

## Department 4: 4-H/FFA Sheep

**MQP Lamb Contest:** Feeder Creek Vet Show Arena, **Monday**, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2025, at 12:30 p.m.

**Sheep Showmanship, Sheep Breeding, and Market Lamb Shows:**  
Feeder Creek Vet Show Arena, Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at approximately 12:00 p.m.  
(or immediately following the Meat/Market Goat Show)

**Superintendent:** Ginny Kemmerer  
**Assistant Superintendents:** Kris Doyle, Jason Robinson, Sarah Martin

**Please note: Junior Fair sheep will be housed in the barn where beef was previously housed.**

### MQP Lamb/Market Lamb Weigh In:

- Summer weigh-in is on the **last Saturday of June** (Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>) from 8:00-11:00 a.m., at the fairgrounds. This is REQUIRED FOR ALL MQP LAMBS/MARKET LAMBS.
- Final MQP Lamb weigh-in is **Monday**, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 12:30-1:00 p.m. in Feeder Creek Vet Show Arena. There will be no reweighs.
- Final Market Lamb weigh in is Saturday of the fair (Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>) from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. in the Sheep/Goat Barn (formerly the Beef Barn). There will be no reweighs.

### Tagging: All MARKET animals (including MQP Lambs and Market Lambs)

- All market animals will be family tagged and any member of the family can show any animal tagged.
- As defined in [Ohio Administrative Code 901-19-01](#), "Family" means the immediate family of an exhibitor, including but not limited to the exhibitor's parent, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, half-brother, half-sister, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, or guardian.
- No tagging will be performed after the designated weigh-in/tag-in day.
- Market lambs will remain on the trailer during tag-in, with the exception of MQP Lambs which will be weighed. Each exhibitor may tag a total of four lambs and choose at their discretion which lambs will be shown in the live or carcass contests.
- All market animals will be tagged with an EID 840 tag. If an animal currently has an EID 840 tag in place, this tag will be used as the official fair identification.

**Housing Forms:** Junior Fair Exhibitors housing animal(s) in a location other than the property on which they reside must obtain and file a Livestock Housing Form with the OSU Extension Office. Deadline for filling out this form is the deadline set forth for possession of the animal. For more specifications, refer to the General Rules.

**Quality Assurance:** As mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, each exhibitor must have attended an educational experience by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the current year. Club/Chapter Quality Assurance Clinics taught by a trained and certified assistant instructor, or the countywide make-up clinics are required for exhibitors to meet this requirement. The 4-H Youth Development Educators at OSU Extension can provide locations of workshops provided in our county.

**Skillathon:** Each exhibitor must participate in a Skillathon. Youth are encouraged to attend the species you are exhibiting. If an exhibitor plans to compete for Sheep Premier Exhibitor, they must attend the Sheep Skillathon at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, to be eligible.

### Project Record Books:

- 4-H and FFA Record Books are required to be COMPLETED for each project.
- 4-H Members should have a NEW 4-H Record Book each year they take the project.
- 4-H and FFA Records Books will be reviewed at Skillathon.
  - For those who forget or don't bring their book – the book will need be completed and turned into the OSU Extension Office by Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  - Exhibitors who do not properly complete a record book for each of their fair projects WILL NOT be allowed to exhibit at the fair. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
  - No books will be reviewed after September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**Health Papers:** Are not required except for a valid Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) for all MQP Lambs and Market Lambs. DUNF forms are to be filled out online and not before three (3) days of weigh-in. DUNF forms must be filled out by NOON on the Friday before weigh-in for MQP Lambs on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025. DUNF forms must be filled out by NOON on Friday before weigh-in for live Market Lambs on Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. **All livestock must be free from any/all drugs in their system on fair weigh-in day.**

**Entries:** Fair entries are required by 4-H and FFA exhibitors to be eligible to compete at the Fairfield County Junior Fair. 4-H exhibitors must be enrolled in the corresponding 4-H project by enrollment deadline, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Fair entries will open in early August and close at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025. All entries will be made online in the FairEntry program:

<http://go.osu.edu/fairfieldfaireentry>.

- Entries in this department are limited to two finished market lambs, one MQP/carcass lamb, and one entry per each listed breeding class. An exhibitor may show up to 5 breeding animals.

## Breeding Sheep Division

**Breeding Sheep Classes:** Breeds will be identified when adding animal to fair entry in the respective age class (Cheviot, Horned Dorset, Katahdin, Polled Dorset, Oxford, Hampshire, Suffolk, Southdown, Naturals, Ramboulllets, Shropshire, All Other Breeds (AOB), Crossbred).

