March, 2014

TO: 4-H/FFA Exhibitors at Great Jones County Fair/Iowa State Fair
    Beef, Bucket/Bottle Calf, Dairy Cattle, Goat (dairy/meat), Poultry, Rabbits,
    Sheep, and Swine Exhibitors (All Food Animals)

FR: Joe Yedlik, County Extension Director
    Monica Gray, County Youth Program Coordinator

RE: FSQA Certification in Jones County

In accordance with the Jones County Fair Board, all food animal species are involved in the FSQA process. Therefore, all 4-H/FFA members exhibiting beef, bucket/bottle calves, dairy cattle, goats (dairy/meat), poultry, rabbits, sheep, or swine (all food animals) at the county fair must be FSQA certified. FSQA certification requires exhibitors to complete FSQA training to learn more about their responsibility to produce safe food.

Youth who complete the FSQA requirements will be certified in both the Iowa FSQA program (making them eligible for participation in the Iowa State Fair 4-H/FFA divisions and other county fairs), and the national PQA programs (thereby meeting the demands of the meat packing industry).

Starting in 2011, FSQA categorized youth according to their grade in school, not their age:

- juniors = 4th, 5th, and 6th graders
- intermediates = 7th, 8th, and 9th graders
- seniors = 10th, 11th, and 12th graders

(If you have questions in regards to the transition from “age” to “grade” categories, please contact the Extension office.)

For 2014, in Jones County, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Certification is good for one year (except for intermediates and seniors that PASS the “test option”).
2. All youth grades 4-6 as of September 1, 2013 (juniors), planning to exhibit food animal species (as listed above) MUST ATTEND one approved FSQA training session each year until they qualify as intermediates. Juniors DO NOT have the “test option”.
3. After attending at least one training session, at anytime during their 4-H/FFA livestock exhibiting career, intermediates and seniors have the option to pass a test which will certify them until they advance to the next grade category. Separate testing times will be offered (see schedule provided). Tests will come from a State 4-H database and must be administered by the Extension staff. Youth must accurately answer 70% of the questions to pass.
4. Once intermediates have PASSED their respective test, they DO NOT have to complete any other additional FSQA requirements (training sessions or tests) UNTIL they become a senior. At that time, they would have to attend annual FSQA training sessions OR pass a senior test. Once seniors have PASSED their respective test, they have completed ALL of their FSQA requirements and no further action is required during their 4-H/youth career or until they turn 20.
**Jones County FSQA Database**

The updated county 4-H FSQA database is now part of 4hOnline. While the FFA FSQA database is only available as an excel spreadsheet. If you have any questions on your FSQA information contained in 4hOnline or on the spreadsheet, contact your leader or the Extension office. **Again this year, the database WILL NOT be distributed through the 4-H Newsletter.**

**Jones County FSQA Training/Testing Sessions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FSQA Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Session #1 Training/Testing</td>
<td>April 22 (Tue)</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.(^1) (testing @ 8:30 p.m.(^2))</td>
<td>Jones County Extension Office Monticello</td>
<td>(see testing attempts(^3))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Session #2 Training/Testing</td>
<td>May 14 (Wed)</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. (testing @ 8:30 p.m.)</td>
<td>Jones County Extension Office Monticello</td>
<td>(see testing attempts(^3))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Session #3 Training/Testing</td>
<td>June 12 (Thu)</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.(^1) (testing @ 8:30 p.m.(^2))</td>
<td>Jones County Extension Office Monticello</td>
<td>(see testing attempts(^3))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For questions on any of the above sessions contact the extension office:
Jones County @ (319) 465-3224

Alternative FSQA sessions are also available in other neighboring counties. Check the website developed by the Iowa Pork Industry Center at Iowa State University for a complete listing of available FSQA training sessions throughout the state: [http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA14.html](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA14.html).

FSQA manuals (considered the best resource) will be available through the county extension office and at the training sessions **at no charge**. One FSQA manual per family would be sufficient. Parents are always welcome to attend, but these sessions will not qualify for adult certification requirements.

---

\(^1\) Training sessions will last approximately two hours.

\(^2\) This session will immediately follow the training session for those that want to take advantage of the “test option” (Intermediates and Seniors ONLY).

\(^3\) An individual will be able to have a maximum of three test attempts per testing session.