
2026 Wyoming County 4-H Meat Animal Program

Cornell University Cooperative
Extension Wyoming County

36 Center Street, Suite B

Warsaw, NY 14569

Phone: 585.786.2251

Fax: 585.786.5148

www.wyomingcounty4h.com

*Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized
for providing equal program and employment opportunities in
accordance with applicable laws.*



2026 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, 2025. New meat animal project participants will have until March 31, 2026, 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 referenced 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 2026 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 for poultry; does not utilize a 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, 2026. 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 auction format. 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.
- 29. All auction participants must turn in an original copy of handwritten thank you note for buyer(s) to 4-H office before final checks are distributed. Thank you should be unsealed, in an envelope, and properly addressed to buyer. The 4-H office will be responsible for postage and mailing.**

2026 Meat Animal Hog Regulations

- ❖ Market hogs are barrows (castrated males) or gilts (females) that may be either purebred or crossbred. Animals must be born after January 1st of the current project year.
- ❖ Starting your project: Most project hogs are purchased direct from producers or purchased at a feeder pig sale. The 4-H office has reference materials available 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 3 animals for the meat animal swine program OR participating siblings may choose to tag one (1) primary animal 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.
- ❖ Hogs must be selected and in your possession for this project by May 2, 2026. You must bring hogs to the Wyoming County Fairgrounds to be officially weighed and identified on May 1st between 4:00PM and 8:00PM or on May 2nd between 9:00AM and 11:00AM.
- ❖ Only 1 hog may be shown and sold in the meat animal division by each participant.
- ❖ Hogs **MUST** weigh between a minimum of 225# and maximum of 300# at the final weighing in August.
- ❖ Rabies shots are not required for county exhibition but are required for the NYS Fair.
- ❖ Meat animal hogs are to be shown clean and dry. Animals may be body clipped. Fly spray only, will be permitted on animals. **Exhibitors must show their own animals unless excused by livestock committee for illness.**
- ❖ Participants are required to provide feed and bedding for their hog while on exhibit at the fairgrounds. Pens are equipped with automatic waterers. Pens should be cleaned daily.
- ❖ **Meat animal hogs will be brought to the fairgrounds on Friday, August 14, 2026, between 6:00pm and 9:00pm. Animals will be weighed upon their arrival.**
- ❖ Meat animal hogs will be shown on Saturday, August 15, 2026 at 1:00pm. Youth will enter the show ring for showmanship & fitting, divided by exhibitor age and then again for type & condition of the hog, 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 19, 2026 beginning at 5:00PM.

Judging Procedures for Hogs

- A) Rate of Gain from initial weigh-in to final weighing. **Animals must gain at least 1.25# per day.** Weigh between a minimum of 225# and maximum of 300# at the final weighing or they will be excluded from the meat animal project.

Blue	1.75# per day and higher	30 points
Red	1.50 – 1.74# per day	20 points
White	1.25 – 1.49 # per day	10 points

- B) Type & Condition placings 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 placings will be determined by the live show judge. Overall appearance of the animal will also be taken into consideration. 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 overall project score. Reserve Champion will receive 1 bonus point.

a. Champion Hog Drive will consist of the following weight divisions. Champion and Reserve from each division will come back to the ring for consideration.

- i. Light Weight: 225-249 pounds**
- ii. Medium Weight: 250 – 274 pounds**
- iii. Heavy Weight: 275 – 300 pounds**

- E) Records: 20 points will be awarded for records turned in by October 15, 2025.

- F) 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.)

- G) For late filing of required forms:

10 points will be deducted for late entries.

10 points will be deducted for late poster notification

- H) 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 225-300# range and/or Rate of Gain less than 1.25# per day

“No Ribbon” awarded in Type & Condition classes by official judge

Other reasons made at officials’ discretion

2026 Meat Animal Lamb Regulations

- ❖ Market lambs are wethers (castrated males) or ewes (females) either purebred or crossbred. Animals must be born after January 1, 2026 and should ideally 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 need 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 7, 2026. You must bring your lambs to the Wyoming County Fairgrounds on May 7th 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 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 (but encouraged) 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 17, 2026 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 19, 2026 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, 2025.
- 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

