



2026 Shawano County 4-H Market Livestock Program Rules

SIGNIFICANT NOTES AND DATES FOR 2026

Weigh-in: Beef: Saturday, February 28th – 8 am to 11 am, Paul McClone Livestock, N4774 High Line Rd, Bonduel, WI 54107

Sheep and Goats: Thursday, May 7th – 5pm – 7:00 pm, Shawano Fairgrounds

THERE IS NO INITIAL WEIGH IN FOR SWINE

ANIMALS MUST BE TAGGED with an USDA RFID 840 button ear tag and DNA PULLED PRIOR TO WEIGH IN.

The tag must be in the flesh of the ear. All sheep and goats must have a scrapie tag.

All male market animals must be castrated by initial weigh-in. Swine must be castrated by the 3rd Friday of May. All market beef animals must be halter broke.

- Final weigh in for beef, sheep, swine, and goats is scheduled for Wednesday of the Shawano County Fair, 8 am- 3:30 pm
- Exhibitors are responsible for ear tagging and collecting a DNA hair sample from all animals to be shown at the Fair. Tags and DNA sample kits must be purchased prior to species weigh-in day (or May 1 for sheep, goats and swine). Exhibitors are responsible for bringing DNA to the respective species weigh-in. Swine samples must be dropped off to the Extension Office by the third Friday of May.
- The Shawano County Show is a terminal show for SWINE but non-terminal for beef, sheep and market goats. The Livestock Key Committee, as advised by the WI State Veterinarian, can invoke a terminal show at any time for any species. As a terminal show there will be no breeding stock or feeder pigs allowed in the swine show.
- All exhibitors must complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) and submit their certificate by the 3rd Friday in May. This is offered both online and in-person training.
- Per Shawano Area Ag Society Ruling: An exhibitor who sold a livestock animal in another county fair in 2026 is not eligible to sell in the Shawano County Fair livestock auction.
- Per Shawano Area Ag Society Ruling: All livestock exhibitors are limited to two market animals, but not more than one swine for 1st year Shawano County Swine exhibitors, even if not enrolled in another livestock project.
- Per Shawano Area Ag Society, 3 animals must be in a class or classes will be combined.
- All market animals sold in the auction must go to a processor.
- All animals must be identified before arriving at the fair.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions, the individuals listed below are your best resources to get the answers you need.

Livestock Planning Committee Representatives

Paul McClone, Committee Chair (715) 460-0600

Mandi McClone, Beef Chair (715) 250-4656

Warren Raddatz, Swine Chair (612) 723-4424

Terri Dallas, Sheep Chair (715) 304-9483

Bill Bohn, Meat Goat Chair (715) 853-9681

Shawano County Fair Representatives

Jeff Kabara, Beef Superintendent (920)660-9885

Jim Fuhrman, Swine Superintendent (715)881-0397

Adam VanHaren, Sheep Superintendent (920)413-9474

Scott Liesner, Goat Superintendent (715)509-0222

Div. of Extension, Shawano County (4-H) Office 311 N Main St, Rm 109, Shawano, WI 54166 (715)526-6136

**ALL PROJECT MEMBERS MUST ENTER IN THE
MARKET CLASS, SHOWMANSHIP CLASS, AND CARCASS CONTESTS
TO SELL THEIR ANIMAL IN THE AUCTION!**

EXHIBITOR WRISTBANDS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES ON THE FAIRGROUNDS DURING THE FAIR.

**EACH EXHIBITOR ASSUMES ALL LIABILITIES IN CASES OF SICKNESS, DEATH OR INJURY TO HIS OR HER ANIMAL,
IMMEDIATE SELF, FAMILY MEMBERS, OR GUESTS.**

**Failure to comply with ANY of the following rules will result in the exhibitor's
animal being withheld from the auction**

