

Sheep Rules

Buchanan County Fair 2023

Superintendent – Chad Dettbarn

Committee – Jenna Amling, Randy Andrews, Jennifer Dettbarn, Donnie Mangrich

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 1	Mentor paperwork needs to be turned in.
APRIL 15 th	7am-12pm - Pre-fair market lamb weigh-in
MAY 15	All Clover Kids and 4-H members must identify animals on 4hOnline, YQCA Completed
JUNE 15	Animal entries completed on Fair Entry. Purebred breeding sheep papers due to Extension office

RULES

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this department.
2. **Programs:** For all species that weigh-in, exhibitors will have a two-hour time frame to meet with their committee members to view and submit any changes to the show program. This will take place in each species' barn and times will be decided by the committee at the pre-fair meeting and will be posted on the 4-H fair office door at the beginning of fair week. There will be no further changes made to the show program after the two-hour review period.
3. All pens shall be bedded with shavings. The exceptions will be for those long woolled breeds shown with full fleece.
4. All sheep are to be on the grounds **no later than after weigh in on Tuesday July 5th**. Lambs must be unloaded at the east end of the barn. **Exhibitors with breeding animals need to be present at the weigh-in.**
5. Limit of 4 animals per pen.
6. Drenching will not be allowed. Some of the products being used are not labeled for animal use. There are quality assurance issues involved with this practice. If there are health concerns involved regarding dehydration, the Veterinarian should be contacted. See general livestock rule #28.
7. All sexually intact sheep must have an individual scrapie flock of origin identification tag.
8. **New: No halter is allowed in the show ring at all, unless talking with the sheep committee or superintendent first.**
9. **Extra pens will be allowed to exhibitors if space allows, NO refunds will be issued.**
10. **Showmanship:** Showmanship will be open to all 4-H sheep exhibitors. Exhibitors choosing to participate are not required to be signed up ahead of time. There will be three divisions: Junior - Grades 4-6; Intermediate - Grades 7-8; Senior - Grades 9-12. Exhibitors must show their own animal. No halter is allowed in the arena. The judge will place 5 exhibitors in the showmanship class. Results will be announced at the conclusion of the show and recipients will receive awards at that time. The decision of the showmanship judge is final. There will be no interference, and no one is allowed in the ring. The champion will be asked if they would like to participate in Master Showmanship. If the champion has already participated in Master Showmanship and won in their age division, they must pass on to the next exhibitor after the champion.
11. **Livestock Auction:** Exhibitors interested in selling their sheep at the auction **must notify the superintendent at check-in at the fair**. One animal per species per exhibitor may be offered for sale. All auction animals must be an exhibit at the current fair. All ear tags must remain in the animal's ear until the animal is released or the exhibitor will not be able to auction the animal. Exhibitors are still responsible for the daily care of all sheep (including auction sheep) until the animals are loaded on the truck.

PUREBRED BREEDING SHEEP

1. All lambs shown must be born after January 1st of the current calendar year.
2. Exhibitor may show two ewe lambs, two ram lambs and two yearling ewes.
3. A copy of the registration papers must be turned in to the Extension office by June 15th for all purebred breeding animals. A copy will be made at the Extension office and kept on file.
4. If there are less than 3 exhibitors in a class, the animals can be combined into an All Other Breed class.

Department Classes

25100: Ram Lamb – Suffolk

25102: Ram Lamb – Other

25110: Yearling Ewe – Suffolk

25111: Ewe Lamb – Suffolk

25112: Yearling Ewe – Other

25113: Ewe Lamb – Other

COMMERCIAL BREEDING SHEEP

1. Entries are open to ewe lambs being kept for breeding purposes which are not registered purebred.
2. All lambs will be exhibited and will be judged upon the characteristics and standard of their individual breed.
3. Exhibitor may enter 2 animals in each class.

Department Classes

25200: Ewe Lamb – Black Face

25201: Ewe Lamb – Speckled & White Face

25204: Ewe Lamb – Other

25202: Yearling Ewe – Black Face

25203: Yearling Ewe – Speckled & White Face

25205: Yearling Ewe – Other

25206: Ram Lamb – Commercial

MARKET LAMB

1. The pre-fair market lamb weigh-in will be **April 15th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM** at the Buchanan County Fairgrounds.
2. All market lambs will be weighed at the designated time on the fair schedule. Exhibitors need to be in the sheep barn when their lambs are being weighed. Anyone wanting to participate in the carcass class must have sheep and exhibitors available at this time.
3. Entries are open to ewes or wether lambs which have been weighed and ear tagged at the sheep weigh-in.
4. Each exhibitor may bring a maximum of 4 market lambs to the fair.
5. Lambs entered in market lamb classes cannot compete in the breeding classes.
6. Market lambs weighing less than 80 pounds will show in a separate feeder lamb class.
7. All market lambs must have been sheared over the entire body with a regular comb. Suggested fleece length less than ¼ inch.
8. All market lamb exhibitors may scan (at fair weigh-in) and only those lambs that are going to be shown at fair will be scanned. There is a scanning fee per animal (\$8.00) to be paid at the fair weigh-in at the exhibitor's expense. The exhibitor's highest placing lamb will automatically be entered in the carcass class. Only one carcass entry per exhibitor will be allowed.

