

Wood County 4-H Sheep Project Information



Helpful information for your sheep project.

The contents of this guide are meant to be just that, a **guide and may be subject to change without notice. Be vigilant about referencing the Wood County Fair website for the most up to date information regarding the fair.

Sheep Project Overview

There are two lamb projects that you can enroll in as a 4-H member. Here is a brief summary of each project:

4-H #	Title	Description
198	Market Lamb	Can be a wether or ewe. Can be of any meat breed or color.
199	Sheep Breeding	Can be of any breed, female, or intact male, and must be registered in the name of the exhibitor or in partnership.

Project Literature

You will need the following project materials for your sheep project:

- **Sheep Project Handbook** (\$18) - Designed to be used for all years of your lamb projects.
- **Sheep Project and Record Book OR Sheep Breeding Project and Record Book** (\$8) - Obtain and keep for the resource information it contains. Note: do not use for your annual record keeping (with the exception of the first year).
- **Wood County Livestock Project Record Book** (free) - Download this document and use as your Record book for your project. You may also purchase one from the Extension Office for \$4. Obtain a new one each year. *You will need to bring this completed document to 4-H Project Interview Judging.

In Summary: Obtain the first two books listed above and keep and use them for all years you are taking a Sheep Project. Each year, download a new Livestock Record book and use it to keep your annual project records.

**Note to those with Food Animal (Market) Projects: as a food animal producer you are required, by law, to keep a record of any treatments, medications, drugs, etc. that are used for the health of your animal. Use the Treatment Record within your Wood County Livestock Record Book to keep this information.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR 4-H PARTICIPATION: * = Mandatory

Activity	Due Date	Location	Reference Page # (in this guide)
*Enroll in 4-H	No later than March 15	https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in	2
*4-H Project Interview Judging	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	2
Skill-a-thon	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	3

Activities that will take place prior to the Wood County Fair

The following 4-H activities are described below.

4-H Enrollment

Membership requires enrollment in an authorized Ohio 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. Your 4-H club Advisor will assist you with the online enrollment process. Joining Ohio 4-H is a privilege and responsibility for individuals and is subject to the Ohio 4-H Code of Conduct and applicable policies of The Ohio State University. Members must remain in good standing with their 4-H club, meaning attending a minimum of five meetings, completing a demonstration, fully participating, etc.

Project Interview

Project judging is an exciting time to showcase your hard work spent on your 4-H project. Our judges love talking with you and learning about your project. Please be patient and understand if a judge is running behind. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Project Interview Judging Hints

- Arrive at the Junior Fair Building with your project book and record books. Remember to wear nice attire to judging. See Dress Code below.
- Check in at the registration desk.
- Complete the top of a judging interview sheet. Be prepared to talk about your project, know what you did, how you did it, and what you learned. Be proud of your accomplishments! You worked hard. Have a seat, talk to friends, and RELAX!
- If you are unable to attend the specified project interview judging day in July at the Junior Fair Building, your advisor may judge the project and provide a grade to the Extension Office by the required date.
- *Please note* To be eligible for awards (1st, 2nd, 3rd, honorable mention, and premier livestock interviewer) you must be judged on the day your project is assigned at the Junior Fair Building.



Dress Code Rule for All Junior Fair Exhibitors

The Junior Fair Dress Code is in effect for Interview Judging Days and Livestock Shows.

- Livestock Interview Judging and Livestock Shows: exhibitors must wear a collared polo or buttoned shirt with some sleeve and nice blue jeans (no rips or cut-offs and no tank-tops, t-shirts, or sleeveless tops).
- **Consequences for not following this rule may include class disqualification, or no interview until wardrobe is changed. This rule was adopted by the 4-H Committee and Junior Fair Board.

Skill-a-thon

This is where you have the chance to shine as an exhibitor. This is a contest to show who knows the most about their species. You will study various topics on sheep and then at 4-H Project Interview Judging, you will go into the skill-a-thon and answer the questions they pose for you. There are two levels: juniors (8-13 years old) and seniors (14-18 years old.) The exhibitors with the highest scores can earn ribbons and then have a chance to earn cash prizes.

