

April 10, 2024

Dear Meat Animal Lamb Project Participants,

Enclosed you will find the 2024 Wyoming County 4-H Meat Animal Lamb Project Rules. Please take time to review all of the pages in order to understand the rules and expectations of the program.

Animals will be weighed and tagged:
Thursday, May 9th from 5:00PM - 8:00PM
at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds in Pike (Enter the grounds from Main Street, by the creek for one way traffic up behind the livestock barn.)



To reduce crowds and wait times, everyone needs to register for a timeslot. You will register online through the link below (or use the QR code above with your smart phone camera to link directly to the registration).

<https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/WYCOLAMBTAGGING-2-2-2> 256

There are a specific number of openings for each timeslot, and they will be closed out when filled. You will register your family/truck/trailer load in one timeslot as a group. It will be important to arrive during your timeslot as close to the beginning of your appointment as possible, to keep the lines running smoothly.

Keep in mind the following things as you prepare for the weigh-in:

- We will weigh and tag only ewes and/or wethers for the meat animal program.
- Lambs MUST be identified with a SCRAPIE TAG at the initial weigh-in. These tags must come with the lambs from the producer. We cannot provide them. The tags provide an additional form of ID for our records and will be required for health papers later on.
- Lambs SHOULD weigh between 35 and 75 pounds at the initial weigh-in to get off to a good start for the meat animal program. The beginning weight requirement was dropped in 2022 but weights outside this range are hard to work with in terms of our rate of gain requirements and being successful in the project.

(over)

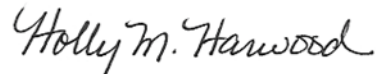
Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Remember that you must participate in an approved educational event to show any livestock at the fair, including meat animal projects. *Read your meat animal rule packet for details on participating in an additional approved educational event.* Check the April 4-H Newsletter as most events are listed in this edition except showmanship clinics which are TBD.

Meat Animal participants must also complete a YQCA training in addition to the above educational events and turn in a certificate of completion to the 4-H office by July 15th. Details can be found in the April 4-H News. Call the 4-H office if you have any questions.

Please feel free to contact me in the 4-H Office at 585-786-2251 with any questions you may have regarding the upcoming Meat Animal Lamb Project. I look forward to seeing you all again at the May weigh-in!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly M. Harwood".

Holly M. Harwood
4-H Program Manager

2024 General Rules and Regulations for all Divisions

The following apply to all participants and species of meat animals (beef, goats, poultry, sheep & swine):

1. Returning meat animal project participants and new beef/dairy beef participants must be enrolled in a Wyoming County 4-H club or as a lone member by November 30, 2023. New meat animal project participants will have until March 31, 2024, to enroll in the Wyoming County 4-H Program.
2. 4-H participants are expected to follow the 4-H Code of Conduct and present themselves in a positive manner at all times during 4-H sponsored events.
3. Each year, all participants must complete the age-appropriate Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification which is a national multi-species quality assurance program by July 15th. This is in addition to the required and bonus educational events listed below. Details and program payment vouchers can be obtained in the 4-H office.
4. All participants must complete one 4-H office approved educational event prior to the 2024 Wyoming County Fair to participate in the meat animal competition. A list of all approved events will be finalized by February 1st.
5. Each participant can earn an additional two (2) bonus points for participating in one additional approved educational event. These two points will be added to the final project point total that determines species champions and auction order. (No bonus points are given as poultry does not utilize the point system.)
6. A participant may show and sell only one species in the meat animal program each project year. Final species designation for youth that initially weigh-in more than one species must be made by made in writing to the 4-H office no later than June 1st of the program year.
7. Participants must submit an appropriate animal entry form to the 4-H office on or before July 15th. If the entry form is postmarked or received after the deadline, the participant will receive 10 negative points. Late entries will not be accepted after July 31st and the participant will be ineligible to show or take part in the auction.
8. All participants must make and display a poster advertising the 4-H Meat Animal Auction; they must be on display no earlier than July 1st and no later than July 15th. You must return a tear slip or indicate on your fair entry form where the poster is displayed to the 4-H office on or before July 15th. If the tear slip/entry form is postmarked or received after the deadline, the participant will receive 10 negative points. Late poster slips will not be accepted after July 31st and the participant will be ineligible to show or take part in the auction.
9. All participants, regardless of the degree of completion on the project must submit a Meat Animal Project Record Sheet by October 15, 2024. If the completed record is received in the 4-H office by the above deadline, the exhibitor will receive 20 bonus points for their next project year.
10. If a prior year project record is not received before the current year initial weigh-in date, the exhibitor will not be eligible for the current year meat animal project. Bonus points earned for records will be carried forward to the next year you participate in the meat animal project. If no bonus points are earned, none will be carried forward. All first-time participants automatically receive 20 bonus points.
11. All male meat animal projects must be castrated, meaning complete removal of testicles at the time of initial weigh-in. Veterinary inspection may be requested by the 4-H program at any time during the duration of the project if an animal exhibits intact male characteristics. If found, fully or partially intact males will be disqualified from the program.
12. All project animals must follow proper animal health protocols and withdrawal times. It is important to read all labels for appropriate usage (ie. Blue-Kote is no longer labeled for meat animal species.)
13. Official weights will be recorded during the initial weigh-in and the final weigh-in. Animals will go across the scale one time only at each weigh-in. By the final weigh-in you must choose your animal for the meat animal competition. It will be your first animal to cross over the scale. If that animal does not make weight,