GENERAL MARKET ANIMAL RULES

Pre-Fair

1. Exhibitors may show up to two animals of any livestock market species in market animal classes, although there is a limit to one swine for 1st year Shawano County Fair exhibitors, in either junior fair OR open class. Exhibitors will only be allowed to sell one market animal. If two market animals of the same species are entered, and they fall in the same weight classes, another junior fair exhibitor may show the second animal. This must be pre-approved by the species superintendent. Exhibitors may tag three animals of the same species **and identify them on the Contract**, but only two total market animals may be entered and brought to the fair and shown in a market class. **Swine exhibitors - please refer to additional individual species requirements.**
2. FOR ANIMALS SHOWN AT THE SHAWANO COUNTY FAIR - Exhibitors are responsible for ear tagging and collecting DNA hair samples from all animals to be shown at the fair. **Exhibitors are responsible for bringing DNA samples to respective species weigh-in. Swine samples must be dropped off by the third Friday of May. It is preferred that 840 ear tags and DNA envelopes are purchased from the Shawano County Extension office. Only animals identified on the contract will be eligible to be shown at the Shawano County Fair.**
3. FOR ANIMALS SHOWN AT THE WISCONSIN STATE FAIR AND THE SHAWANO COUNTY FAIR - Wisconsin State Fair ear tag and DNA hair samples can be used for animals shown at the Shawano County Fair. Exhibitors tagging animals for the Wisconsin State Fair should follow all Wisconsin State Fair rules in regards to ear tag acquisition and DNA samples, however exhibitors must meet Shawano County DNA and contract guidelines indicated within this document. Wisconsin State Fair exhibitors must turn in a photocopy of their DNA sample submission form with their Shawano County Livestock Contract and sent in with forms by species weigh-in or the 3rd Friday of May, whichever comes first. **Only animals identified on the contract will be eligible to be shown at the Shawano County Fair.**
4. 225 Each junior fair exhibitor and one parent/guardian of that exhibitor must sign the Contract (Acknowledgement of Market Animal Show/Sale Rules and Agreement to Comply). Forms can be picked up at the Extension-Shawano County Office. Signed & completed forms must be dropped off at the Shawano County Extension Office, by species weigh-in or the 3rd Friday of May, whichever is first. When submitting contract, please **keep BOTH copies together**. The Extension Office will return the colored copy to you and keep the white copy for official record.
5. All new and returning junior fair exhibitors are required to earn **two educational** livestock credits and a **YQCA credit** to be eligible to sell an animal in the market animal sale. Exhibitors must complete the educational Google form. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) credits must be earned and submitted by the 3rd Friday of May. Livestock education credits must be earned and submitted by August 1st.

- Additionally, all returning exhibitors must have completed a fair work credit the prior year to be eligible to sell and animal in the market animal sale. First year exhibitors are exempt from this requirement.
6. To qualify for participation in the livestock auction, animals/exhibitors of all species must be entered in ALL of the following: **A. SHOWMANSHIP CLASS B. MARKET CLASS C. CARCASS CONTEST**
(When entering, double check your entries for your **A, B, Cs!**)
 7. **As part of the fair entry process, due August 1, members need to clearly assign which animals may be shown by specific family members. Maximum of three per exhibitor. In FairEntry program, it is expected you will input the **USDA RFID 840 button ear tag ear tag (15 digits)** of the animal(s) you most likely will bring to the fair (ONLY enter one animal ID per entry).**
 8. Each exhibitor must submit a quality, 4x6 color landscape (horizontal) photo (printed on photo paper) of him/herself with his/her sale animal to the Livestock Committee **by August 1st**. A **quality photo** is one where:
 - there is a single animal in the photo,
 - Do NOT stand in front of the animal
 - the image is not blurry or too dark/bright,
 - the animal is clean,
 - the exhibitor is dressed in **show attire** and the animal is posed in a professional manner,
 - and the background is aesthetically pleasing (no pen photos or animal waste).
 - The name of exhibitor, the animal ear tag number, 4-H club and contact phone number must be printed legibly on the back of each photo.
 9. A tentative auction sale order will be randomly generated by the Extension Shawano County Office. The tentative sale order will be posted on the Extension Shawano County website by the second week of August <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/shawano4h/fair-information/>
 10. **Exhibitors must notify their Species Superintendent or Species Chair immediately if an ear tag falls out. Animals will be re-tagged with the Species Superintendent or Species Chair present. Exhibitors are responsible for purchasing their replacement ear tag.**

FINAL Livestock Weigh-in/Ultrasound

1. All animals will be officially weighed on Wednesday of the Shawano County Fair, from **8 am – 3:30 pm**.
2. The scale is OFF LIMITS to everyone until the chairpersons are present for final weigh-in.
3. Animals are allowed one pass across the scale.
4. All steers/heifers must be led across the scale by their exhibitor, another junior fair exhibitor, or family member. If the exhibitor is unable to lead their steer/heifer across the scale for weigh-in, they must lead their animal through the ultrasound chute.
5. Animals cannot wear blankets, sweaters, or leg wraps across the scale. Only halters are allowed.
6. All market animals will be ultrasounded for carcass measurements. *The fee will be subtracted from your auction check. If you are not participating in the auction, you will be responsible for paying the fee prior to the conclusion of the fair.*
 - a. Swine, lamb, and goat exhibitors and/or family members must be present to pen their animal after final weigh-in and ultrasounding.
 - b. Beef: The exhibitor, a family member or another junior fair exhibitor must lead their steer through the ultrasound chute. Ultrasounding of beef will begin at **approximately 4:00 pm**.
7. Market animals that do not meet the minimum weight and/or rate of gain cannot sell in the auction.
8. Animals that do not achieve the minimum auction requirements must still be shown. If an exhibitor does not exhibit his/her animal, (s)(th)he forfeits the privilege to participate in the market livestock auction the following year.
9. All market animals will be assigned to appropriate weight classes after final weigh-in. The final weight classes will be determined by the species superintendent.

