PURPOSE (MISSION)

The mission of the Hertford-Northampton-Bertie County 4-H Livestock Show & Sale is to teach youth about the livestock industry. The show provides all participating youths with an experience that teaches skills and instills confidence while encouraging responsibility. The sale will generate funds as a reward for progress and a successful effort in training, grooming and showing a hog, sheep, goat, steer or heifer.

THE 4-H PLEDGE

I pledge:
my head to clearer thinking,
my heart to greater loyalty,
my hands to larger service,
and my health to better living,
for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

4-H LIVESTOCK PROGRAM OVERALL OBJECTIVES

1. To develop leadership abilities, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities.

2. To experience the pride of owning livestock and to be responsible for its management.

3. To be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities through working in groups and supporting community livestock educational projects and activities.

4. To learn skills in livestock production and gain an understanding of the business of breeding, raising, and promoting livestock and their end products.

5. To increase knowledge of safety precautions needed to prevent injury to yourself and others while working with livestock.

6. To promote greater love for animals and a humane attitude toward them.

7. To teach good sportsmanship through a friendly, competitive atmosphere.

8. To increase knowledge of animal agricultural by-products and how animal by-product usage touches our lives each and every day.

HERTFORD - NORTHAMPTON 4-H SHOW
GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

General Policies:

1. Active 4-H and FFA members of Northampton, Hertford and Bertie counties are eligible to participate in the show and sale.
2. Exhibitors are limited to participation in only one county 4-H show per calendar year.
3. Exhibitors must be 5-19 years of age and actively enrolled in school during the current calendar year. The exhibitor's age for showing is determined by their age as of January 1st of the calendar year.
4. The show will be for hogs, lambs, goats, steers and heifers of recognized meat breeds and crossbreeds.
5. All animals must be approved by the Cooperative Extension Agent or Vocational teacher in the county in which the exhibitor resides before application for entry is made. Approval must be secured before the deadline for ownership.
6. Entries must be approved by the show and sale committee at the time of delivery to the show barn.
7. No animal is eligible to compete in more than one market class.
8. The show judge and livestock agent will have the discretion to remove an uncontrollable animal from the ring for the safety of the youth and spectators.
9. Each exhibitor or buyer assumes all liability in the event of injury, sickness or death to his/her animal.
10. Animals must be on the premises no later than 10:00 am on the day of the show to be eligible for competition.
11. All sales and buyers are subject to approval by the Show and Sale Committee.
12. Show sponsors assume no responsibility for personal injury or property damage.
13. Each child is required to complete a record book and submit it and copies of thank you notes sent to buyers by 5:00 p.m. on the designated due date. Failure to do so will result in withholding the child's check until the book is turned in.
14. Exceptional cases will be handled by the Show and Sale Committee and their decision will be final.

Organizational:

1. All who participate in the Hertford-Northampton-Bertie 4-H show & sale are members of the Livestock committee and the 4-H livestock program. That makes them members of the 4-H programs in their respective counties. All who are interested in the Hertford-Northampton 4-H Livestock Show and Sale are members of the 4-H Livestock Committee.
2. Participants must be residents of Hertford, Northampton or Bertie Counties or sign a Non-resident participation form.
3. The executive committee of the Hertford-Northampton-Bertie 4-H Show & Sale is comprised of the Livestock Committee officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer and 4-H & Livestock Agents).
4. The Hertford-Northampton-Bertie 4-H Show & Sale Committee plans and conducts the show, maintains the facilities and handles the accounting aspects of the show. Solicitation of exhibitors and buyers is the responsibility of participants, not the committee.
5. Every family is asked to sell a minimum of 20 raffle tickets in support of the show. Participants that have not turned in their raffle ticket money will have $20 deducted from their checks. Participants are to turn in their raffle ticket money at weigh-in to their 4-H Agent. Tickets will be sold during the day until 7 p.m. The drawing will be held during the auction.

