

2023 Muscatine County Fair 4-H/FFA Fair Book Updates & Changes

Note: These are only the changes made to the Fair Book from the 2022 Fair Book. This is NOT a comprehensive list of rules and instructions. Please refer to the 2023 4-H & FFA Fair Book for more information.

General Rules

- The earliest time animals may begin to arrive on the fairgrounds is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 17th. See specific rules in each livestock department for latest time animals may arrive.

Static Exhibits Department

- In **Photography Class 10320**, finished matted photographs must not exceed ¼" thick.
- In **Photography Classes 10320 and 10340**, the [Photography Exhibit Label](#) has been updated to include the question "What story does this photo tell? How does it make you feel?"
- The \$10 Meal Challenge has been renamed to the Thrifty Meal Challenge, Class 10490. The price limit for the meal is now \$11.

Awardrobe Clothing Event Department

- The **\$15 Challenge Division is now the \$20 Challenge Division**. \$20 is now the price limit to purchase a second-hand outfit for this division.
- A new division called the **Innovative Design Division** has been added. In this new division 4-H'ers are challenged to construct an outfit using creativity and out-of-the-box thinking. Tje designs can be theatrical costumes, cosplay, wearable technology, sustainable/upcycled fashion, and/or outfits that use unconventional materials.

Communications Department

- 4-H'ers in grades 4-12 are eligible to participate in **Extemporaneous Speaking** division at the county level. 4-H'ers must be in 9th-12th grade to advance to the Iowa State Fair.

Beef

- **All breeding heifers**, both registered and commercial, (classes 200-400) **must be born from September 1, 2021-December 31, 2022**. (Previously heifers must have been born from January 1-December 31).
- To exhibit in **Class 650- Finished Bucket Calf**, the calf must have been shown in the Open Bucket Calf show or the 4-H/FFA Bucket Calf Show at the Muscatine County Fair of the previous year and received a tattoo. The calf must be shown by the same exhibitor in the Bucket Calf show and the Finished Bucket Calf class.
- Market steers will qualify for a blue ribbon only if they have an average daily gain (ADG) of **2.2 pounds** or more from the beginning weigh date to the Muscatine County Fair weigh date.
- Market heifers will qualify for a blue ribbon only if they have an average daily gain (ADG) of **2.0 pounds** or more from the beginning weigh date to the Muscatine County Fair weigh date.

Bucket Calf

- **No show sticks allowed**. Calves should be halter broke and trained to lead before the County Fair.

- Exhibitors are encouraged to **create a poster about their bucket calf project** to hang on their calf's stall in the Bucket Calf Barn on the fairgrounds. The poster could include information such as the exhibitor's name, calf's name, the exhibitor's club/chapter, feed information, favorite thing about raising the calf, what the exhibitor learned, and pictures from the project.

Meat Goat

- All exhibitors who exhibit in a showmanship class will receive a prize!

Swine

- The 4-H/FFA Swine Show will start at **8:30 a.m.** in the Small Show Ring. The Swine Exhibitor Meeting will begin at **8:00 a.m.**

Horse & Pony

- All horse and pony identification nominations must include photographs of the animal's front, rear, left-side, and right-side views for both the Muscatine County Fair & Iowa State Fair. (Previously, photos were only required for the Iowa State Fair.)
- Arena records from year-to-year for timed events will no longer be kept or awarded. Fastest times in each class each year will still receive first place trophies.

Poultry

- Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (Health Certificates) are required at check-in. Please do not rely on live-vet inspection at check-in.

Herdsmanship

- A single exhibitor will be awarded the Donald Noll Memorial Individual Herdsman Award following the fair. This award cannot be received more than once in an exhibitor's career. Cash prize awarded.

Livestock Judging

- The 4-H/FFA Muscatine County Fair Livestock Judging Contest has been discontinued.

Premier Exhibitor Contest

- 4-H & FFA members exhibiting in the beef, swine, sheep, or meat goat shows are eligible to compete in the Premier Exhibitor Contest. The contest will include questions related to all species and the livestock industry in general. Scholarship award amounts have changed.