

General Rules for Livestock Species (Beef, Sheep, Swine):

1. In order to exhibit livestock, a youth (exhibitor) must be a member, by April 1 of the exhibit year, of a La Crosse County 4-H, FFA, FHA, Scouting program, La Crosse County junior livestock breed association or any other recognized La Crosse County youth organization under adult leadership with an educational program approved by the local fair. Exhibitor must have beef, sheep or swine as a project. If the exhibitor is showing as a 4-H member, they must be in grades 3-13 during the exhibit year. If they are showing as an FFA member, as a member of a junior livestock breed association or other recognized youth organization, they must be between the ages of 8-19 on January 1 of the exhibit year. Proof of membership will be requested.

2. Market Animal Identification and Weighing procedures:

- a. Market lambs, market hogs and steers will be identified with an ear tag provided by the La Crosse Interstate Fair Junior Livestock Committee or by the Wisconsin State Fair.
- b. Market animals not identified by either a La Crosse Interstate Fair or Wisconsin State Fair ear tag are not eligible to show at the fair.
- c. All market lambs (wether or ewe) must have a Scrapie tag from the farm of origin at Spring identification/weigh-in.
- d. All steers and market lambs will be identified and weighed during the initial Spring weigh-in date designated by the superintendents, at specified locations, on scales operated by project leaders, Junior Livestock Committee officers, or other approved personnel.
- e. All market hogs will be identified during the initial Spring identification date designated by the superintendents at specified a specified place with identification taking place by project leaders, Junior Livestock Committee officers or other approved personnel. Swine must be ear-notched prior to the Spring identification date. Swine are not weighed during Spring identification.
- f. Designated Wisconsin State Fair identification/weigh-in dates may be substituted for the county's initial Spring identification/weigh-in for steers, market lambs and market hogs. If the youth chooses to use state fair identification/weigh-in information instead of the county identification/weigh-in, it is the responsibility of the youth to submit copies of the state fair paperwork to the La Crosse County extension office **within 14 calendar days** of the state fair identification/weigh-in. Failure to submit a copy of the paperwork will result in the animal NOT being eligible to show at the La Crosse Interstate Fair.
- g. If a market animal loses a La Crosse Interstate Fair ear tag, the youth must contact the La Crosse County Extension Office immediately for a replacement.
- h. Death of market animal: In the event that a market animal dies after it has been identified, the youth may replace the animal within 30 days of the Spring identification/weigh-in date. Replacement

animal must have already been identified during the Spring identification/weigh-in. Contact the La Crosse County Extension Office immediately in the event of animal death.

3. During Spring identification/weigh-in, animals can be entered using an individual exhibitor name or a family name for beef, sheep, and swine. Only members of the immediate family (siblings, step-siblings or legal guardianship) may be included under the family entry. All eligible exhibitors' names must be listed on identification/weigh-in sheets. **Animals cannot be cross-identified in non-immediate family members' names.** During fair weigh-in, the exhibitor of the animal must be declared at scale.
4. Breed of market animal must be declared by the youth or by the family during Spring identification/weigh-in. Breed declared during Spring identification/weigh-in cannot be changed and will be used to determine fair livestock show classes.
5. Purebred Breeding Livestock: At final weigh-in during the fair, exhibitor must have certificate of registration from appropriate breed association for all breeding stock (intact males and females) shown as purebred. Tattoos or ear notches will be read and checked against registration papers. Tattoos and ear notches must be legible. Check with department superintendent for time when breeding stock registrations will be reviewed.
6. Managerial Livestock Projects: A managerial project is a breeding animal (intact male or female) that is under the supervision and daily care of, but not owned by, the exhibitor. An exhibitor will be limited to showing two (2) managerial breeding animals. A formal written agreement, provided by the Livestock Committee, between the animal owner and the animal exhibitor, outlining the responsibilities/obligations of each party, is required. The completed agreement must be submitted at animal check-in during the fair.
7. Animal Health: See Wisconsin County, District & State Fairs Animal Health Rules and Regulations and Market Animal Health Rules listed in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Premium List. Rules are also included at the end of this document.
8. Livestock Species standards:
 - steers showing signs of bulliness will not be permitted to show
 - prolapsed lambs will not be permitted to show
 - barrows, wethers, or steers not properly castrated will not be permitted to show
 - any animals with warts or active ringworm will not be permitted to show.
 - market lambs or breeding sheep with sore mouth will not be permitted to show
9. All steers are subject to age inspection and will be mouthed during fair weigh-in to meet age requirements. Steers must have all 8 temporary center incisors in

place and no permanent teeth. Steers will be veterinary inspected with expenses paid by Junior Livestock Committee.