6. Each participant is given dinner tickets for the buyer's supper. These tickets are to be given to perspective buyers as encouragement to come and support the show and sale. This is an incentive to get them there for the actual auction. Please discourage picking up plates to go. The purpose of this is to get the buyers there for the auction. That is why we give them a free meal!!

7. Each exhibitor is responsible for pen clean-up following the Show & Sale or be assessed a $10.00 clean-up fee by the Show Committee.

8. Checks will be issued to participants within sixty days of the Show. Any money that has not been received by the Treasurer will be deducted from the participants check. A check will be issued for the remaining amount upon receipt of the funds.

9. Judges will be asked to judge the show for two consecutive years.
10. All exhibitors, parents, volunteers and spectators are expected to treat the animals with the most humane management practices available to them. Mistreatment will not be tolerated.

**Sale and Marketing of Animals:**

1. The sale order will be according to show placing. The first species sold will be rotated among species each year.

2. All animals, with the exception of heifers, will be sold. Buyers at the sale are people and local business that support the 4-H Livestock principles. Participants are encouraged to recruit bidders and buyers for the sale. We encourage all buyers to come to the sale.

3. If a business or individual does not feel it is able to buy an animal, suggest that several businesses or individuals join together to purchase an animal. If you have secured a definite buyer or consortium of buyers, please make this known at weigh-in.

4. There are two types of bids for an animal. The first is the "support price" for an animal that is established by the packer or buyer of all animals of that species consigned to the market. The Hertford-Northampton 4-H Livestock Show & Sale committee is responsible for contacting and procuring bids from packing companies and custom-order buyers. These bids are opened prior to the sale and the high bidder purchases all of that species assigned to market.

The second type of bid is the "auction price" paid by a person or business at the sale. For every __________ participant, this bidding starts a zero dollars and ends wherever the high bid ends for that participant. The winner of this bidding, while rewarding the participant for their effort in the Livestock program, has purchased the right to the animal. If the high bidder does not want the animal, it is assigned to the packer or custom-order buyer who bought that species. If the high bidder wishes to take that animal home, the high bidder must also pay the same support price for that animal as the purchaser of the support price.

An example:
a) Smithfield Foods bids 50 cents per pound for the hogs.
b) A business bids $300 on a particular participant's hog that weighs 250 pounds.
c) If the business wanted to take that hog and have it processed for their freezer, it's total bill would be $425 ($300 + (250# @ 0.50 per #).
d) If the business did not want the animal, the bill would be $300.

5. In addition to the bidding that occurs at the Show & Sale, "add-on" bids are accepted for only the day of the show. Bills are only sent to businesses who need an invoice to pay from. There is no monetary limit to add-ons.
6. A commission will be charged on the sale of all animals if needed to cover show expenses. This will be at the discretion of the Show and Sale Committee.

**Obtaining animals:**
1. Participants may purchase their animal from any person or business they wish.
2. The committee may also purchase a group of animals from which you may draw an animal. Drawing of such group purchased animals will be on a random allotment basis.
3. Participants may pay for their animal immediately upon delivery or may take out a loan from their county Livestock Program. The loan amount will automatically be deducted from their sale check.

**Swine**
1. Entries must have been owned and in the care of the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to date of the show.
2. Eligible hogs will be barrows or gilts weighing at least 190 pounds and no more than 280 pounds and must grade US No. 1 or No. 2.
3. Exhibitors may have (5) hogs tagged but can only enter a maximum of two (2) hogs. All additional hogs will be sold as one (1) group. All hogs must be tagged or ear notched prior to the show to be eligible for showing.
4. Hogs will be divided into weight groups with lightweight, middleweight, and heavyweight classes based on weight for the show. If numbers warrant it, the committee may divide the entries into Junior and Senior divisions.
5. Weight groups will be determined at the show at the discretion of the Show Committee.
6. All hogs in each weight class will be placed. The Champion and Reserve Champion individuals will be selected from these placing.