- The Sheep Skill-a-thon is an activity that takes place prior to fair, at 4-H Project Interview Judging. It is a series of stations on topics you are learning about in your sheep project. The goal of the Skill-a-thon is to facilitate learning about your sheep project. It is not *expected*, but *highly encouraged* that you participate in the Sheep Skill-a-thon.
- A Sheep Skill-a-thon Study Guide is available to assist your learning. The Study Guide can be found on the Wood County 4-H web site:
https://wood.osu.edu/sites/wood/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/skillathon/sheepskillstudy17.pdf
- Online practice quizzes:
<https://wood.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/livestock-information/animal-science-virtual-learning-lab>
- Additional information for the skill-a-thon can be found in your Sheep Resource Handbook.
- Prizes are awarded to exhibitors who perform well in the Skill-a-thon. Prizes typically include cash and rosettes which are handed out at 4-H Spirit Night in October.

Congratulations on the successful completion of your project!**Basics For Your Sheep Project**

- Your 4-H Advisor and/or Extension Office can provide a list of possible sources of animals. It is highly advisable to seek out a reputable breeder to obtain your project animal. A good breeder wants you to be successful with your project and with the animal(s) they are offering. It is not advisable to look toward sale barns (stockyards) for project animals as you will not know the breed, health status or anything else about the animal you are getting. Again, do not buy a lamb from ANY source that does not have a Scrapie tag in its ear (it is federal law for the breeder to apply this tag).



- Seek out an animal that has been born in the range of January 1 – February 15 of the current year.
- For market lambs: it is important to choose an animal of the correct size and growth potential so that it can meet the suggested weight range to show at the Wood County Fair (95- 145 pounds). You will want to select a meat breed lamb for a market project. For breeding sheep, you will want to choose an animal that fits your project goals. If you want to show your animal, you will want to make sure there is a class offered for the animal you are considering.
- When selecting market animals:
 - Look for a lamb that is square on their legs, straight (not sway) backed, wide chested, front legs set squarely down from their shoulder and wide in rear leg set.
 - Check birth date but also consider other factors such as genetics, nutrition, exercise, etc. Example: a single kid with a good milking ewe (mother) will grow much faster than a triplet that is getting limited nutrition.
- A rule of thumb is that a lamb will gain about 1/2 of pound per day or 15 pounds per month. However, this is largely influenced by type and quality of feed and other factors. (This is a rough estimate that can be influenced by many factors.)
- Check for lice and mites when getting your lamb and treat if needed to keep the wool/hair quality of your animal favorable.
- A healthy lamb should be alert, curious and move easily. Avoid a lamb that stands in the corner, is hunched up as it stands, drooped, or moves lethargically.

Housing

- Provide some type of shelter to keep lambs out of the elements. Ventilation is key for keeping them healthy in the summer, but you also want to have protection from wind, rain, and sun.
- You will want a pen that provides room for exercise but is not so big that the lambs are difficult to catch. 6' x 6' would be adequate, 10' x 10' would be ideal. Your lambs do not “need” to be on grass or pasture. In fact, it is easier to control feed intake and keep them free of parasites if they are not on grass.
- Bedding: straw or shavings. Shavings work better to manage the size of their belly for show, as the lambs will not eat the shavings as much. Clean pens regularly. Wet, dirty bedding is not ideal.

Feeding

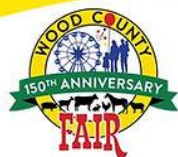
- You will need a water bucket and one feeder per lamb. Water needs to be changed out multiple times per day. Clean the feeders out after every feeding. Lambs will not eat old, dirty feed.
- There are many types of quality show feeds available locally. Talk to your breeder to see what they recommend. Freshness is particularly important. Lambs will eat 3-4% of their body weight per day. A good place to start is one pound of feed, twice a day for each lamb. Market lambs only need a small handful of hay 1-2 times per day.
- Weigh them periodically! Don't wait until a week before the fair to find out you're not meeting weight. Drastic changes in diet to meet weight can cause sickness and lambs to stop eating.



Health Care

- It is your responsibility as an animal owner and/or food animal producer to establish a relationship with a veterinarian, to help with health care decisions for your animal. Your 4-H Advisor and/or Extension Office may be able to provide suggestions about veterinarians in the area that provide services for sheep. You can also seek suggestions from other sheep owners.
- Do NOT seek animal medical advice from farm store clerks, neighbors, other sheep owners, breeders, etc. Experienced sheep owners may be able to guide you in many areas, but if your animal needs veterinary care; it is your responsibility to provide proper care for that animal.