Typical mouth of calf at various ages:

18 months-calf has 8 temporary incisors

22 months-Two temporary incisors lost and being replaced by permanent teeth

26 months-Two permanent incisors in place. Permanent incisors are about 3 times the size of temporary incisors. This calf would not be allowed to show. If you are not positive of your calf's age, check its teeth before coming to show. See diagrams included in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Premium List.

10. Market Animal Drug History Form: All exhibitors exhibiting animals in any market animal class are required to complete a Market Animal Drug History form for each animal shown. Exhibitors and their parents or guardians must sign the Market Animal Drug History form attesting to proper withdrawal of all additives and injections administered to the animals being shown. Forms are available from the department superintendent. Each department superintendent will determine the deadline for submission of market animal drug history forms.

11. La Crosse Interstate Fair Weigh-in for all species will be held on Wednesday of the fair. Market lambs will be weighed between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. Market Hogs will be weighed between 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Steers will be weighed between 5:30-7:00 pm. Also, Tuesday of the fair between 7:00pm-9:00pm is tentatively scheduled to weigh market hogs. Times are subject to change. Confirm time with the department superintendent.

12. Livestock exhibits must be shown by the exhibitor unless special arrangements are made with the superintendent prior to the beginning of the show. If the exhibitor has more than one animal in a class, the additional animal must be shown in the ring by an eligible exhibitor participating in the fair.

13. Livestock exhibitors must wear exhibitor numbers distributed by the department superintendent of each species during the livestock show.

14. During the fair, it is the individual youth exhibitor's responsibility to prepare his/her exhibit for show/exhibition. The youth exhibitor may be assisted with the preparation of his/her livestock exhibit by his/her 4-H/FFA project leader, and/or another La Crosse County youth exhibitor, and/or family members (parents, step-parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, step-siblings, legal guardian).

15. Animals in showmanship classes are to be shown by the exhibitor who entered the animal. During showmanship classes, judging is based on the youth's ability to fit and show his/her animal to its best advantage. Adult assistance may only be provided to secure and return a "run away" animal to the exhibitor, with this assistance preferably being provided by show personnel.

16. Showmanship classes are as follows:

Junior, grades 3-6

Intermediate, grades 7-9

Senior, grades 10-13

Youth will participate in showmanship based upon the grade that they were in on January 1 of exhibit year. Showmanship order for all species begins with senior, then intermediate, and followed by junior. The superintendents may divide a showmanship class that is large into two or more approximately equal groups with each group judged as a class. Winners of divided classes will then be grouped together to compete for class champion.

17. Animals deemed uncontrollable and/or unsafe to exhibit by the department superintendents will be dismissed from the fairgrounds and premiums will be forfeited.

18. During the livestock show, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to be a courteous and safe showman by controlling their animal. If an animal gets away from an exhibitor two or more times during the show, the exhibitor may be asked to leave the show ring by the judge or by the department superintendent. If asked to leave the ring, the animal will be placed last in the class.

19. If an exhibitor shows disrespect, either verbal or physical, to judges, superintendents, parents or livestock show personnel, he/she shall be subject to review by the department superintendent and the Junior Livestock Committee officers. If behavior is found to be inappropriate, the exhibitor will forfeit all premiums and may not be eligible to show and/or sell an animal in the auction.

20. Exhibitors of livestock must have their entries clean and orderly by 9:00 am each day of the fair. Livestock superintendents will periodically check barn area to ensure acceptable appearance.

21. All entries are exhibited at the exhibitor's own risk. The La Crosse County Agricultural Society, the La Crosse Interstate Fair and the Junior Livestock Committee will take every reasonable precaution but will not be responsible for damages, loss or theft.