- |             |                            |                          |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Ewe lamb | 3. Ewe, 1 year and under 2 | 5. Ewe, 2 years and over |
| 2. Ram lamb | 4. Ram, 1 year and under 2 |                          |

## Market Lamb Division

### Market Lamb Classes:

1. Single Market Lamb - limit of 2 entries in this class.
2. Homegrown Market Lamb - limit of 1 entry in this class. Exhibitors will designate this animal at fair weigh-in and they will also be added into the Homegrown Class at that time.
3. MQP Carcass Lamb - limit of 1 entry in this class.

**Showmanship Divisions:** Showmanship entries are submitted through FairEntry by the fair entry deadline.

### Showmanship Classes:

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Sheep Showmanship (Ages 16-18) | 4. Sheep Showmanship (Ages 10-11) |
| 2. Sheep Showmanship (Ages 14-15) | 5. Sheep Showmanship (Ages 8-9)   |
| 3. Sheep Showmanship (Ages 12-13) |                                   |

### Arrival Times:

- MQP Lambs will arrive and weigh in between 12:30 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. on **Monday**, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at the fairgrounds.
- Market Lambs should arrive before 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- No tack should be dropped off on Saturday during market goat or market lamb weigh-ins. Please make arrangements to drop off before Saturday or after all weigh-ins conclude on Saturday.

**Market Lamb Weigh-In:** Market Lambs will be weighed Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> between 2:30-4:00 p.m. in the Sheep/Goat Barn (formerly the Beef Barn). There will be no reweighs per General Rule #27.

**Sheep Exhibitor Meeting:** There will be an exhibitor meeting for sheep exhibitors on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sheep/Goat Barn (formerly the Beef Barn).

**Market Classes:** This is a partial terminal show. See [ODA Rules 901-19-01 GG](#). Market Lamb Exhibitors will have the option to take home their animals. [Click here to review information to consider when making this decision.](#)

- Take home forms will be available at each specie's fair/final weigh-in.
- **The NUMBER of take home animals must be declared at the scale (no exceptions).**
- **Tag numbers of take home animals must be declared to the Show Superintendent within one hour of the conclusion of that species show.**
- Take home animals will lose their sale slot and will not be eligible for a premium and packer bid.
- Exhibitors who do not take home must qualify for their sale slot (as individual or group) at the discretion of the species show committee.

**Release Times:** No animals will be removed from the fairgrounds prior to the stated release time without approval from the Junior Fair Director or Senior Fair Board. Any exhibitor violating this rule will be barred from exhibiting that specie the following year. All lambs kept must be checked out with the Sheep Superintendent before leaving for inventory control. If you leave and do not check out, you will lose your show privileges for one year.

- **Market Lambs who have completed a Take Home Form will be released THREE HOURS after the Sheep Show on Wednesday, and this release time window will last for TWO HOURS. Any exhibitor violating this rule will be barred from showing that species the following year. Exhibitors must check with the Superintendent before leaving the fairgrounds to ensure animals are accounted for before the sale.**
- All Market Lambs that qualify for the Livestock Sale (and direct to packer) will be released after the sale on Friday, until 9:00 a.m. Saturday.
- All Breeding Sheep: 12:00 p.m. on Friday.

**Premiums:** Project books will be checked during county Skillathon. If an exhibitor does not complete a project book and turn it in at Skillathon, he or she will be ineligible to receive a premium and will not show that specie at the county fair for that year. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to complete project books annually for their exhibit.

- Breeding Sheep Premiums: "A"=\$4.50; "B"=\$3.50; "C"=\$2.50
- Market Lamb Premiums: "A"=\$4.50; "B"=\$3.50; "C"=\$2.50

**Market Lamb Sale:** Friday at the Feeder Creek Vet Show Arena. **Sale order is pending.** Please review sale rules on the sale page regarding keeping lambs and selling: <http://u.osu.edu/livestocksale>

**Livestock Sale Exhibitor Checks:** Exhibitors must submit a stamped thank you note to their advisor prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Advisors will be required to mail thank-you notes and maintain their buyer checklist to receive the exhibitors' checks. If a check is not cashed within the specified 90-day period from the check date, there will be a Stop Payment Fee deduction imposed, and a replacement check issued to the exhibitor.

