hosts so make sure you get the right one. If you have any questions please do contact Karen Naig at kmnaig@extension.iastate.edu or 515.294.1982.

4H Discount Event Tickets–

- 4H Weekend at Arrowhead Stadium: ISU vs KSU on October 3rd; Chiefs vs Giants on October 4th. Order form for tickets can be found at <http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/>
- Iowa State Center and Wells Fargo continually offer 4H discounted ticket prices. Find out about upcoming events at: <http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/>

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