Department Classes

25310: Individual Market Lamb – Members may show four individual market lambs in this class.

253101: White Face/Speckled—Individual Market Lamb

253102: All Other Breeds—Individual Market Lamb

25320: Pen of Two - Consisting of any two market lambs from one exhibitor. Limit of one pen of two per exhibitor.

25330: Carcass – The highest-placing scanned entry of an exhibitor.

25340: Derby – Based on rate of gain data.

NOVICE SHEEP PROJECT

The Novice Sheep Project is an opportunity for 4-H and FFA members to gain valuable experience in raising sheep through a partnership with local producers. This is an introductory class for showing sheep, **meaning the member has never participated in showing sheep in the past.** Members can be of any age (4th-12th) and can only participate for 2 years. Members will be able to purchase lambs at a fair price. All lambs for this project will be sold to members from a pre-determined producer so that all of the sheep have the same genetics.

Enrollment Process

1. Interested members will need to complete and turn in the Novice Sheep Project entry form that is provided by the Extension office. The money will be paid when the animals are weighed at the pre-fair weigh-in.
2. Members have the option of purchasing 1 or 2 lambs. It's recommended that members purchase 2 or have at least two lambs.
3. The purchase price of the animals will be determined by averaging the value of the lambs using reputable market prices. Prices will be announced as a per pound amount and the total value of the animals will be determined at the weigh-in by multiplying the beginning weight by the purchase price.

Pick-Up Process

1. The sheep will be weighed and ear tagged prior to the sheep weigh-in on April 15th.
2. Upon arrival, participants will draw numbers out of a bucket. The number correspond with the ear tag numbers on the lambs. This will ensure that the animals are selected at random.
3. Paperwork will be given to the participants to track the expenses and care of the sheep. This needs to be completed by fair.
4. The sheep committee recognizes that there may be participants who have never raised sheep at home before. Therefore, there will be authorized mentors available for anyone who needs assistance with their animals. Participants will need to contact the Extension office in order to have a mentor assigned to them. The sheep committee and mentors will not be responsible for the prevention of illness or death of the animals.

Fair Process

1. The Novice Sheep will need to be on the fairgrounds no later than 1:00 pm, on day of weigh-in. Any sheep that want to be scanned for carcass will need to be ready by check in time.
2. Participants must bring at least one animal to the fair to exhibit. In the event there are no sheep to bring, due to death or illness, the exhibitor must notify the Extension office as soon as possible.
3. The paperwork that the participants received at the pre-fair weigh-in must be handed to the Sheep Superintendent the day of the

fair weigh-in. The paperwork will be available for pick-up at the 4-H Fair office after the show.

4. **Paperwork is an equal portion of the judging experience. Judging will be based 50% on paperwork and 50% in the show ring performance.**
5. Participants will follow the same fair process as the market sheep except that the Novice Sheep will be shown in separate individual classes. Novice Sheep will be in the same derby, rate of gain, carcass, performance, and pen of two classes with the regular market sheep.
6. Novice Sheep will be able to compete for the Grand Champion Sheep.

Department Class

25400 Novice Sheep – Individual Lamb

New: 2023 Clover Kid Sheep Class

24501- Clover Kid Sheep

Objectives:

1. **To learn proper health care and nutritional requirements of sheep and meat goats.**
2. **To learn basic management skills.**
3. **To learn basic record keeping skills.**

Rules:

1. Open to Clover Kids in grades K-3rd.
2. Sheep must be born in the current calendar year to meet the Iowa 4-H guidelines of Clover Kids working with livestock.
3. Sheep must be identified on 4-H Online by May 15th using <https://v2.4honline.com/>. Exhibitors can only show one animal per species. Sheep can only be identified by one person and have a USDA ear tag.
4. Animals must be clean and will be shown with a halter. Clipping and grooming is not necessary.
5. The judge will talk with each clover kid on an individual basis asking questions based on what the exhibitor has learned, feeding, animal health, and basic management questions.
6. Sheep do not need weighed in or checked in at the fair.
7. Sheep and goats must be brought to the fairgrounds on the day of the show, and then will be released after the show. If you would like other accommodations, please contact the County Youth Coordinator or species superintendent.
8. The clover kids shows will be conducted at the beginning of the regular 4-H/FFA show.
9. Clover Kids will be given a participation ribbon as clover kids are not to be competitive.