

## 2020 4-H SHEEP PROJECT RULES & GUIDELINES

(Revised September 2019)

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Complete the General Livestock Record Sheet and the grade specific Sheep Activity Sheet in use with the Sheep Resource Handbook from Ohio State University (194R).

1. All market lambs and commercial ewes **must be tagged** and weighed **at the fairgrounds on Friday, April 24**. Commercial ewes must have a 5-digit county tag or a scrapie tag. Market lambs must have a 5- digit county tag.

**The following requirements must be met to be eligible for the Indiana State Fair.**

- **Market Lambs - 840 RFID Tag, and 5-digit County Tag.**
  - **Commercial Ewes - 840 RFID Tag, and 5-digit County Tag/ or scrapie tag with shield.**
  - **Registered Ewes - 840 RFID Tag, and ID that Matches Registration Papers.**
  - **All sheep must be DNA Hair Sampled by May 15, to be eligible for the State Fair.**
2. Each member can enroll no more than ten Market Lambs & ten Breeding Lambs; Purebred, Crossbred, or Commercial breeds.
  3. Individual animal ID number are required for **April 24** enrollment on purebred ewes.
  4. Any sheep exhibitor using excessive abuse on their exhibit animals will be eliminated from the show and will be ineligible for the auction. Excess abuse shall include burning, stabbing, gouging, punching, use of electric shocker, or other treatment which is considered cruel and inhumane treatment to show animals. Slapping lambs on the rump during the show will not be allowed.
  5. The direct application of ice, ice water, alcohol, Freon, or any other refrigerant to the hide of a lamb is strictly prohibited.
  6. All ewe lambs must be declared in Fair Entry as either a market or breeding ewe.

### EWE CLASSES

1. An exhibitor may show and place **two (2)** animals in each of the ewe lamb and yearling ewe classes.
2. Lambs **must be** dropped after September 1st of the previous year.
3. Animals exhibited in the lamb classes **must** show their lamb teeth. Ewe lambs with broken mouth and/or evidence of any yearling teeth will show in the yearling class. Determination of yearling ewe teeth will be at the discretion of the Judge & 4-H Sheep Committee.
4. All commercial ewes **must be** shorn. All other breeding sheep may be exhibited shorn or with full fleece.

### MARKET LAMB CLASSES (WETHER OR EWE)

1. There will be breed classes for Market Lambs. Classes will follow the Indiana State Fair breed classification guidelines.
2. Breed will be determined the day of tagging. Registration papers are not required.
3. Exhibitor may show and place **two (2)** lambs in each breed class.
4. All wethers showing evidence of testicular tissue are ineligible.
5. All lambs **must be** born after September 1st of the previous year, and before March 31st of the current year.
6. Market lambs will be slick shorn, no butt wool.

### SHOWMANSHIP

Exhibitors (4-H animal owners) may only show their own animals in Showmanship classes. In addition, an exhibitor must have "completed" the current year sheep project (completed/timely record book submission) in order to compete in Showmanship classes. It will be the responsibility of the Sheep Committee to record and maintain accurate records of division winners so that the integrity of Showmanship classes is maintained.

Showmanship classes: (Grade in school on January 1st of the current year.)

**Participation of showmanship MUST be declared in Fair Entry by the designated date set by the Extension Office.**

- A) **Junior Showmanship** - all 4-H exhibitors in the 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade is eligible. Once an exhibitor is the Beginner Showmanship winner, the 4-H'er is only eligible to compete in the Intermediate or Senior Showmanship classes in future years.
- B) **Intermediate Showmanship** - all 4-H exhibitors in the 6th, 7th, or 8th grades are eligible (exception only for any previous year's Beginner Showmanship winners). Once a 4-H member is the champion Intermediate Showman, that 4-H'er must compete in the Senior division of that showmanship category in subsequent years.
- C) **Senior Showmanship** - all 4-H exhibitors in the 9th grade or above are eligible (exception only for any previous year's Intermediate Showmanship winners). Senior Showmanship winners from previous years are no longer eligible for the Senior Showmanship class. They will compete in the Champion Sheep Showman class.
- D) **Champion Sheep Showman** - Current year winners from the Beginner Showmanship, Intermediate Showmanship, and Senior Showmanship-as well as any past Senior Showmanship winners-may compete for the "Champion Sheep Showman" title. The Champion Sheep Showman will move on to compete in the Ultimate Livestock Showman competition. Champion Sheep Showmen, who go on to win the Ultimate Livestock Showman competition are no longer eligible to compete in future Sheep Showmanship classes.