IMPORTANT DATES FOR FAIR PARTICIPATION: * = mandatory

Activity	Due Date	Location	Reference Page # (in this guide)
*Enroll in 4-H	No later than March 15	https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in	2
*4-H Project Interview Judging	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	2
*Own Animal	Market – end of April Breeding - June 1		6
*Quality Assurance	No later than June 1	With 4-H Advisor or at a county training	7
*Register with Fair	Market – April 24 Breeding – June 1	FairEntry online website See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	11
Sign-up for Showmanship	No later than June 1	FairEntry online website See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	7
Turn in Drug Use Notification Form	Fair Weigh-In (for market animals only)	See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	12
*Barn Meeting			13
*Fair Weigh-In			13
*Animal Show			8-10, 13-14
Showmanship Show			14
*Clean Pen	Last day of fair	Wood County Fairgrounds	8

See WOOD COUNTY FAIR Website

Project Requirement for Exhibition at the Wood County Fair

Participation is an opportunity available to you because you are a 4-H member. Exhibition at the Wood County Fair is not mandatory to fulfill the commitments of taking your 4-H project, but it is highly recommended. If you are interested in exhibiting a lamb(s) at the Wood County Fair, you need to know and meet the exhibition requirements. Basic exhibition requirements include:

- You must be enrolled in 4-H (or FFA), no later than March 15th, in the project you want to exhibit.
- You must be a member in good standing of your 4-H Club, meaning attending a minimum of five meetings, completing a demonstration, fully participating, etc.
- You must own your animal(s) by the end of April (market) and June 1 (breeding sheep)
- **All sheep, of every kind, MUST have a Scrapie tag.** The breeder should have the scrapie tag in the lamb's ear before you take possession. (Do NOT buy a lamb without a Scrapie tag). This tag has a state premise ID-individual sheep number. Ex: OH 7884 0400



- For market lambs: you must participate annually in Livestock Quality Assurance Education, by the deadline of June 1st. This training is provided by your 4-H club advisor or the county extension agent.
- **New in 2023 Market Lambs: You must register (“tag In”) your lamb(s) online in FairEntry by the registration date of April 24 (prior to the April Weigh-In.) Failure to register by April 24 will disqualify you for the market show. You will be required to provide a photo of the scrapies tag in the animal’s ear and provide a photo of the front and back of the tag (clearly legible.) You will also need to provide photos showing the front and both sides of the animal to show its individual markings.**
- **The April Weigh-In is not mandatory unless the exhibitor would like to be eligible for the Rate of Gain award.**
- For breeding lambs: you must register your animals in FairEntry online (submit scrapie ID and photos) by the deadline of June 1.
- Sign up for all showmanship will be completed in FairEntry. There will be no sign up at the fair. (Due on June 1st.)
- For market lambs: complete a Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) online by the Fair Weigh-In
- Health requirements for the Sheep Department are found at the front of the fair book.
- The same animal cannot be entered and shown in both a market lamb class and breeding sheep class.
- Pen assignments will be determined by the sheep committee based on the number of entries made by exhibitors in FairEntry. Pen changes are prohibited, and pen gates cannot be removed.
- Exhibitors may use the bedding of their choice. Shavings are recommended. All pens must be bedded. Carpeting will be allowed only if the following conditions are met.
 - a) No excess carpet may stick past the edge of the pen in either the pedestrian aisle or the exhibitor’s aisle.
 - b) All carpet edges must be taped down to eliminate the problem of tripping over loose edges.
 - c) All carpet must have either straw or shavings under the carpet to absorb moisture and reduce odor.
 - d) All carpet must be removed from the pen at the conclusion of the fair and must be taken home.
- A mandatory barn meeting will be held in the arena immediately prior to the fair weigh-in to discuss the rules. Exhibitors will be held responsible for any information communicated at the barn meeting.
- If a project lamb dies, is injured or unable to show, an identified substitute lamb may be shown in its place. This substitute animal must be tagged prior to the fair. Contact the Department Superintendent in the event this happens. No substitute animal will show in any of the champion classes, but it may be used for showmanship.
- All lambs must have water provided to them continuously at all times. A pink slip will be issued as a warning. A second pink slip will result in disqualification of championship for all lambs in specified pen.



