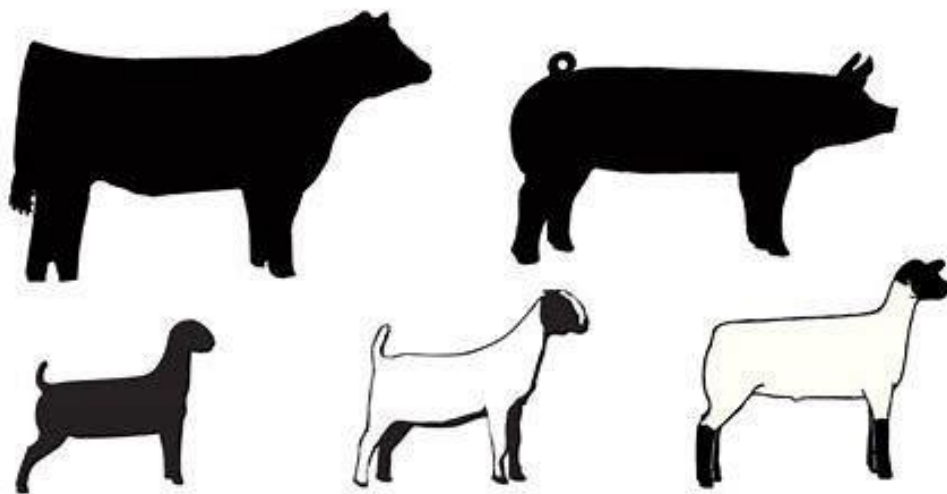




Livestock Project Help Guide



EL PASO COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Colorado State University Extension Office
El Paso County Community Services

17 North Spruce Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

(719) 520-7698

Fax: (719) 520-7699

<http://elpasoco.colostate.edu/>

Breeding Livestock

Breeding Information Forms for Livestock

What are breeding classes?

- Designed to show animals at county fair based on breeding characteristics
 - In the swine breeding classes, only gilts are allowed to be shown
- An animal can either be shown in breeding or market classes they **cannot** be both ways
 - Animals that are either shown in breeding class or market class, they cannot be shown in both
 - Only market animals are sold at the sale

Breeding Nomination Procedure

- List **all** animals that you may enter in the breeding divisions at the County Fair.
- These animals must also be included in your Breeding Livestock Record Book.
- Animal information needs to be upload **by May 1st** into your 4honline account along with:
 - **ONE** of the following uploads:
 - Brand Paper, Breed Registration
 - Bill of Sale
 - Youth Livestock Ownership Affidavit or Lease Agreement paper (whichever is applicable)
 - A color photo showing any distinguishing marks
 - And a color photo showing the ear tag.
- The animal must be in the member's name.
- No brand paper required if using breed registrations, however the completed registration must be on hand or a member is required to obtain brand papers (if applicable).
- Home raised breeding animals will **require a letter** from your project/club leader verifying their knowledge of your breeding project.

Leased Livestock Procedures (only for breeding animals)

- 4-Hers may only lease two animals for project areas which they do not already own. For example, if you already own dairy goats you may not lease a dairy goat but if you own dairy goats and would also like to try breeding Boer goats you are allowed to lease a breeding Boer goat.
- Written lease agreements or transfer of ownership must be in effect by May 1.
- Lease agreements are not authorized for market animals.
- If 4-H members choose to lease an animal, they must upload a copy of their written lease agreement with their Animal ID in 4HOnline by May 1.

Producer Classes

What is producer?

(Livestock Premium Book Appendix A page 37 & 38)

- Producer classes are livestock classes for exhibitors who raised their own exhibit animals in market sheep, market goats, market swine, and market beef. Individuals who breed and raise their own animals will show against one another. 4-H members must nominate their producer project animal by submitting photographs and animal information by the producer species deadlines.
- This is a **TWO-PART** process so please read instructions carefully

Producer Nominating Procedure

(Livestock Premium Book Appendix A page 37 & 38)

- The rules and nomination procedure are the same as for all species.
- You will be **limited to nominating 10 animals**.
- You must be enrolled in the **breeding project and the animals must be tagged; notched or tattooed by the producer**.
- It is recommended that organizational club leaders verify nominations to assure the animal was born at the member's place of residence; this must be done while the animal is still nursing.
- To nominate an animal, the member should take a **photograph** (preferably digital) of the animal with its dam so that any distinguishing marks are visible (this should be accomplished prior to the animal being weaned).
- This picture along with a **written description** of the animal as well as **sex, animal ID or tag number (some form of identification on the animal such as ear notches on swine, tattoos for goats, etc. must be used)**.
- The producer class photographs and identification forms can be dropped off in hard copy form to the office, uploaded on 4-H Online, or emailed to Emily.Tobler@colostate.edu