you are allowed to weigh another one of your tagged meat animals to try gaining entry in the competition. Meat animals that do not make weight may be eligible for non-auction market classes at the fair.

14. At the initial weigh-in, all animals (except poultry) will be identified with an official Wyoming County 4-H ear tag. If an animal loses its tag, contact the 4-H office as soon as possible.
15. Siblings participating in the meat animal program may choose to tag one (1) animal to register as a backup animal, rather than additional animals for each participant. See individual species regulations for more details.
16. All animals must meet the health requirements of the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets and be accompanied by a valid health certificate to stay on the fairgrounds.
17. All animals must be fed, watered and freshly bedded **by 9:00AM** as well as cared for throughout the day (maintaining feed, water, bedding) each day while on exhibit.
18. Once an animal is shown in the live meat animal show, that animal must continue in the project until the conclusion, unless is it disqualified for violation of program rules.
19. Any meat animal that is judged "no ribbon" in Type & Condition classes by the official judge will not be sold during the meat animal auction and said animal will remain the property of the exhibitor.
20. Participants must take part in all phases of the show and auction, including being present at the auction if the project animal is to be sold. The only exception is illness, which must be cleared with the 4-H office.
21. All animals will be auctioned off live and will go through a sale ring in the cattle barn arena. Appropriate clothing is required for the auction; show attire with proper footwear.
22. Auction order for each species will be based off Overall Meat Animal Project Points; ties will be broken using rate of gain. Poultry auction order is outlined in the poultry section.
23. Participants must accept all risks involved in raising and exhibiting livestock such as possible trucking, exhibition, and other handling losses.
24. Participants selling an animal in the auction will be charged a 5% sales commission. They are also required to pay the national check off requirements for their species. These fees will be deducted from the auction check.
25. If a 4-H'er purchases an animal at the Wyoming County 4-H Meat Animal Auction either directly or indirectly, they cannot show it in another 4-H or youth show during the current project year. If they do, they will be banned from participating in the meat animal project in future years.
26. Animals purchased at the auction and donated back to 4-H will be resold at the end of the sale with the proceeds going towards the 4-H Livestock Scholarship Program.
27. Auction buyers may send purchased animals to a packing plant, resell them to a third party, donate them back to 4-H for resale or take them home. If a buyer would like to resell an animal to a packer or another individual, they may do so on their own.
28. All buyers will pay 4-H for the full amount of the purchase. The 4-H office will then distribute payments for animals sold to participants.

