

Tate County 4-H Livestock News

Senatobia, MS



AUGUST 2009

Livestock Info...

Ownership Deadline

All animals shown by juniors at the Mississippi State Fair must have been owned and cared for by the exhibitor by September 1st.

REMINDER: 4-H/FFA MEMBERS MUST BE ETHICS CERTIFIED TO SHOW LIVESTOCK

The Mississippi State Fair will be here soon and the Mississippi Livestock Quality Assurance training must be completed by September 1st. THIS TRAINING WILL BE OFFERED TO NEW EXHIBITORS, PARENTS, VOLUNTEERS, AND THOSE YOUTH GOING FROM A JUNIOR 4-H MEMBER TO A SENIOR 4-H MEMBER. The date for these trainings are set for August 20th and August 24th in our office at 6:30pm. Please call in to let us know if you will be attending.

Entries for the 2009 Mississippi State Fair

All beef breeding, commercial beef heifers, market goats, market lambs, market swine, market steers, dairy cattle, commercial meat goat does, and dairy goat and all showmanship entries must be turned in to our office by August 28th. Nomination forms may be picked up in our office.

Retinal imaging

All market steers, commercial beef heifers, market lambs, and market goats MUST BE retinal imaged and classified (except market goats) to show at the 2009 Mississippi State Fair and 2010 District and Dixie National Junior Round-Up Livestock Shows September 14th from 2:00pm — 5:00pm at the NW arena.

Showmanship

All exhibitors in beef, lambs, market goats, swine, and dairy wishing to show in showmanship at the 2009 Mississippi State Fair MUST PRE-REGISTER.

Beef Showmanship at the State Fair

Due to large classes in the past, contestants will be assigned into heats for each age class where necessary. Therefore, exhibitors must be pre-entered in Beef Showmanship. There will be only one beef showmanship contest. Judging will be on Sunday, October 11th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Any exhibitor showing a steer, commercial beef heifer, or registered beef animal is eligible to participate. Exhibitor must show their own animal in showmanship classes and the animal must be entered in the show. Exhibitors may show the cow of a cow/calf pair in showmanship; however, the calf cannot be brought into the show ring. In beef showmanship, animals should be clean and dry. Other grooming techniques such as waxing, oiling, boning, etc. are not required and are not recommended. The showmanship class that exhibitors will show in will be determined by their age as of December 31, 2008.

Swine Arriving at State Fair

Junior and senior swine cannot enter fairgrounds until 8:00 a.m. Sunday, October 11th. Deadline for arrival is 12:00 noon on Sunday, October 11th. This procedure is necessary due to allowing the barns to be cleaned following the lamb shows. However, junior swine exhibitors showing lambs may bring hogs in with their lambs with prior approval of show manager and provided space is available. (May have to pen hogs in horse barn adjacent to sheep barn.)

Passes for State Fair

Once we get an accurate count on exhibitors, we will order passes.

Bedding of Lambs, Goats and Hogs

A limited amount of shavings will be provided by the Mississippi State Fair for lambs, goats and hogs.

The 4-H Youth program is one of the oldest and largest informal educational efforts in public education in the United States.

The mission objectives of 4-H are to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society. These skills are much more than physical skills and are a combination of acting, thinking, and feeling. They help 4-H'ers function as adults in society and accept responsibilities, gain ability to communicate, inquire, solve problems, make decisions, and work with other people.

Junior livestock projects are educational projects and the type that enhance youth to achieve the 4-H objectives. There is probably no other 4-H activity that has more potential for educational and personal development of youth than junior livestock projects and shows.

The junior livestock program is a unique opportunity to use live animals to develop the youth. The main objectives of the program deal with the young person, not the animal. Youth do learn something about agriculture and livestock production and develop an appreciation for the livestock industry, but the main objectives are to teach life skills and help youth become productive citizens of our society. The experience of youth owning and working with animals, being responsible for their care, health, and growth, and exhibiting them in a competitive environment is a tremendous character building process.

Annually more than 7,000 youth participate in the major animal science projects of beef, dairy, sheep, swine, horse, dairy goats, meat goats, and meat science. In addition to the animal project work, related activities such as judging, meat judging and identification, premier exhibitor program, meats bowl, horse bowl, horse photography, horse art, horse hippology, horse public speaking, dairy bowl, and dairy products judging are included as part of the 4-H Animal Science Program and contribute to the personal development of youth.

Livestock Info Continued...

Exhibitor's Age

Remember that only youth who are 8-18 years of age are allowed to exhibit animals at the Fair. Exhibitors must be at least 8 years old before January 1st of the current year and must not have passed their 18th birthday before January 1st of the current year. Exhibitor age is determined by the exhibitor's age as of December 31st of the preceding year of the current show year in which the show is held (not necessarily age on show day).