**Sheep**
1. Lamb entries must have been owned and in the care of the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to show date.
2. Lambs must be tagged prior to the show date by an Extension Agent.
3. Entries will be wethers (castrated and healed) or ewe lambs (non-bred or lactating), must have tails docked, and be halter broken.
4. Exhibitors may bring and enter one lamb.
5. Lambs will be divided into weight groups (light, middle, and heavy) classes for the show. Weight groups will be determined at the show and may be combined as necessary at the discretion of the Show Committee.
6. All lambs in each class will be placed. The Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from these placing.
7. Fitting and clipping preference for lambs will be decided by each individual exhibitor. It is recommended that lambs be shorn prior to the show.
8. All sheep must comply with state and federal identification programs.
9. All sheep must have all of their baby teeth at the time of show.

**Goats**

1. Goat entries must have been owned and in the care of the exhibitor at least 60 days prior to show date.
2. Goats must be tagged prior to the show date by an Extension Agent.
3. Entries will be wethers (castrated and healed) or does (non-bred or lactating) and be halter broken.
4. Exhibitors may bring and enter one goat.
5. Goats will be divided into weight groups (light, middle, and heavy) for the show. Weight groups will be determined at the show and may be combined as necessary at the discretion of the Show Committee.
6. All goats in each class will be placed. The Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from these placing.
7. Fitting and clipping preference for goats will be decided by each individual exhibitor.
8. Only does and wethers with all their baby teeth and weighing 30 pounds and over will be allowed to show.
9. All goats must comply with state and federal identification programs.

**Steers**

1. Steer entries must have been under the supervision of the exhibitor and in their care at least 90 days prior to show date.
2. Steers must be dehorned, halter broken and castrated.
3. Exhibitors may enter only one steer in the show.
4. Entries will be divided into weight groups (light and heavy) classes for the show. Weight groups will be determined at the show and may be combined as necessary at the discretion of the Show Committee.
5. All steers in each class will be placed. The Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from these placings.
6. Fitting and clipping preference is up to the participant.
7. Steers must be tagged prior to the day of the show by an Extension Agent.
8. **Steers must weigh at least 1,000 pounds, and no more than 1,400 pounds.**

**Heifers**

1. Heifer entries must have been under the supervision of the exhibitor and in their care at least 90 days prior to show date.
2. Exhibitors may enter only one heifer in the show.
3. Heifers will be divided into age groups for the show. Age groups will be determined at the show and may be combined as necessary at the discretion of the Show Committee.
4. All heifers in each class will be placed. The Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from these placings.
5. Heifers must be tagged prior to the day of the show by an Extension Agent.
6. Fitting and clipping preference is up to the participant.
7. Heifers are not sold.

**Noncompetition for 5-8 Year Olds**

1. Youth under the age of 9 will participate in educational classes of showmanship only for market lambs, market hogs, and meat goats.
   
   A. Youth will be judged against pre-determined standards of excellence and awarded ribbons according to the Danish System of ribbon placement (Blue; Red or White).
   
   B. The standards of excellence have been determined by the area livestock agent in cooperation with the county livestock agent.
   
   C. This system of judging against pre-determined standards follows the Cooperative Extension Youth Competition Policy set forth in Green Letter 1995-2 dated September 12, 1995. Copies of this policy are available upon request.

2. Animals of youth under 9 will not be judged in conformation classes.
3. Each child in this category will be allowed to sell his/her animal at auction as usual. Record books and thank you letters will be required.
4. Each child in the noncompetitive classes will be recognized with a quality ribbon.

**Showmanship**

1. The showmanship contest for each species will be divided into Junior (ages 9-12), Senior (ages 13-19), and Novice divisions. Junior and Senior classes may be combined at the discretion of the Show Committee.
2. Exhibitors are limited to one entry per species class and must show their own animal.
3. Participants in all showmanship classes must participate in fitting and grooming animals as individuals or with family assistance.

**Showmanship Entries Will Be Judged On:**

1. Condition and cleanliness of animal
2. Neatness of individual
3. Ability to handle animal
4. Courtesy towards other exhibitors in the ring
5. Attentiveness towards the judge
6. Ability to display the animal in its most structurally correct form
7. Being cooperative and prompt

1-01
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