2024 Meat Animal Lamb Regulations

- ❖ Market lambs are wethers (castrated males) or ewes (females) either purebred or crossbred. Animals must be born after January 1, 2024 and should be born in February or March.
- ❖ Starting your project: Local breeders may have suitable lambs for sale; contact them early in the year to reserve animals. The 4-H office has reference materials to aid you in selection, feeding and showing your animals. Contact us at 585.786.2251 if you are in need of assistance.
- ❖ A participant may enter up to 4 animals for the meat animal lamb program OR participating siblings may choose to tag up to two (2) primary animals for each participant, in addition to one (1) total family animal. The family animal may be used as a backup project animal for siblings designated at the time of initial weigh-in.
- ❖ Lambs must be selected and in your possession by May 9, 2024. You must bring your lambs to the Wyoming County Fairgrounds on May 9th between 5:00PM and 8:00PM to be officially weighed and identified with a program tag.
- ❖ **Lambs SHOULD weigh between 35# and 75# at initial weigh-in. Lambs outside of these ranges have a hard time maintaining higher rates of gain and/or staying within weight limits.**
- ❖ Lambs MUST be identified with scrapie tags at the initial weigh-in. This will provide an additional form of identification for our records.
- ❖ Only 2 lambs may be shown and sold in the auction by each participant. Lamb participants are not required to show additional animals of the same species during the Wyoming County Fair. Participants exhibiting only meat animal projects will not be eligible for additional 4-H showmanship or type classes.
- ❖ Lambs MUST weigh between a minimum of 90# and maximum of 145# at the final weighing in August and have gained at least .25# per day during the recorded feeding period.
- ❖ Lambs fleece must be reasonably dry at the time of official weigh-ins. Lambs must be shorn within 10 days of the final weigh-in.
- ❖ Meat animal lambs are to be shown clean and dry. Fly spray only, will be permitted on animals. Exhibitors must show their own animals unless excused by livestock committee for illness.
- ❖ Meat animal lambs will be shown on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 1:00pm. Youth will enter the show ring for showmanship & fitting with classes divided by exhibitor age and then again for type & condition of lambs with classes divided by animal weights. 1st Place showmanship winners will participate in a champion showmanship drive. 2nd Place showman will be on standby for reserve consideration. 1st Place type & condition winners will participate in a champion animal drive. 2nd Place animals will be on standby for reserve consideration.
- ❖ The Meat Animal Auction will take place on Wednesday August 14, 2024 beginning at 5:00PM

Judging Procedures for Lambs

- A) Rate of Gain from initial weigh-in to final weighing. Animals must gain at least .25# per day and weigh between a minimum of 90# and maximum of 145# at the final weighing or they will be excluded from the meat animal project.

Blue	.65 # per day	30 points
Red	.45# - .64 # per day	20 points
White	.25# - .44# per day	10 points

- B) Type & Condition will be determined by the live show judge. The top five placing animals in each class will receive additional points: 1st - 5pts, 2nd - 4pts, 3rd - 3 pts, 4th - 2pts, 5th - 1pt.

Blue	70 points
Red	50 points
White	20 points

- C) Showmanship will be determined by the live show judge. Overall appearance of the animal will also be taken into consideration. Participants showing 2 meat animal lambs will be judged only once for showmanship, receiving equal pts. for each lamb. The top five placing animals in each class will receive additional points: 1st - 5pts, 2nd - 4pts, 3rd - 3 pts, 4th - 2pts, 5th - 1pt.

Blue	70 points
Red	50 points
White	20 points

- D) The Champion Animal as chosen by the official judge, will receive 2 bonus points, to be added to their project score. Reserve Champion will receive 1 bonus point. (These bonus points are animal specific.)
- E) The Champion Showman as chosen by the official judge, will receive 2 bonus points, to be added to their project score. Reserve Champion will receive 1 bonus point.
- F) Records: 20 points will be awarded for records turned in by October 15, 2023.
- G) Educational Event Bonus: 2 points will be awarded for participating in one additional approved educational event. (Each participant is required to participate in one approved event to be eligible for showing at fair.)
- H) For late filing of required forms:
10 points will be deducted for late entries.
10 points will be deducted for late poster notification
- I) A maximum of 206 points may be earned towards the 4-H Meat Animal Project Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion. Overall point ties will be broken based on "Rate of Gain" in order to determine auction order.