## USDA Scrapie Regulations

### Junior Fair Sheep Exhibitors in NON-MARKET classes

1. 4-H/FFA exhibitors can buy a ewe/wether/breeding ram (intact) that has the required official USDA tag or tattoo. This is legal to show at the Fairfield County Junior Fair. The doe/wether/ewe/ram must have USDA tag/tattoo before weigh-in in July. Either the buyer or seller must make sure the animal has an official ID, best if it is the seller.
2. 4-H/FFA exhibitors must be sure that the animal has an official ID. They may get their own tags or tattooing or have their veterinarian do it. (For more information call the Ohio APHIS Department at 614-856-4735).
3. Remember that Federal Law prohibits removing the official ID from any animal, but any animal can have more than one official ID tag.

### SHEEP THAT NEED OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION TO COMPLY WITH STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAW AND BE ELIGIBLE TO BE SHOWN AT THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR:

- Market Ewes- Must have official USDA Scrapie Tag/Tattoo in place
- Market Wethers- Must have official USDA Scrapie Tag/Tattoo in place
- All Breeding animals- Must have official USDA Scrapie Tag/Tattoo in place

## READ THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR GENERAL RULES AND HEALTH REGULATIONS

### Sheep Special Rules

1. Exhibitors will be allowed to show two single market lambs but only sell one market lamb individually.
2. If two lambs from the same exhibitor naturally become eligible for the sale, only the highest placing lamb of the two will sell individually. If both lambs place the same such as 3<sup>rd</sup> in both classes, then the heaviest one (at weigh-in) will be the one to sell individually.
3. The only time an exhibitor can sell both lambs individually is if they are selected for both Grand and Reserve Grand Champion.
4. If an exhibitor has both of their lambs in the same class, another qualified Junior Fair exhibitor will be used to help show their lamb.
5. Registered ewes and grade ewes will show in separate classes.
6. All sheep exhibited must have been completely and fully owned (as evidenced by a bill of sale or registration papers) and in the complete possession and continual care of the exhibitor by the designated possession dates (Breeding Sheep: On or after July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year, Market/MQP Lambs: last Saturday of June of the current year).
7. All market lambs must be born after January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
8. All market lambs must be slick shorn within seven days of the show date.
9. All eligible market lambs may be sold in accordance with [ODA Rule 901-19-02 E.](#)
10. No rams in the market classes. Market lambs showing any evidence of testicular tissue are not eligible to be shown or sold.
11. Lambs weighing less than 75 pounds will not show in the market class or sell in the livestock sale. These animals will be removed from the fairgrounds following weigh-in.
12. To be eligible to sell individual or in a group, lambs must receive an "A" grade and weigh from 100 to 150 pounds.
13. Those lambs over 150 pounds, and lambs 75 pounds to 99 pounds, will sell direct to packer.
14. All sheep must be free of sore mouth, foot rot, and warts.
15. All exhibitors showing purebred sheep must present registration papers when requested.
16. If the exhibitor's name does not appear on the papers, then a letter from that breed association or notarized letter stating the names of the family members associated with the animal in question must be submitted to the OSU Extension Office by July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
17. Registered animals without papers will show as grade animals.
18. Grade livestock must have the characteristics of the sire.
19. Only registered animals may be shown for Grand or Reserve Grand Champion female.
20. All rams must be registered.
21. Straw and shavings may be used for bedding. The use of rubber mats and carpet is also approved.
22. The Grand and Reserve Grand Champion market animals will be slaughtered, inspected, and evaluated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture officials.
23. The exhibitors of the Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb will provide continual care through Saturday and leave feed for the Senior Fair Board through Monday. Additionally, they will assist with the load out of the animals on Saturday concluding the fair. Premiums, prize money, and sales proceeds will be forfeited in the exhibitor fails to provide continual care.

### Homegrown Market Lamb

1. To be eligible, entries must be born from a ewe owned by the exhibitor prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year and raised at the 4-H/FFA member's immediate family property or family property that adjoins the exhibitor's residence (i.e. grandparents, aunt/uncle). Proof of ownership of the ewe will be in the form of registration papers, farm Scrapie tag, or Scrapie tag with an accompanying bill of sale.
2. Entry must be one of the exhibitor's junior fair market lamb projects. Lambs must be born after January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
3. The market lamb selected to be shown in the homegrown market lamb show will be included in the general market classes.
4. Homegrown market lamb class will be held separately – before the general market lamb show, and only one lamb per exhibitor will be permitted to show in this class.