2026 Meat Goat Regulations

- ❖ Market goats must be either a wether (castrated male) or doe (female). Acceptable breeds are Kiko, Boer, Kiko, Nubian, Spanish, Savanah, Myotonic, or crosses of these and may be purebred or grade. At least 50% meat bred crosses are required.
- ❖ Animals that can be entered for the auction must be born after September 1, 2025.
- ❖ Starting your project: Local breeders may have suitable meat goats 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 goat 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.
- ❖ Goats must be selected and in your possession by May 6, 2026. You must bring your goats to the Wyoming County Fairgrounds on May 6th between 5:00PM and 8:00PM to be officially weighed and identified.
- ❖ Goats must be identified with scrapie tags at the initial weigh-in. This will provide an additional form of identification for our records.
- ❖ Only 2 goats may be shown and sold in the auction by each participant. Goat 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.
- ❖ Goats MUST weigh between a minimum of 50# and maximum of 125# at the final weighing in August and have gained at least .10# per day during the recorded feeding period.
- ❖ Meat animal goats 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 goats will be shown on Sunday, August 16th at 9:30am. Youth will enter the show ring for showmanship & fitting with classes divided by exhibitor age and then again for type & condition of goats 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 19, 2026 beginning at 5:00PM.

Judging Procedures for Goats

- J) Rate of Gain from initial weigh-in to final weighing. Animals must gain at least .10# per day and weigh between a minimum of 50# and maximum of 125# at the final weighing or they will be excluded from the meat animal project.

Blue	.30 # per day	30 points
Red	.20# - .29 # per day	20 points
White	.10# - .19# per day	10 points

- K) 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

- L) 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 goats will be judged only once for showmanship, receiving equal pts. for each goat. 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

- M) 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.)
- N) 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.
- O) Records: 20 points will be awarded for records turned in by October 15, 2025.
- P) 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.)
- Q) For late filing of required forms:
10 points will be deducted for late entries.
10 points will be deducted for late poster notification
- R) 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 50-125# range and/or rate of gain less than .10# per day
"No Ribbon" awarded in Type & Condition classes by official judge
Other reasons made at officials discretion

2026 Meat Animal Beef & Dairy Beef Regulations

- ❖ **BEEF BRED:** Steers (castrated males) or heifers (females) which have are bred as full beef blood. Examples of beef breeds: Hereford, Shorthorn, Angus, Chianina, Limousin, Simmental, Beefalo, Maine-Anjou, Santa Gertrudis, Brahma, Charolais, etc.
- ❖ **DAIRY BRED:** Steers (castrated males) that are dairy bred, such as Brown Swiss, Holstein, Ayrshire, Jersey, Guernsey, etc... or crosses between these breeds and a beef breed (i.e. beef on dairy).
*** NEW 2026: A cross of any dairy breed and a beef breed will be classified as a steer in the dairy bred division.**
- ❖ All cattle must be born during 2025.
- ❖ Starting your project: The 4-H office has reference materials available to aid you in selection, feeding and showing your animals. Contact us if you need assistance with any of these items.
- ❖ A participant may enter up to 2 animals for the meat animal beef program OR participating siblings may choose to tag one (1) primary animal 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.
- ❖ Cattle must be selected and in your possession by December 6, 2025. You must bring your cattle to Empire Livestock Market in Pavilion on Saturday, December 6th between 8:30AM and 11:30AM to be officially weighed and identified. Watch online updates for time scheduling.
- ❖ Only 1 beef animal may be shown and sold in the auction by each participant. Beef & dairy beef participants are not required to show a second animal of the same species.
- ❖ **Both beef bred cattle and dairy steers SHOULD weigh between 450# and 750# at the initial weigh-in. Animals outside these weights may be harder to manage successful end weights.**
- ❖ Both beef bred cattle and dairy steers MUST weigh between 1000# and 1600# at the final weighing on Saturday, August 15, 2026.
- ❖ Both beef bred cattle and dairy steers MUST gain at least 1.50# per day during the recorded feeding period or they will be excluded from the show and auction.
- ❖ At initial weigh-in all cattle must be dehorned and castrated or they will not be eligible for the project. Cattle may be rechecked for horns and testicles at the final weighing. If either is present, the animal will be ineligible to show or take part in the auction.