Producer Nomination Form

(Found under 4-H, Member Resources, Project Resources, Animal Project Forms)

- Beef Producer Form-
 - <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2019/10/Producers-Class-Nomination-Form-Beef-10.9.19.pdf>
 - **Top half of the form is due by January 31st & bottom half of the form is due by May 1st**
- Swine Producer Form
 - <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2019/10/Producers-Class-Nomination-Form-Swine-10.9.19.pdf>
 - **Top half of the form is due by January 31st & bottom half of the form is due by May 1st**
- Sheep/Goat Producer Form
 - <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2019/10/Producers-Class-Nomination-Form-Sheep-Goat-10.9.19.pdf>
 - **Top half of the form is due by January 31st & bottom half of the form is due by May 1st**

Market Animals

Recommended timeline for obtaining ownership for market animals

These are just the recommended and suggested timelines for *obtaining* market animals

Animals must be owned by tag in.

- Beef: September-November
- Swine: February-mid April
- Goat: February-mid April
- Sheep: February- mid April

Tag-In for Market Animals

What is tag in for market animals?

- All 4-H market animals; i.e., animals produced for consumption, must be individually identified; i.e., ear tags or other identification, at the tag-in date published in the 4-H Newsletter. Tag-in establishes ownership. All market animals must be owned by the established tag-in date. The tag-in date is the only time animals can be nominated for the Colorado State Fair.
- Market beef, market lamb, and market goat entries must have been tagged and retinal scanned at the initial tag-in under the supervision of a fair superintendent in order to be eligible to show.
- Market swine entries must have been provided tags and documentation from the fair superintendent for home-tagging. In addition, all market swine must be ear notched.
- Market beef, market lambs, market hogs, and market goats must be identified by an official county ear tag number at time of entry by the exhibitor and no switching of ownership (including family members) will be permitted after tagging.
- An official Scrapie ear tag number must identify breeding sheep and goats on the Entry Form.
- If tag is displaced from the ear of the animal, notify your superintendent quickly so the superintendent can retag your animal.

Swine Tag In (Usually held on a weeknight in mid-April)

- Market swine entries must have been provided tags, DNA envelopes for hair follicle samples, and documentation (county and/or state nomination forms) from the fair superintendent for home-tagging. In addition, all market swine must be ear notched.
- There will be one-night set aside to come pick up the tags, DNA envelopes, and paperwork, and receive instructions. Payment will be due the night you pick up your tags.
- The **county swine nomination form and photographs** are to be uploaded into 4-HOnline by the designated date released in the 4-H Newsletter (usually around the beginning of May). These forms will be handed out at Hog Tag Pick up.
- DNA envelopes are \$3

- Once you have completed your tag in you need to enter your animals' information into 4-HOnline. This information is directly transferred into FairEntry (the software platform) that you use to register for county fair.

Beef Tag In (Usually a weekend in Feb)

- You must bring your animal with a halter already on before it will be unloaded, or it will not be weighed. **Any uncontrollable animals will NOT be weighed!** The idea is to work with them ahead of time!
- Please have your calves brand inspected prior to coming to weigh-in. **Do not forget to bring your brand inspection papers.**
- **Tag-in is the only time State Fair Nominations will be taken**
- Retinal scans at tag-in are \$3.00 per scan due at tag in. The first 6 ear tags free, \$1.00 per tag over six. Only cash or check accepted. **Fees are due on the date of tag/weigh in.**
- All animals must be castrated prior to being tagged in as a 4-H market project. Castration must be done prior to arriving at the fairgrounds (not the day of tag in) and healed as much as possible.
- Once you have completed your tag in you need to enter your animals' information into 4-HOnline. This information is directly transferred into FairEntry (the software platform) that you use to register for county fair.

Goat/Sheep Tag In (Usually held the first week of May)

- Retinal scans at tag-in are \$3.00 per scan due at tag in. The first 6 ear tags free, \$1.00 per tag over six. Only cash or check accepted. **Fees are due on the date of tag/weigh in.**
- **Tag-in is the only time State Fair Nominations will be taken**
- All animals must be castrated or banded prior to being tagged as a 4-H market project. Castration must be done prior to arriving at the fairgrounds.
- Once you have completed your tag in you need to enter your animals' information into 4-HOnline. This information is directly transferred into FairEntry (the software platform) that you use to register for county fair.