- Special Showing & Grooming Guidelines: Special note to Junior Fair Guidelines: No physical tampering of animal or misconduct by the exhibitor or any individual inside or outside of the showing will be tolerated. The use of muzzles on lambs is prohibited while on the Wood County Fairgrounds. The use of artificial coloring, painting, or changing the breed qualities of a lamb shall be considered fraud and deception and will not be permitted at the Wood County Fair.
- Exhibitors must comply with Chapter 901-19 of the Administrative Code (Ohio Livestock Tampering Exhibition Rules), specifically 901-19-12 and 901-19-13, the Acceptable Practices and Unacceptable Practices. All towels and blankets must be removed from the animal and remain off during the time period from 15 minutes prior to the show to the end of the show. Drenching is prohibited. Drenching is defined as “the act of using an instrument (including a bottle, syringe, scoop, or your hand) placed in the animal’s mouth to orally administer a liquid, food, or any other substance.”
- All sheep must be shown clean and DRY.
- When sheep are being handled by the judge, all 4 feet of the animal must remain on the ground. A pink slip will be issued as a first warning. Second slip is disqualification for that animal.
- All showmanship divisions will be determined by age of the showman. The divisions are 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, and 16-18-year old (as of January 1st). Divisions 14-15 and 16-18 year old winners will show off for the sheep representative in Showmanship Sweepstakes and for the live sale participation. The division of 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13 will show off for the overall junior winner for live sale participation. All exhibitors must show their own sheep in showmanship, and they must show the same animal for the entirety of the showmanship contest. If an exhibitor gets called back for the final drive, he/she must show the same animal that was shown in the qualifying class. Plaques will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place showmen, and rosettes for 4th and 5th places in each age category.
- All sheep exhibitors must clean their pens in order to receive their fair premium. This also includes Champion pens.
- The Wood County Agricultural Society shall have the right to require any animal be subject to examination or tests to determine if a substance has been administered to the animal to change the conformation or temperament of the animal.

At the Wood County Fair there are several different classes in which you can exhibit your lambs.

Market Lamb Classes

- **New in 2023 Market Lambs: You must register (“tag In”) your lamb(s) online in FairEntry by the registration date of April 24 (prior to the April Weigh-In.) Failure to register by April 24 will disqualify you for the market show. You will be required to provide a photo of the Scrapies tag in the animal’s ear and provide a photo of the front and back of the tag (clearly legible.) You will also need to provide photos showing the front and both sides of the animal to show its individual markings.**
- **The April Weigh-In is not mandatory unless the exhibitor would like to be eligible for the Rate of Gain award.**
- Market lamb exhibitors may show up to three single market lambs.



- All market lambs must be identified with the breeder provided Scrapie tag to exhibit at the Wood County Fair. Exhibitors may identify one more lamb than they intend to show. Lambs must be 80 pounds or under at the April weigh-in to be eligible for Rate of Gain awards at the fair. Ram lambs will not be identified. All lambs will be weighed.
- Market lambs should be at a suggested weight between 95-145 pounds to show.
- The Wood County Fair is a slick sheared market lamb show. All lambs must be slick shorn within a week of the fair with a 13-tooth comb or less and washed by weigh-in time. Head wool is allowed at weigh-in. Lambs will be allowed leg wool from the knees and hocks down. Belly and flank wool must be completely shorn and equal to the length of wool on the body at the time of the show. Belly and flank wool will be monitored prior to selection of champion. Lambs will move up in a class if eliminated for belly or flank wool not equal to the length of the wool on the body.
- At fair weigh-in, exhibitors must identify which lambs will be going through the sale, Fair board truck, or home. If the lamb proceeds to the championship round, the exhibitor risks a mandatory sale if selected Grand or Reserve Champion. All sale decisions are final at the completion of weigh-in.
- All Grand & Reserve Champion Market Lambs must be sold through the Junior Fair Sale and not be returned home for breeding purposes or go to other shows. They will be slaughtered at a place determined by the Fair board.
- All lambs must have an average daily gain of .30 lbs. from April weigh-in to fair weigh-in. If gain requirement is not met, all class placings for that lamb will be given to the next showman, and the lamb will be ineligible for the championship drive.
- Market lambs will be shown by weight within each breed characteristic division. Breed characteristic divisions will be determined as follows: White Face, White Face Cross, Black Face (includes purebred and crossbreds), Natural Colored, and All Other Breeds. Champion, reserve champion, and top five lambs will be placed in each breed characteristic division. Top five lambs of each breed characteristic division need to be available to show in the Champion Drive for selection of overall grand champion market lamb, reserve champion market lamb, and top five overall market lambs. Only the overall grand champion and reserve champion market lambs are required to be terminal at the Wood County Fair Market Lamb competition. Signs will be posted to show the different classes. If two animals belonging to the same exhibitor fall into the same weight class, the exhibitor has the option to shift the heavier animal to the next higher weight class or select another Wood County Junior Fair exhibitor to show their animal in the same class.
- During the market lamb show, all market lambs must be within the designated exhibitor preparation space. Specific region will be announced at the sheep barn meeting and posted at the fair.