Grounds for Disqualification

Weights outside the 90-145# range and/or rate of gain less than .25# per day
"No Ribbon" awarded in Type & Condition classes by official judge
Other reasons made at officials' discretion

4-H MEAT ANIMAL PROJECT RECORD FOR 2024

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ # OF YEARS IN PROJECT: _____

ADDRESS: _____ 4-H CLUB: _____

SPECIES (CIRCLE ONE): BEEF LAMB SWINE

BIRTH DATE OF ANIMAL (IF KNOWN): _____ BREED: _____

(A) WEIGHT WHEN PURCHASED: _____ (B) DATE PURCHASED: _____

(C) PROJECT STARTING WEIGHT: _____ (D) WEIGH-IN DATE: _____

(E) FINISHED WEIGHT: _____ (F) DATE OF FINAL WEIGHING: _____

EXPENSES: USE PURCHASE COST (OR FAIR MARKET VALUE IF THERE WAS NO "OUT OF POCKET" EXPENSE;
FIGURE EXPENSES FROM WEIGH-IN DATE)

Add these together	VALUE OF PROJECT ANIMAL ON WEIGH-IN DATE = _____		Add these together
	_____ TOTAL POUNDS HAY FED X _____ (VALUE PER POUND) = _____		
	_____ POUNDS CORN SILAGE X _____ (VALUE PER POUND) = _____		
	_____ TOTAL POUNDS OF DRY HAY EQUIVALENTS FROM CORN SILAGE (TO OBTAIN THIS: DIVIDE POUNDS OF CORN SILAGE BY 3)		
	_____ POUNDS HAYLAGE X _____ (VALUE PER POUND) = _____		
	_____ TOTAL POUNDS OF DRY HAY EQUIVALENTS FROM HAYLAGE (TO OBTAIN THIS: DIVIDE POUNDS HAYLAGE BY 2.5)		
	_____ TOTAL POUNDS GRAIN X _____ (VALUE PER POUND) = _____		
	_____ (J) TOTAL POUNDS OF HAY EQUIVALENTS & GRAIN FED		
	BEDDING EXPENSES = _____		
	VET EXPENSES = _____		
TRUCKING EXPENSES = _____			
COMMISSION = _____			
PROMOTION FEE = _____			
OTHER EXPENSES = _____			
(K) TOTAL EXPENSES = _____			

INCOME:

(L) WEIGHT OF ANIMAL SOLD _____ X (M) PRICE PER POUND _____ = (N) GROSS SALE VALUE _____

(P) NET PROFIT _____ OR LOSS _____ ($P = N - K$)

EFFICIENCY FACTORS:

(R) TOTAL WEIGHT GAINED = _____ POUNDS ($R = E - C$)

(S) TOTAL DAYS ON FEED (COUNT DAY AFTER (D) THROUGH (F)) = _____ DAYS

(T) AVERAGE DAILY GAIN (ADG) = _____ POUNDS PER DAY ($T = R \div S$)

(V) FEED EFFICIENCY = _____ POUNDS OF FEED TO PRODUCE 1 POUND OF WEIGHT GAIN ($V = J \div R$)

PROJECT SUMMARY



1. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY FROM THIS YEAR'S MEAT ANIMAL PROJECT?

2. WHAT IS AVERAGE DAILY GAIN? *WHY IS AVERAGE DAILY GAIN IMPORTANT TO OUR MEAT ANIMAL PROGRAM?

3. WHAT IS FEED EFFICIENCY AND WHY IS IT AN IMPORTANT PART OF RAISING LIVESTOCK FOR A 4-H PROGRAM OR A GENERAL LIVESTOCK OPERATION?

4. SALESMANSHIP IS AN IMPORTANT LIFE SKILL YOU CAN DEVELOP BY PARTICIPATING IN 4-H LIVESTOCK MARKET PROJECTS. TELL US HOW YOU USED THIS SKILL OR WORKED ON DEVELOPING IT DURING THIS YEAR'S PROJECT.

5. RESEARCH THE CURRENT MARKET PRICE PER POUND FOR YOUR MEAT ANIMAL SPECIES AND COMPARE IT TO THE ACTUAL PRICE PER POUND YOUR ANIMAL RECEIVED. *HOW DO THEY COMPARE? *WOULD YOU HAVE PROFITED OR LOST MONEY AT CURRENT MARKET PRICE?

CURRENT MARKET PRICE PER POUND: _____ PRICE PER POUND RECEIVED: _____

**ATTACH A COPY OF THE THANK YOU SENT TO THE BUYER(S) OF YOUR ANIMAL(S).
(REWRITE ON PAPER IF NECESSARY)**

***REMEMBER IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PROPERLY THANK THESE INDIVIDUALS & BUSINESSES!**