



Ringgold County 4-H News

April 2009

Important Dates to Remember:

April 4th: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension office

April 19th: County Council meeting @ 7:00 pm @ Extension office

April 24th: 4H/FFA Market Sheep/Meat Goat Weigh-In @ 4:00 pm @ Fairgrounds

April 26th: County Council hosted Basketball Tournament (more details in newsletter)

April 30th: All **SWINE** must be in possession and ear-tagged by this day (throughout April--contact Dawn to set date & time for farm visit)

May 2nd: Clover Kids 4H meeting from 9:00–10:00 am @ Extension office

May 6th: Food Safety & Quality Assurance (FSQA) training @ 7:00 @ Extension office (more details in newsletter)

May 15th: Livestock ID forms due to Extension office (forms in “4H'er Fair Book”—breeding beef, dog, horse, breeding/dairy goats, breeding sheep)—include any animal you MIGHT bring to fair

May 22nd-24th: Beef Grooming Clinic @ Fairgrounds (specific details will be sent to those signed up to attend at a later date)

May 29th: Southwest Iowa Area Junior 4H Camp registrations due
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/harrison/news/2009jrcamp.htm>

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 10th–11th: Southwest Iowa Area Intermediate Trip to Omaha (more details in newsletter)

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 (animals that ARE coming to fair)

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

July 8th-12th: Ringgold County Fair

August 13th–23rd: Iowa State Fair

County Tidbits

4H'er Fair Books—

We have always had the goal of everyone receiving their county fair info at the same time to make it fair to all. However, this year we need to cut our postage costs. Therefore, we want to distribute as many “4H'er Fair Books” as possible via hand. We will be attending as many club meetings this month as possible to distribute the books. If you happen to be in Mt. Ayr between now and your next club meeting, please stop by the Extension Office to pick up your copy of the book. Remember...this book has everything that would be needed between now and fair time (animal ID forms, county fair entry forms, exhibit write-up sheets, etc).

Please note: When you get your book, there is a letter inside the front cover. There are several changes to fair this year—especially concerning the livestock auction and the pie auction. Please make sure you read your letter once you get it. I tried to highlight all the changed/new info so it would be more noticeable. Please contact us if you have any questions though.

Thank you for understanding and your helpfulness.

4H/FFA Market Sheep/Meat Goat Weigh-In—

Anyone taking a market lamb and/or market meat goat to the county fair, or other 4-H livestock shows (Iowa State Fair or AK-SAR-BEN), MUST have them weighed in and identified. Our county weigh-in is set for Friday, April 24th from 4:00–6:00 pm at the Ringgold County Fairgrounds.

Ear tags will be put in and identification forms filled out. Birth date, breed and scrapie tag #s will be needed. There will be a cost of \$1 per ear tag. Youth are limited to weighing in: 10 head of meat goats; 15 head of sheep.

Retinal imaging will be done for those animals being verified for State Fair; DNA pulled on those verified for AK-SAR-BEN. There will be a \$5.00 charge per animal for State Fair verification; \$5.00 charge per animal for AK-SAR-BEN verification. Verification forms must be signed at weigh-in. If the exhibitor and a parent are not going to be at the weigh-in, you must come to the Extension Office before April 24th to sign a waiver.

County Council Hosted 4H Club Basketball Tournament—

County Council would like to invite all 4H clubs to participate in a Basketball Tournament set for Sunday, April 26th from 1:00–3:00 pm at the Mt. Ayr High School gymnasium.

Rules:

- Clubs are not limited to the number of teams they may enter
- Teams must consist of 5: a mix of adults and youth
- Games will be 4 minutes with a running clock
- Double elimination

Club leaders are asked to contact the Extension office by 4:00 pm on Friday, April 24th to let us know how many teams your club will have.

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

Food Safety & Quality Assurance Training (FSQA)–

For the 2008-2009 4-H year the following youth **MUST** be certified in the 4-H FSQA program before allowed to show.

