



## Ringgold County 4-H News

January 2009

### Important Dates to Remember:

January 3<sup>rd</sup>: Market Beef Weigh-In

January 4<sup>th</sup>: County Council meeting @ 7:00 pm (Kids Against Hunger at Catholic Church)

January 10<sup>th</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00-10:00 am (note date change due to beef weigh-in)

January 11<sup>th</sup>: Club Officer Training @ 2:00 pm @ Extension Office

February 1<sup>st</sup>: 2009 Iowa's Promise...Our Youth Grant Applications due to State 4H Office (find applications at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/iowaspromise.html>)

February 2<sup>nd</sup>: 4H Scholarship Applications due to State 4H Office (find applications at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/grants.html>)

February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Iowa's Promise...Our Youth grant applications due to State 4H Office (find applications at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/iowaspromise.html>)

February 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: 4H State Leaders Retreat in Ankeny (contact Extension Office if interested)

February 7<sup>th</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension Office

February 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>: Iowa Beef Expo in Des Moines

February 22<sup>nd</sup>: County Council meeting @ 7:00 pm @ Extension Office

March 7<sup>th</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension Office

March 22<sup>nd</sup>: County Council meeting @ 7:00 pm @ Extension Office

March 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>: 4H Safety & Education of Shooting Sports instructor training

March 30<sup>th</sup>: 4H Leader Training @ 7:00 pm @ Extension Office

March 31<sup>st</sup>: Legislative Day–Power of Youth Event (more details to come)

April 4<sup>th</sup>: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension Office

April 24<sup>th</sup>: Market Sheep/Meat Goat Weigh-In @ 4:00 pm @ Fairgrounds

May 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>: Beef Grooming Clinic

# Livestock Updates

## Youth Horse Jamboree—

The Iowa Horse Jamboree is open to any youth interested in the horse industry and 4H horse project. You DO NOT have to have a horse to take part in the many opportunities that are available.

Some of the competitions include: hippology, grooming contest, photography, essay, public speaking, model horse, painting, etc. All registrations are due to the State 4H Office by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The Iowa Horse Fair will take place at the Iowa State Fairgrounds on April 4<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup>. (note: The Youth Horse Jamboree is a part of the Iowa Horse Fair.)

For a complete list of rules, competitions offered, and more information visit the 4H web page at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/agriculture/livestockhandbookhorse.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/agriculture/livestockhandbookhorse.htm). Click on the horse jamboree section.

## State Fair Rule Changes—

There have been some changes made to the Iowa State Fair 4-H Livestock Shows rules. They are:

### Beef:

1. New Rule: No artificial tails allowed.
2. Fitting Rule Clarification (all species): Family member is defined as: parent (mom, dad, step-parent or legal guardian), brother, sister, step-sibling.
3. No Coaching Rule: No coaching will be allowed from or near the ring. This includes verbal or non-verbal coaching. Violators will be escorted from the barn/showring area for the duration of the show.
4. Reminder: Commercial heifers MUST have a tattoo
  - a. Hard to read tattoos:
    - i. Be sure family checks them prior to fair
    - ii. If re-tattoo is necessary, have Extension Staff present to verify and notify State 4-H Office
    - iii. NO FRESH TATTOOS ALLOWED AT STATE FAIR

### Horse:

1. Walk/Trot class will be combined into one age group. Showmanship is the only other riding class the exhibitor will be allowed to enter.
2. Substitutions are allowed for State Fair entries IF the replacement horse is listed on the Horse Identification Form by May 15<sup>th</sup>; July 25<sup>th</sup> will be the deadline for substitutions along with a letter from the vet
3. The Iowa State Fair is looking at allowing 4-H horses to arrive Monday afternoon/evening for State Fair.
4. There is an updated “Rules & Regulations for 4-H Equine Shows in Iowa” manual. It is to be used for ALL Iowa 4-H shows (county fairs and state fair). Contact the Extension Office if you would like a copy.
5. Coming Soon...informational sessions for 4H’ers, parents, leaders, Extension Staff are being planned over a webcast. Tentative dates are Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Topics include: Jamboree, How to Start a Judging Team, Vaccinations, ID process requirements, etc. More to come

### Dairy Goats:

1. New: Dairy Goat cards—counties will not be receiving cards from State Fair Office. Cards will be MAILED to exhibitors with exhibitor letter in July after entries processed from State 4-H Office. Exhibitors will bring cards with them to State Fair check-in.

### Meat Goats:

1. Wether AND does will be allowed to show.

### Sheep:

1. Purebred registration papers—original paper MUST be presented (no copies or faxes allowed)

Swine:

1. NEW RULE: Check-in paint number MUST be legible upon entering the show ring or the animal will not be allowed to show.
2. New Rule: Derby show weigh-backs will be eliminated.
3. Rule Clarification: All farrowing dates for purebreds will go by the date on the registration paper (if conflicting with date on ID form).