Market Lamb – Rate of Gain Contest

- One exhibitor may enter up to four market lambs of which only three may be entered in the Wood County Fair. Lambs must be a part of the exhibitor's project and entered in Section A.
- Final weighing will be made at the Wood County Fair.



- Ten exhibitors will be awarded prizes for Rate of Gain, by final calculation determined after weigh-in at the fair. Exhibitors are responsible for their sheep. The committee cannot be held responsible for any loss derived through this program.
- Weigh-in of Rate of Gain Lambs is Saturday, April 29 (8:00-10:00am). **The April Weigh-In is not mandatory unless the exhibitor would like to be eligible for the Rate of Gain award.**
- All animals must have weighed 80 lbs. and under at the April weigh-in.
- Only one award will be given to any individual.

County Born and Raised Market Lamb Contest

- Only lambs born and raised in Wood County will be eligible for the contest.
- Exhibitors must identify which lambs (if any) are eligible to participate in the show with breeder papers uploaded in FairEntry.
- Awards will be given to a Champion and Reserve Champion for this contest.

Breeding Sheep Classes

- Possession date/ownership date/registration transfer date for all junior fair breeding sheep is June 1st.
- All Junior Breeding Sheep registration papers for all breeding animals will be checked following the market lamb weigh-in at the fair. Purebred breeding animals must be registered in the exhibitor's name (or name specifically included on family farm name). Any breeding animal that does not have proper registration papers will be entered in the crossbred class.
- A maximum of two animals can be shown per class for breeding sheep projects. For each breeding animal entered in each class on the Junior Fair entry form, an alternate animal may be listed for that class.
- The Junior Flock class will consist of three animals: two ewes and a ram (either yearling, lamb, or combination). Animals must be the same breed and part of the fair member's exhibit.
- Purebred breeding animals will not compete against Crossbred breeding animals in any classes.
- A new breed of purebred sheep will be recognized as a separate breeding section only after that breed has shown in all other purebred breeds for 1 year. If a purebred section does not show for two years, such section will be dropped.

Additional information for Breeding sheep:

- Must have a scrapie tag (will be checked by USDA)
- Shown by age, not weight, and are not weighed in.
- Sheep may be horned.
- Breeding sheep will be retained by the showmen and not sold through the Junior Fair Sale.



Wood County Fair Sheep Classes

Section A - Market Lamb- Single Section

B-L Purebred Breeding

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| B – Babydoll Southdown | I - Southdown |
| C – Border Leicester | J- Suffolk |
| D– Border Leicester Natural Colored | K - Tunis |
| E – Hampshire | L – All Other Purebred Breeds |
| F - Katahdin | |
| G - Romney | |
| H – Romney Natural Colored | |

Section M - Crossbred Breeding

Breeding Classes (for Sections B-M):

1. Ram 1 year old and under 2 (yearling ram)
2. Ram Lamb
3. Ewe 1 year old and under 2 (yearling ewe)
4. Ewe Lamb 5. Jr. Flock

Wood County 4-H Make It Yourself with Wool Contest

Sponsored By: The Brinker Family

CATEGORIES & PRIZES:

A. Junior: 9-13 years of age 1st \$25.00; 2nd \$15.00; 3rd \$10.00

B. Senior: 14-18 years of age 1st \$25.00; 2nd \$15.00; 3rd \$10.00 (age as of January 1 of the current year)

- Entries may be made as a current year 4-H project.
- Entries may be dresses, coats, suits or complete outfits for seniors, jumpers, skirts, dresses, pants, vest, sweaters, jackets, or shirts for juniors
- Fabric Choice: Garments must be made from loomed, knitted, or felted fabrics or yarn of 100% wool or a minimum of 60% wool and no more than 40% synthetic fiber or specialty fibers designated include, mohair cashmere, alpaca, camel, llama, or vicuna. Fur is not considered wool and cannot be used for more than 40% of fabric.
- Fiber swatches must have 60% wool content.
- Judging will be at the Wood County 4-H Clothing Interview Judging in July.
- Results will be announced at in the overall 4-H judging press release.
- Monetary awards will be given.
- Winners are encouraged to participate in the state” Make It Yourself with Wool” Contest.

4-H Make It Yourself with Wool Entry Form (In addition to judging interview form)

Name:

Address:

Manufacturer #1 of fabric (% Wool % Other Fiber):

If more than one fabric list more:

Manufacturer #2 of fabric:

Pattern Company _____ Pattern Number _____

Make of sewing machine used:



Make of serger used:

Purchased fabric/yard at: (Store Name & Store Address)

Return to: OSU Extension, Wood County 639 S. Dunbridge Rd., Suite 1 Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Fair Entries and Fair Rules

Each exhibitor is responsible for creating a fair entry for every animal that you plan to bring to the fair. Registering in 4-H Online does not register you for fair. You register for fair in the FairEntry online program (with instruction from the Junior Fair Coordinator) by April 24th for market lambs and June 1 for breeding lambs. Instruction on this will likely take place at one of your club meetings (another reason it is especially important to attend meetings). Your Advisor will be able to answer questions about the FairEntry process.

When you choose to become a Junior Fair Exhibitor; you are responsible for knowing the general fair rules and the department rules for the project you are exhibiting. These can be found on the Wood Fair website or in the Fair Book under Junior Fair Rules, Sheep.

You should also be familiar with Ohio Revised Code Sections 901.70, 901.71, 901.72, 901.73, 901.74, 901.75, 901.76, 901.99 and 2925.94. These govern all livestock shows in the state of Ohio.

It is important to note that at the fair, the only people permitted to care for, fit, clip, or groom your animal are your immediate family members, 4-H advisors, or other members of your club and assistance is limited to explanation and minimal demonstration (ORC 901.19.31).

Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF)

If you are exhibiting a market animal you are required, by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) to submit a DUNF immediately prior to the fair. This form requires you to declare the use of any medication that has been given to your animal. An online link will be sent to you by email to use for completing your form. You are not eligible to exhibit a market animal until this form is submitted to ODA.

Training Your Lamb to Show

- You will need a halter for each lamb.
- Start by putting a halter on your lamb and tying them up in their pen. Keep them tied for 20-30 minutes at first, then work up to an hour. NEVER leave your lamb unattended while tied.
- After they get used to standing while tied, you can start leading them. Do not pull hard or battle them to lead. Lambs are very stubborn. Walk beside or behind them at first. Patience pays off. After the lamb is comfortable walking with the halter, start leading them without a halter. Take them on short walks daily. Practice stopping and setting their legs as you would in the show ring occasionally. The earlier you start training your lamb to lead, the better. It is best if you start about a week after you get your project home.
- If you have a grooming stand (highly recommended), it can be beneficial for the lamb to practice standing with their legs set in place and their head up to prepare for the show ring.



- Establish a routine of walking and showmanship practice daily. Even if you are short on time 15 minutes of practice can make a dramatic difference.

Preparing Your Lamb to Show

- Lambs should be kept rough shorn throughout the summer to help with feed intake and monitoring body condition.
- You will want to show clip your lamb within 5 days prior to show day. The lamb needs to be clean and just slightly damp before you start to clip. You will want to clip all the wool above the knee and hock, including the head. Leave the hair below the knee and hock on the lower part of the leg. Prepare early so you have what you need when the time comes.
- Trim their hooves 5-7 days prior to show day, and also throughout the duration of the project. Hooves in poor condition can lead to other feet and leg issues. Take care to not trim their hooves too close.
- On show day, you will want to have your lamb freshly washed and clean. Dawn dish soap works fine. Take your time to make sure you have cleaned everywhere, scrub the hooves, ear tag, etc. The details matter. Be careful to not get water in the ears.