County and State Fair Nomination Forms

If you wish to show at state fair, nominations must be filled out and completed at tag in. The paperwork will be available at the scheduled tag in date (for swine it will be available at Hog Tag Pick Up).

Premise ID's for State Fair Nominations (Must be done by tag in)

- Remember all 4-H and FFA exhibitors must have their premise ID# on their nomination cards to be accepted for State Fair. This is a State Fair Policy NOT a requirement to participate in the local 4-H program. This information should be completed on ALL cards at the time of weigh-in.

- You will need to apply for your premise ID number well in advance of weigh-in so they have time to assign you one. Please do so 3-4 weeks before you need it. Please call 303-869-9000 to get your ID or <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/aganimals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>

Requirements for Breeding, Producer, and Market Animals

Animal Forms

These forms are required ANNUALLY for ALL animal projects in order to reach project completion or show at county fair

Code of Show Ring Ethics

All 4-H animal project members and their parents must agree to the terms and conditions of the Code of Show Ring Ethics Agreement in order to exhibit at any county 4-H competitive event, including the El Paso County Fair. This needs to be completed one time annually regardless of the number of animal projects a 4-H member is enrolled in. Code of Show Ring Ethics Forms should be given to club leaders or sent to them via email. Club leaders then must submit these forms to the El Paso County CSU Extension Office.

Link: <https://el Paso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2019/10/Show-Ring-Ethics-10.9.19.pdf>

Animal Care and Housing Form

All 4-H animal project members and their parents must complete and sign the Animal Care and Housing form. Animal Care and Housing Forms should be given to club leaders or sent to them via email. Club leaders then must submit these forms to the El Paso County CSU Extension Office. **4-H staff may verify this information by conducting animal site visits**

Link: <https://el Paso.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/44/2019/10/Animal-Care-Housing-10.9.19.pdf>

If you are **re-enrolling in 4-H**, enrollment fees and additional required forms must be submitted to the Organizational Club leader **by December 20**

If you are **enrolling for the first time**, enrollment fees and additional required forms must be submitted to the Organizational Club leader **before May 1**.

Meat Quality Assurance Training Requirements

1. Meat Quality Assurance Training teaches the youth about the quality of meat and food products that come from livestock. Quality assurance for livestock producers means making a promise to the consumers, or the people who consume the meat, eggs, milk and dairy products, from food production animals. The promise made is that products from livestock will be the highest possible quality and producers will do everything possible to make these products safe to eat.
2. MQA Training will be offered twice a year. One format is in an interactive trailer and the next format will be a classroom style learning. A written test will follow the training and must be passed with an 80% or higher.
3. The project areas required to complete MQA training is goats, sheep, cattle, swine, poultry, and rabbit.
4. All new and current 4-H members advancing to intermediate (11 years old) or senior (14 years old) 4-H members must complete a Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) workshop if enrolled in any goat, beef, sheep, swine, poultry or rabbit project(s). This must be done at least 45 days prior to the El Paso County Fair in order to be eligible to exhibit at the county and/or state fair(s). Proof of compliance must be submitted to the El Paso County Extension Office.
5. All 4-H members are required to attend a MQA training during their first year in a livestock project regardless of their age.
6. 4-H members advancing to a new age group (intermediate and senior) must also attend an MQA training that year.
7. If the 4-H member is unable to attend an MQA workshop in El Paso County, the 4-H member may attend an MQA workshop in another county (information for completion must be sent to El Paso County office by the deadline from the county that the MQA training was completed in) OR they may obtain a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification online or in person at their own expense. YQCA certification is only valid for 1 year and therefore the member will need to attend a Colorado MQA training the following year. A member cannot do YQCA in back to back years to satisfy MQA requirements at this time.
8. 4-H members enrolled in market and/or breeding livestock projects will complete and sign the Wholesome Meat Act Agreement at the El Paso County Fair. By signing the agreement, 4-H members indicate their understanding of and compliance with the Wholesome Meat Act and the Ten Good Production Practices; i.e., taught during MQA. Additionally, the consequences of failing to comply with the Wholesome Meat Act Agreement may result in removal from all 4-H livestock projects for the 4-H member /family. This agreement must be completed for each livestock project the 4-H member is enrolled in.

