



Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdown Events

Questions and Answers

We have received questions asking for guidance regarding Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdown and Iowa 4-H Livestock events. This document provides clarifying information to assist 4-H County partners to make sound decisions regarding these independent events.

Q. What is Iowa 4-H?

The 4-H Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant universities' Cooperative Extension Services and the United States Department of Agriculture. The mission of Iowa 4-H is to "empower youth to reach their full potential through youth-adult partnerships and research-based experiences." Competitions and events are opportunities for youth to showcase what they have learned.

Q. Are Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdown's part of the Iowa 4-H Program?

No. They are an independent organization.

Q. Are ISU Extension and Outreach 4-H Youth and staff members required to participate in the planning of Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdown events, provide 4-H youth exhibitor information, or provide specific animal identification information to show representatives?

No. Iowa Code [176A.9.5](#) states that County Extension Units "may cooperate with, give information and advice to organized and unorganized groups, but shall not promote, sponsor or engage in the organization of any group for any purpose except the promoting, organization and the development of the programs of 4-H."

Q. If requested, can animal identification information such as ear tag numbers and retinal images be released from 4hOnline?

Within the boundaries set by [176A.9.5](#), counties may decide in what ways they will provide support to any given show. However, it is highly recommended that individual animal information not be shared due to potential liability issues (e.g.: should a protest of an eligible animal or exhibitor come into question) and potential confusion of organizational roles and responsibilities. 4-H member animal identification information is the property of the Iowa 4-H Program. Individuals may provide ID information on their own animals to show officials.

Q. Are Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdowns "sanctioned" by the Iowa 4-H Program?

No. These shows should be treated like any external organization or competition.

Q. Can Iowa and Regional Livestock Showdown's use the 4-H name and emblem in their marketing and publications?

No. Representatives of the regional showdown shows may not use the 4-H name or emblem to solicit funds for sponsorships without written approval from Iowa 4-H. For more information visit <https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource/4-H%20Name%20and%20Emblem%20User%20Guide%202014.pdf>

Q. What about Champion or Reserve Champion animals that sell through a county fair auction after their respective win? Are they eligible to participate in Regional Livestock Showdowns?

Since Livestock Showdowns are not affiliated with Iowa 4-H, this is a county fair/show decision. However, participants should be aware that depending on the structure of the Showdown, participation might end the animal's eligibility for 4-H shows and/or Iowa State Fair. For specific information, please contact Mike Anderson at mikeande@iastate.edu

Q. Are ISU Extension and Outreach and 4-H county staff members allowed to assist in the planning of these showdowns?

Yes, but it should be on their own time and not as representatives of ISU Extension and Outreach or the Iowa 4-H Program.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension and Outreach

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or status as a U.S. veteran. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to the Diversity Officer, 2150 Beardshear Hall, 515 Morrill Road, Ames, Iowa 50011, 515-294-1482, extdiversity@iastate.edu. All other inquiries may be directed to 800-262-3804.