What to Pack for Fair

- Feed and feed pans
- Water bucket – suggestion: 5-gallon bucket inside of a milk crate to prevent spills or hook water bucket handle to gate with carabiner
- Halters
- Bedding (shavings are recommended)
- Lamb Fitting Stand (optional)
- Blower (optional) – suggestion: Shammy works great to dry sheep
- Hose and spray nozzle
- Show box or plastic tote to store feed and supplies
- Show clothing per dress code

Activities that will take place at the Fair

The following fair related activities are described below: Arrival/departure, Barn Meeting, Weigh-in, Classes Posted, Showmanship and Show, Junior Fair Sale.

- **Arrival & Departure**
 - Check the Fair Schedule and/or ask your Advisor to confirm the window of time you must arrive with your animal to the Fairgrounds. Upon arrival, find your assigned pen and unload your lambs efficiently so as not to create a line. There are Barn Superintendents in the barn on arrival day to answer questions.
 - If you are not going to sell your lamb through the Junior Fair Livestock Sale; check the time that animals are released at the end of fair week; meaning this is the time you can reload and take your animal home.
- **Barn Meeting**



- Check the Fair Schedule for the time of the Barn Meeting. This meeting is typically Saturday (the day before the start of the fair) in the afternoon and prior to fair weigh-in.
- **Weigh-In**
 - Only market animals are weighed.
 - Weigh-In will take place on Saturday (the day before the start of the fair). Check the Fair Schedule, and listen at the Barn meeting, for the weigh-in time for market lambs. You MUST bring your lamb(s) to the scales at the correct time to be eligible to show.
 - There will be Barn Superintendents in the Barn to direct and help you get to the scales, but you or your representative MUST be present to get your lamb(s) weighed.
- **Classes Posted**
 - Once all lambs are weighed, classes will be created by dividing the lambs in approximately equal size classes based on their weights. These classes will be posted on the Sheep Barn bulletin board. It is your responsibility to review the class posting for accuracy. Check to see that the weight is correct. If you have questions about the class posting, contact the Junior Fair Coordinator immediately for assistance.
- **Showmanship and Show Classes**

There are three different types of classes within the Sheep Show:

 1. **Showmanship Classes** - in these classes the Judge is evaluating the showmanship skills of the Exhibitor (you!). These classes are divided by the age of the exhibitor. These classes will be posted in the Sheep Barn. Check the posting for accuracy. You must sign-up to compete in showmanship when you make your fair entry (by the June 1st deadline.) If there is an error on the class listing or if you need to drop from Showmanship, notify the Junior Fair Coordinator immediately. Participation in your Showmanship class is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.
 2. **Breeding Sheep Classes** - each breeding class that has an entry will be part of the show. The Breeding Sheep show will be Saturday of the fair.
 3. **Market Lamb Classes** - in these classes the Judge is evaluating the conformation of the lambs. These classes are divided by the weight of the lamb. Following weigh-in, these classes will be posted in the Sheep Barn. Check the posting to see which class you are in. It is required to participate in showing your lamb to be eligible for awards and to be eligible to sell your lamb in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.
 - The Sheep Show on Tuesday of the fair will begin with Showmanship Classes (oldest class of exhibitors first), followed by the market classes. Breeding classes will be shown on Saturday of the fair. Check the Barn Bulletin Board and listen for announcements on Show Day for any updates.

Champion Project Award Qualifications

- More details to come.



Junior Fair Livestock Sale

Make sure you are signed up for the online Livestock Showcase and Sale in FairEntry by June 1st. Refer to the sale section of Fair Book to ensure all steps have been completed.

Finishing Your Lamb Project

- When the project year is concluded its time to thank the people that have helped you with your project. It is a great idea to send thank you notes to:
 - The buyer of your animal if you participated in the Junior Fair Sale.
 - Your 4-H Advisors.
 - Other folks who helped you with your project (helped shear your lamb for example).
 - The sponsors of any awards, ribbons, banners, or other recognition you received.

The contents of this guide are meant to be just that, a **guide and may be subject to change without notice. Be vigilant about referencing the Wood County Fair website for the most up to date information regarding the fair.

<https://www.woodcounty-fair.com/>

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