22. All livestock exhibitors are required to furnish feed and water for their animals. Any exhibitor who does not properly care for their livestock at the fair will have necessary costs deducted from their premiums and will be asked to remove their animal from the fairgrounds by the superintendent.

23. Rate of Gain Contest: Rate of gain will be calculated for beef and sheep using the total number of days from spring weigh-in (either county or State Fair) to final fair weigh-in. Dates used to calculate rate of gain are inclusive. Rate of

gain is not calculated for swine. See special awards section for species rate of gain awards.

24. Carcass Contest: The carcass contest includes only auction animals shipped to Holmen Locker, Craig's Meats or Foss Fine Meats. On Tuesday evening following the fair, a carcass evaluation educational session will be held; all exhibitors are encouraged to attend. See special awards section for carcass awards.

25. Exhibitors having stalling space assigned them will not be allowed to change to another position without first obtaining consent of the Superintendent of that department. Only those animals shown may be kept in stalls on the fairgrounds.

26. Livestock exhibits, except steers shipped to market at 5:00 pm on Sunday, will not be removed before 6 pm on Sunday of the fair.

27. Shipping of auction and non-auction animals: Each market animal will be issued a livestock shipping document by the Junior Livestock Committee. Pertinent ownership information will be included on the shipping document as the animal passes through the scale. The committee will use this document to schedule trucking of auction and non-auction animals. Animals not in the auction, but trucked to slaughter by the Junior Livestock Committee, will be charged \$10 per animal (beef, sheep, swine). The animals to be trucked by the Junior Livestock Committee must be declared by the youth or parent/guardian and fees must be paid to the committee **no later than noon on Sunday** of the fair or animals cannot be hauled. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to report to the auction committee how each non-auction animal will be trucked: Equity Livestock, a local meat processing plant or taken home.

28. Herdsmanship is encouraged through herdsman awards as determined by the La Crosse Interstate Fair premium list.

29. All problems are to be reported to the department superintendents. Any emergency not provided by these rules shall be referred to the superintendents and their decision shall be final.

30. Liability: All livestock shall be at the risk and responsibility of the exhibitor. The liability statement listed in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Premium List is included below:

The Agricultural Society is not liable for injuries sustained by any exhibitor. The Agricultural Society will take reasonable precaution to protect the safety of the exhibits at the fair, but owners themselves take the risk of exhibiting them, and should any exhibit or portion thereof be injured, damaged, lost or stolen, the Agricultural Society will give assistance toward recovery of the same, but not be liable to make any payment for the value thereof. Exhibitors or owners of animals and/or machinery, while stationary or in motion, and any other exhibits or

equipment which may cause accidents, injury or damage to persons or animals or property coming in contact with or in proximity to them, shall guard their exhibits or machinery and protect the public from coming in contact therewith at all times while on the fairgrounds.

31. Ethics: The ethics statement listed in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Premium List is included below:

Tampering, and/or inhumane treatment, and/or misrepresentation as to breeding, age, ownership and any other irregularity in showing will be considered fraud and deception. To maintain a high degree of confidence and integrity in the livestock shows, the La Crosse County Agricultural Society reserves the right to disqualify any animal fitted in an unethical manner and disqualify the exhibitor. Unethical fitting shall include any injection of gas, solid or liquid to alter the normal confirmation. In addition, it shall include any cutting or tearing of the hide, cutting or tearing underneath the hide or removal of tissue in any attempt to alter the shape or appearance. It shall also include attempts to disrupt or change normal dental development, dyeing or coloring hair, adding artificial tailheads, switches, polls, hair and heels, as well as any attempt to change the confirmation and degree of firmness by administration of fluids internally or externally in a liquid or solid state. The use of clenbuterol is prohibited. All exhibitors, their immediate family and any other parties involved in the unethical fitting and showing of an animal will be subject to award(s) and premium(s) forfeiture, which may include the forfeiture of auction proceeds; and/or dismissal from the fairgrounds; and/or being barred from competition immediately in the department in which the violation occurred and/or from all departments entered; and/or in future competition in the La Crosse Interstate Fair.