Beef and Dairy Breeding Registration Papers

All registered beef and dairy breeding animals must be accompanied by original registration certificate showing that the animal is owned by the junior exhibitor. We need papers checked as soon as possible after you arrive at the show. Remember, that they will not accept papers in farm name, partnership, or other entity. Partnership between adults and junior exhibitors is not acceptable. Brothers and sisters may be listed as owners as long as both are not over 18 years of age.

Check Percentage of Blood for Beef Purebred Animals

Changes have been made in recent years on minimum percentage of blood to be eligible for showing for some beef breeds. Please read the rule concerning this in the Mississippi State Fair catalog.

Official Health Certificate

An Official Health Certificate with each animal identified will be required on all livestock showing at the 2009 Mississippi State Fair. This includes all market animals, beef breeding cattle, commercial beef heifers, commercial meat goat does, and dairy cattle (purebred and commercial dairy heifers). All Mississippi cattle are exempt from Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Tests.

Steers and Commercial Beef Heifers

Remember that commercial beef heifer's age will be determined by milk teeth. Commercial heifers that have lost the two center temporary incisor teeth (baby teeth), but have no visible permanent incisors are eligible to show. Also, commercial heifers and steers must be polled or dehorned to show (with no scurs or re-growth to exceed 1½ inches above the skin line). The minimum weight for commercial heifers is 500 pounds.

Tie Outs

No tie outs of cattle are permitted until 5:00 p.m. each night. Cattle should be back in their beds by 8:00 a.m. During the State Fair, a lot of people come through the cattle barns to view the animals and it does not look good if beds are empty because exhibitors have already tied out their cattle.

Signs

All 4-H and FFA exhibitors are encouraged to display signs over their animals identifying who the exhibitors are.

Unloading

Getting beef animals and lambs unloaded at the State Fair is always a problem. All livestock must enter the fairgrounds on Mississippi Street through GATE 14 as in the past. However, to try to help with unloading problems, all trucks and trailers will be routed toward the Coliseum. Hopefully, this will keep all vehicles with animals going in the same direction.

4-H Dairy Cattle Sweetheart, Dairy Goat Sweetheart, and Market Goat Princess

These contests will be Friday, October 16th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Expo Center. Entrants must own and exhibit one or more dairy animals or market goat in the Mississippi State Fair, Junior Dairy Cattle Show, the Open and Youth Dairy Goat Show, or the Market Goat Show. The office deadline for these contest are September 18th. Refer to the State Fair catalog for additional rules.

Livestock Info Continued...

Senior 4-H Livestock Judging Contest

The senior 4-H livestock judging contest will be held Saturday, October 10th, starting at 7:00 a.m. This contest will be held in conjunction with the FFA livestock judging contest. If there are youth that wants to judge in both contests, their scores will be used in both contests (4-H and FFA). All contestants in the 2009 4-H contest must be pre-registered in our office by September 18th. If you are interested in judging, we need to start practicing ASAP. The state winning 4-H livestock judging team will represent Mississippi at the national contest at the Western National in Denver, CO in January 2010.

Wheel Barrows

Please remember that you will need a wheel barrow to transport animal waste to collection sites.

Market Goats

Goats may be shown that are polled, dehorned, or disbudded with no re-growth to exceed 1½" above the skin line.

Dairy Cattle

If you plan on showing in the MS State Fair Open Dairy Cattle Show, you will need to pick up a revised MSU-ES Form 195 at our office.

OUTSTANDING SHEPHERD AWARD AT STATE FAIR

Individual exhibitors or county groups can enter. Competition will be based on (1) creativity, (2) educational value of exhibit, (3) attractiveness of exhibit and (4) cleanliness of pens and exhibit area. The Mississippi Junior Sheep Association will sponsor this award which goes to an exhibitor or county group that maintains the most outstanding stall area and educational exhibit. Judging will be from 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 2nd, to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 3rd. The winner will be announced during the Junior Sheep Show. Contestants and county groups should register at the weigh-in Friday afternoon and pick up their exhibitor number.

2009-2010 4-H/FFA REPLACEMENT BEEF HEIFER DEVELOPMENT CONTEST

Development and selection of replacement heifers is probably one of the most important performance selections a cattle producer has to make. This contest should provide an authentic experience for youth that choose to participate. Not only will they learn valuable information that can be used for a lifetime, but the cattle industry can benefit as young cattlemen/cattlegirls will be educated producers in the future. I encourage each of you to participate in this contest! Entry forms and information sheets were mailed out earlier.

Check us out at...

http://msucares.com/counties/tate_69/4h.html



Brandon Alberson
Extension 4-H Agent
662-562-4274 (office)
662-562-6874 (fax)
662-512-8703 (mobile)
brandona@ext.msstate.edu
http://msucares.com/counties/tate_69/4h.html