- ❖ Beef and dairy bred meat animals must have certificates of veterinary inspection and all shots that are required for cattle going to the fair, including rabies shots and shipping fever shots. Observe withholding times on all vaccines. A negative test for BVD-PI is required.
- ❖ Meat animal beef and dairy beef 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 beef and dairy beef will be shown on Monday, August 17, 2026 beginning at 9:00am. Youth will enter the show ring for showmanship & fitting with classes divided by exhibitor age and then again for type & condition of cattle with classes divided by animal weight. 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.
- ❖ Beef bred and dairy bred classes will each be in separate divisions.
- ❖ Participants exhibiting only a meat animal project will not be eligible for additional 4-H showmanship or type classes.
- ❖ The Meat Animal Auction will take place on Wednesday, August 19, 2026 beginning at 5:00PM.
- ❖ During the auction, the initial high bidder on a beef animal will have the choice of taking the whole animal or half. If the initial high bidder wants just half, it must go to one of our packing plants. The initial high bidder chooses the plant. The second half will then be sold with the stipulation that it has to be processed at the plant selected by the buyer of the first half. This pertains to all beef (champions and non-champions.)

Judging Procedures for Beef & Dairy Steers

- A) Rate of Gain from initial weigh-in to final weighing. Both beef bred cattle and dairy steers must gain at least 1.50# per day or they will be excluded from the show and auction.

Blue	2.50# per day and higher	30 points
Red	2.00# - 2.49# per day	20 points
White	1.50# - 1.99# 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 fitting of the animal will also be taken into consideration. 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.

- 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, 2025.

- 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

Beef bred cattle and dairy bred steers that gain less than 1.50#/ day

And/or weights outside the 1,000 – 1,600 # range

"No Ribbon" awarded in Type & Condition classes by official judge

Other reasons made at officials' discretion

2026 Market Poultry Regulations

1. All project market birds must be purchased through the Wyoming County 4-H Program. A minimum order of 6 chicks per participant is required, with a maximum number of 12 chicks. Ordering information is available from the 4-H office. Orders are due on March 31st.
2. Project birds will be distributed within the first two weeks of June, depending on the hatching and delivery schedule. There is no option for replacement birds after the initial pickup.
3. All participants must complete one 4-H office approved educational event prior to the 2026 Wyoming County Fair to participate in the meat animal competition. Approved events and activities are discussed in the general program rules. YQCA, Poster Program, and Fair Entries are also addressed in the general rules.
4. The 4-H Market Poultry Show will be held **tentatively at 3pm on Saturday, August 1st** at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds. Project birds can arrive from 2pm till 3pm. Lots will be weighed for general conformity (not on a certified scale.)
5. All market poultry classes will be judged on health, vigor, and market quality at the time of the show. The Danish System will be used. Any entry that is judged “no ribbon” in conformation classes by the official judge will not be sold during the meat animal auction and said animals will remain the property of the exhibitor.
6. Exhibitors must show their own animals unless excused by livestock committee for illness.
7. After the show on Saturday, August 1st, eligible project birds (4 total) will be transported for processing at HLW Acres. Participants will be responsible for making processing and transportation arrangements for additional birds. Keep in mind that during transport and processing bruises or prior wing damage may be discovered. These issues are sometimes undetectable before feathers are removed. The two additional broilers will be substituted in to make salable lots if needed.
8. **Participants are eligible to enter, exhibit, and sell one (1) pen of broilers. A pen will consist of two broilers.** For the show, we are asking each exhibitor to bring two additional show-ready broilers as backups. One of those broilers can be used for showmanship but they will not be judged on conformation. All four broilers will be sent for processing at HLW Acres. Exhibitors will not be charged for the processing of the two extra broilers.
9. **The two additional broilers that are processed will be donated for local food distribution programs.** This adds a great community service portion to this 4-H project. The initial cost of the two chicks will be covered. Members will supply feed and housing.
10. A sale lot will consist of 2 processed 4-H market chickens (approximately 8 weeks of age.) They will be packaged individually, frozen, and paired by lots in coolers for buyers to pick up at the auction. Processed weights will be available to the buyers for information only.

11. All eligible entries/lots must be sold during the Meat Animal Auction at the Wyoming County Fair on Wednesday, August 19th. Appropriate clothing is required for the auction; show attire with proper footwear.
12. Auction order for Market Poultry will be Champion Market Pair, Reserve Champion Market Pair, Champion Broiler Showperson, Reserve Champion Showperson, Lottery drawing numbers chosen during show.