For the County Fair: all SWINE exhibitors

For the Iowa State Fair: 4-H exhibitors planning to show ANY animal project (market or breeding)

Training has been set for: Wednesday, May 6th from 7:00–8:30 pm at the Extension Office
Testing can be done at anytime, but has to be completed by June 26th. Contact Dawn to set up a date & time.

4-H'ers ages 9-11: **MUST** attend the training every year

4-H'ers ages 12-14: attend the training every year **OR** test out (testing out will mean you are FSQA certified until you turn 15)

4-H'ers ages 15-18: attend the training every year **OR** test out (testing out will mean you are FSQA certified until you turn 19)

Please Note: We strongly encourage those that are of testing age to test out. Training is geared towards those at the junior level.

Area Tidbits

“O” What a Big Adventure Intermediate Trip–

7th–8th graders from across southwest Iowa are invited to participate in a 2-day trip to Omaha on June 10th–11th. Participants will meet other 4H members, tour the Qwest Center, tour Kountze Planetarium, night hike Henry Doorly Zoo, sleep with the fish at the Scott Aquarium, watch a movie at the IMAX theatre, and other activities.

Applications are now being accepted and need to be received at the Ringgold County Extension office **NO LATER** than Friday, May 15th. Applications for chaperones are also available. Stop by the office for applications or go to the website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ringgold>

State Tidbits

Voyage to Greatness–State 4H Conference–

The dates are set and the registration materials are now ready for State 4H Conference and Animal Science Roundup. To find out the basic details and see all the registration forms and frequently asked questions, please go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/stateconference/index.htm>

2009 Iowa State Fair Vet Camp–

One of the most popular programs during the 2008 Iowa State Fair, Vet Camp is an educational, exciting, hands-on learning program aimed at encouraging children ages 10-18 to learn about animal health, welfare and what it is like to be an animal doctor. Vet Camp is a two-hour program focusing on both large and small animal veterinary medicine. Vet Camp is **FREE** with paid Iowa State Fair admission. Only 30 spots are available per session and sessions will be assigned according to date received.

Registration forms can be found online at: www.iowastatefair.org or at the Extension office. Forms are due June 1st. Sessions are: Thursday August 13th, Saturday August 15th, Tuesday August 18th, Wednesday August 19th, Thursday August 20th, Sunday August 23rd.

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Iowa Agricultural Youth Institute—Where is Agriculture Taking You? IAYI...the Journey Begins

One hundred high school sophomores, juniors and seniors are selected through an application process to attend the Iowa Agricultural Youth Institute (IAYI), held on the campus of Iowa State University June 8th–11th. Speakers, tours, workshops, and small group discussions are used to present information on public policy development, research and education, product promotion, market development, social issues, career opportunities, leadership and communication. Delegates will also have the opportunity to research hot topics in agriculture and debate in the house chambers of the state capitol.

Applications are available at: www.iada.state.ia.us or for questions contact Amber.Hill@iowa.gov

4H Discount Event Tickets—

- Iowa State Center and Wells Fargo continually offer 4H discounted ticket prices. Find out about upcoming events at: <http://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/>
- **4H Night with the Iowa Barnstormers:** Saturday, May 30th @ 7:05 pm
Join fellow 4H members from clubs across the state for a great night with the Iowa Barnstormers. As a member, you and your club can purchase tickets for your friends and family to the Peoria game for as low as \$10 a seat. Ticket order forms are available at the Extension office or call 515-564-8454 to reserve your seats today. For more information, contact Grant Young at gyoung@theiowabarnstormers.com

Other Tidbits

22nd Annual Clarke County Classic Youth Rabbit Show—

May 2nd is the date set for the Clarke County Classic Youth Rabbit Show in Osceola. The show is open to all youth under age 19. There will be classes for breed rabbits, meat pen, single fryer and roaster. Entry fee is \$2 per class and entries are due to the Clarke County Extension office by April 24th. Entry forms are available at our local Extension office.

There will also be workshops on rabbit carriers, tattooing, care and housing. Pre-registration is required for the carrier workshop (cost of materials is: 10x16 = \$18/each; 12x24 = \$25 each). For more information contact show superintendent Vance Vestweber at 641-443-2311 or Frank Gale at 641-782-2998.

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