5. The top five (5) places will be selected and receive an award. The Champion Homegrown Market Lamb selected will sell 6th in the overall sale order (unless it places either Grand or Reserve Grand Champion in the general market lamb show or the exhibitor is selected as the Sheep Premier Exhibitor).
6. Exhibitors must complete the Homegrown Market Lamb Intent Form (<http://go.osu.edu/homegrownmktlamb>) as soon as possible following the birth of their Homegrown Market Lamb(s). This will notify the Sheep Committee to make a farm visit within two weeks of lambing.
7. All entries must agree to a market lamb committee member(s) entering their barn/housing unit for visual inspection of animals. Failure to do so will lead to immediate disqualification.
8. Homegrown Market Lamb(s) must take part in June weigh-in at the fairgrounds. No exceptions.

### Muscle Quality and Performance (MQP) Lamb Contest Special Rules

1. Junior exhibitors ONLY.
2. Carcass lamb weigh-in and tagging will be on the last Saturday of June, weigh-in from 8:00-11:00 a.m., the same date and time that the market lambs are tagged. Carcass lambs will come to the fairgrounds for the final weigh-in preceding harvesting prior to the fair (**Monday**, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025) at 12:30 p.m.
3. Exhibitors currently may tag in a total of four lambs per exhibitor: two for the live show, one for the carcass show, and one back-up.
4. Fairfield County Junior Fair Sheep Committee will supervise at all weighing and tagging procedures at the June date. If an animal loses an ear tag, the exhibitor must contact the Senior Fair Office as soon as possible. If possible, save the tag that came out.
5. Wethers or ewes are acceptable. It will be required for both to have the official USDA scrapie tag, regardless of age, just as the ewe lambs, wethers, and rams entered the live show.
6. There is no minimum or maximum weight at the June weigh-in. However, it is suggested that the lambs not exceed 75 pounds at this time.
7. The lambs should be slick shorn for the **September** weigh-in.
8. At the **September** date, carcass lambs will be brought to the Fairfield County Fairgrounds to be evaluated and weighed. Average daily gain will be calculated at this time. The lambs will then be transported to the facility to be harvested.
9. Results of the contest, with all data evaluated, will be collected prior to the fair. Exhibitors will be invited to the harvesting facility to observe their projects and see how the carcass data was collected.
10. Calculations for carcass merit will include loin eye measurement, back fat, KPH fat percentage, leg score, quality grade and percent retail cuts. Formulaic equations using the above data will determine carcass placings. Points will be awarded/removed for the various criteria as it applies to the desirable carcass merits.
11. Lambs are subject to rules of Quality Assurance, i.e., substance withdrawal. DUNF forms are required.
12. The Grand and Reserve Grand Champion carcass lambs will sell in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> sale slows, respectively, at the Junior Fair Lamb Sale. Place's 3<sup>rd</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> will be dispersed through the remaining sale order.
13. Final placings are based 30% on Rate of Gain and 70% on Adjust Quality Carcass Percentage.

SCORING PROCEDURE CARCASS MATRIX (Adopted in 2022)								
BF	Premium	HCW	Premium	REA	REA ADJUST	Quality Grade	QG	Adj
0	-3.00	0	-6	0.00	-2	GD	-8.0	
0.1	-1.50	45	-4	2.00	-1.2	CH-	0.00	
0.16	-0.00	50	-3	2.10	-1	CH	0.00	
0.3	-1.00	55	-0	2.20	-0.8	CH+	0.4	
0.36	-3.00	81	-3	2.30	-0.5	PR-	.08	
0.46	-5.00	88	-4	2.40	-0.4	PR	1.2	
		91	-6	2.50	-0.2	PR+	1.6	
				2.60	0	0		
				2.70	0.2			
				2.80	0.3			

### Sheep Showmanship

1. Exhibitors should sign up for Showmanship when making fair entries in August. Fair entries are due Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Showmanship entries should be made for each species you plan to participate in.
2. Exhibitors must have an animal entry in that specie to show in showmanship for that respective specie.
3. All ages are as of January 1 of the current year.
4. Rules and conditions apply to all divisions.
5. Each exhibitor must show their own animal, but during the competition may be asked to show another animal. Each exhibitor must show one of their declared animals (if more than one), but during the competition may be asked to show another animal. However, if they are called back into the ring for another heat of showmanship, it must be with the same animal.
6. Winners from each age division will come back and compete for Sheep Showman of Showmen.
7. The Sheep Showman of Showmen Winner will compete in the Super Showmanship Contest on Thursday morning of the fair. An exhibitor can continue to return to Super Showmanship until they win the title of Champion Super Showmanship Overall.