Animal Record Books

- 4-H members in animal projects must complete an enterprise E-Record book. This means that only one record book per project area
 - Example: Companion animals, horse, dog, breeding livestock, and market livestock
- This means you will combine species within project areas

- Examples: breeding rabbits and breeding beef in one book (breeding livestock record book) ; market swine and market goat in one book (market livestock record book); companion rabbit, llama, and cavy in one book (companion animal record book).
- For poultry projects you will turn in a record book without a supplement page if you are enrolled in a breeding poultry project.
- All poultry (duck, turkey, show birds, etc) will be in one book with any other market project that the youth might be enrolled in.
- For breeding goat supplements the "Goat Doe Record" should be used for breeding boer does and pygmy does. Then the "Breeding Goats Only" supplement should be used for dairy goats.
- Breeding projects and market projects must be kept in separate books due to supplementary forms.
- 4-H members are encouraged to use 4-H E-Record folders, which can be purchased at the El Paso County Extension Office, or thin covers, not 3-ring binders as they take up too much space.
- The record book forms can be found on the STATE 4-H Website <https://co4h.colostate.edu/program-areas/projects/e-records/>
- Our recommendation is that the youth fill out their record books throughout the year to help keep accurate and quality records.

4-H Project Completion Requirements

1. Participate in a demonstration or other speech-arts presentation.
2. Participate in a community service activity through or with the club.
3. Complete an E-Record for each project the 4-H member is enrolled in and receive a score of 70% or above, graded by club volunteer-leaders or other designated personnel, selected by the club.

NOTE: Clubs may have additional participation requirements for continued participation in their club and to maintain active status within the club. This is different and separate from county and state project completion requirements and may vary from club to club.

Enrollment Changes

- All enrollment changes must be completed by **May 1st** of the current 4-H year. **This includes changing clubs, adding, and dropping projects.** All 4-H members must complete each project they are enrolled in as of **May 1st**. See completion requirements outlined in this document.
- Enrollment changes must be done electronically by the 4-H member through 4HOnline.

County Fair

El Paso County Fair Contest Requirements Eligibility for 4-H/FFA El Paso County Fair

- 4-H youth club or FFA members must be in good standing
- Properly enrolled in the CSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program in El Paso County via 4HOnline or local FFA chapters
- Paid membership fees in full
- Have met Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) training requirements Invite to FFA Members: Any FFA member wishing to exhibit under the 4-H Livestock Departments at the El Paso County Fair will follow the 4-H entry and exhibit process. FFA exhibitors/instructors are asked to contact the Colorado State University Extension, El Paso County Office to inquire about participation requirements and the online Fair Entry process.

Fair Entry

This is an online registration process for county fair that is required

- Pre-entry is required for all 4-H General, 4-H Consumer Science, 4-H Cloverbud and 4-H Animal exhibits. All exhibits/animals must pre-entered into the online FairEntry system.
- FairEntry system opening and entry deadline details will be announced in the El Paso County 4-H Newsletter.
- 4-H families will use their “4honline.com” username and password to log into the fair entry system.
- For help with computer pre-entry, call the CSU Extension Office at 719.520.7698
- Exhibits must be entered by announced deadline.
- A **late fee of \$25.00** per exhibitor will be assessed for entries received between June 13-15 2022.
- After **June 15, 2022**, absolutely no entries will be accepted.
- Once registration is complete and submitted by the family for all members participating in county fair, it will be sent to CSU Extension 4-H staff for approval.
- Once approved, payment instructions will be sent via email.
- Payment **SHOULD NOT** be sent until all classes are approved by CSU Extension staff.
- The last day to pay for all entries is June 17, 2022.

Health Certifications/Fair Clean Up

- All livestock **MUST** be accompanied by an official **Health Certificate issued within 14 days prior to stalling at the fair**. Each animal must be individually identified on the certificate.

- **Fair Clean Up** is a day or two set aside for the youth to come in and help prepare for fair. If they cannot attend, it is their responsibility to reach out to the extension office to set up another day and time for them to meet this requirement.
 - When arriving at the fairgrounds, find your superintendent for each of your projects. It is very important to sign in and out on the sheet provided by the superintendent. This is a workday, please dress accordingly

County Fair Rulebooks

It is highly recommended that you understand the rules and expectations of fair **BEFORE** you arrive. Every year we will have the most recent rulebook posted. **Please make sure the 4-H family and 4-H member reads the rulebook from start to finish.**

To access the rulebook:

- <https://elpaso.extension.colostate.edu/4-h-member-resources/>
- Find the Fair tab and look for the Livestock premium book/rulebooks