## County Tidbits

### Club Officer Training–

Have you been elected to serve as an officer of your 4H club? Unsure of what your role is as a club officer? Plan to attend our Club Officer training set for Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:00 pm at the Extension Office. Have some fun and gain valuable tips and info to help you do your job right.

### Get Greener!–

You are being given the opportunity to get a little greener in life...opt to get the 4H Newsletter electronically each month. Besides saving the environment, you will save the Extension Office postage costs. To receive your copy electronically, please email Dawn at: [dawnd@iastate.edu](mailto:dawnd@iastate.edu). Indicate in your email each address you would like it sent to.

### New 4H Members–

Welcome to our new 4H members and their families! We are so excited to have 32 new 4H members & 25 new Clover Kids members in our program this year to date. Sometimes aspects of 4H may seem confusing or overwhelming to new 4-H members/families. Please do not hesitate to ask questions: to leaders, other 4H members/families, Extension staff. There's no such thing as a stupid question!

In the next month, you will be receiving a "4H Member Handbook" that will give you general information about Ringgold County 4H. You will also receive a newsletter that is geared strictly to new 4H families. Hopefully both of these will be able to answer some of the questions that you may have, but again don't hesitate to ask if they don't.

### Shooting Sports Update–

Safety & Education in Shooting Sports (SESS) is a program area that Ringgold County 4H wants to offer. Before we can do that, though, we have to have adults trained in the different disciplines that are to be offered. To date the following adults are trained:

Jeff Fletchall: archery and shotgun

Becky Fletchall: archery

Jim Johnson: shotgun

Other disciplines that could be offered if we had an adult get trained as an instructor are: rifle (small bore and/or air), muzzleloading and wildlife skills.

Currently we are in the fundraiser phase of the program. We are trying to raise monies to buy the supplies needed and/or trying to get items donated. Location is another obstacle at the moment.

If you are interested in becoming a trained instructor, helping with fundraising or have ideas to share, please contact one of the individuals listed above or the Extension Office. The next state-wide training of instructors is March 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> at the Iowa 4H Camping Center near Madrid. Registration costs of the training are covered by Ringgold County 4H.

### Beef Grooming Clinic–

Beef Superintendents have arranged to have Chuck McCullough, professional cattle groomer/fitter (<http://www.maineaimranch.com/fittingclinics.html>), come to Ringgold County to put on a clinic the weekend of May 22nd. The clinic would run from Friday evening to Sunday evening. Participants would need to bring a halter-broke calf and all their tack and feed. Topics covered will be: daily care, clipping, fitting and showmanship. There will also be a feed rep there to talk about show calf feed and nutrition. The clinic has a maximum limit of 20 participants. **Contact Dawn at the Extension Office if you are interested in signing up to attend by February 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Cost of the clinic will be \$75/person (meals will be provided). \*\*This opportunity will be opened up to other counties if Ringgold County is not able to fill the 20 person requirement.

Visit the Ringgold County website at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold)

# Other Tidbits

## Area & State 4H Recognition Opportunities–

Senior 4H members (9th-12th graders) are encouraged to think about expanding their 4H experience beyond the county level. There are many leadership opportunities at the state and national levels to be considered. If you are interested, please check out the following web address for more info:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm>

Application packets will become available soon. Applications will be due to the Extension office by February 13th, with face-to-face interviews taking place in Murray on March 29th. If you would like help with the application process, contact Dawn or Judy.

## Legislative Day: The Power of Youth–

What was formerly known as “4H Day at the Legislature” is getting a new name and focus. It is now “The Power of Youth–Iowa 4H.” The focus will be on intermediate 4H’ers in grades 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>. Every county is allowed to form a team of 3-4 4H’ers and 1 adult chaperone. A community service display is requested but it may consist of a variety of service activities that have occurred throughout the county by various 4H clubs. It is to focus on how 4H’ers can impact their communities and government. The date of the event this year is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Youth/adults interested in going to the event should contact the Extension Office. Counties are required to enter teams by February 27<sup>th</sup>.

## 4-H License Plate–

Support Iowa 4-H with the new 4H license plate. This is a great holiday gift idea for that special 4H member, volunteer, leader or staff person. The Iowa 4H Foundation has applied for an official 4H 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 4H Foundation, 3630 Extension Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-3630.



## State Leaders Training–

“Growing Green” is the theme for the 2009 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The retreat will be held at the DMACC facility in Ankeny.

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

A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff and 4H members. The registration cost is \$25 (will be covered by Ringgold County 4H) and includes lunch and snacks. Contact the Extension office if interested in registering to attend. Registration deadline is January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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