10. Only animals and exhibitors meeting all showing requirements are eligible to compete for Grand and Reserve Champions.
11. If you are planning on having your second animal transferred to a processing plant with the Shawano County auction animals, you MUST complete and submit the “**Non-Market Animal Transfer Acknowledgement**” at final weigh-in to the weigh-in staff. **The form must be filled in and turned in by 3pm on Wednesday at weigh -in for all species.**
12. If an exhibitor is eligible to and brings two animals, they MUST have a buyer identified by final weigh-in for the second animal. If no buyer is identified by that time, the second animal:
 - a. If one is swine and the other is beef, sheep, or goat the swine will automatically be the one identified for the auction and your beef, sheep or goat must go home at the end of the fair.

****Non-auction animal buyers may not get their processor of choice, as auction buyers get first preference.**
13. It is recommended that all market beef animals will be stalled prior to walking across the scale. It will be the discretion of the Beef Superintendent to allow beef animals to go directly from the trailer to scales. If the beef superintendent is not present, it will be up to the Livestock Chair’s discretion.

During the Fair

1. Each exhibitor is responsible for personally feeding, caring and fitting his/her animal(s) throughout the fair beginning with weigh-in and ending on the final day of the fair. Immediate family members, other junior fair exhibitors, 4-H and FFA leaders and designated mentors are allowed to assist the exhibitor but should not be the primary animal caregiver. A mentor is an experienced and trusted adviser. A mentor's role is to provide guidance, support, and advice to a mentee. Mentors can act as teachers, counselors, advisors, role models, and more.
2. Animals must be fed and watered and pens cleaned **by 10 am daily**. Exhibitors must continue to maintain the pens/stalls and ensure animal well-being throughout the day. Wet and soiled bedding should be removed daily and replaced. The Livestock Committee will assess exhibitors a fee to care for unattended animals.
3. Only sawdust can be used in the Swine Barn.
4. No automatic waterers can be used in the swine barn.
5. Each club/chapter and other junior fair groups with members in the livestock projects will be required to work at the fair. Duties will be posted on a work schedule in the Coliseum at the fair. Duties may include, but are not limited to, set-up and take down of show rings and sale ring work. If a club/chapter or group is interested in a certain work time or job assignment, please contact the Extension Shawano County Office by June 1. (Working in the 4-H food stand or set up or take down days does not count.)
6. Sick or injured animals condemned/excused by Fair Officials, the Fair Veterinarian, or other state official must be removed immediately according to state guidelines. Animals remain the financial responsibility of the exhibitor.
7. Drug and/or DNA testing may be conducted on any animal while on the fairgrounds or at market. Random DNA samples will be collected from a number of animals of each species at the Fair. DNA results will be compared to submitted samples for the individual animals. If DNA samples do not match, the exhibitor will be barred from exhibiting and selling an animal in the auction the following year. In addition, if an animal with non-matching DNA was sold through the auction, the exhibitor will forfeit their auction check and will be paid market value for the animal. Animals will be checked for drug residues and/or DNA at the discretion of the Judge, Fair Veterinarian, Ag Society or Livestock Key Committee. Exhibitors must abide by drug label withdrawal times. The cost of a positive drug test will be the responsibility of the exhibitor.
8. Requests for DNA sampling of animals will be evaluated by the Livestock Key Committee. If DNA is collected and samples match, the requestor will pay a \$100 administrative and testing fee. If DNA is collected and the samples do not match, the exhibitor will pay a \$100 administrative and testing fee. In addition, the exhibitor will be barred from exhibiting and selling an animal in the auction the following year. If an animal with non-matching DNA was sold through the auction, the exhibitor will forfeit their auction check and will be paid market value for the animal.
9. If your animal is chosen for a DNA sample, you have the right to be present during the sampling. Grand and Reserve Market DNA will be pulled at their respective show/awards distribution.
10. All animals are subject to examination by the Judge, Fair Veterinarian, Ag Society or Livestock Key Committee for any violations of the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics.

Shows and Auction

1. An exhibitor must show and sell his/her own animal. Exhibitors who fail to show their own animal forfeit the right to sell the animal in the auction.
 - a. Exception: Exhibitors who have a valid conflict with the auction, remain eligible to sell their animal in the auction. **The 4-H Livestock Committee considers unavoidable school functions or family emergencies as valid conflicts.** In the event of an unavoidable school conflict, a written, signed letter from the athletic team coach, athletic director, teacher or other school administrator must be submitted to the 4-H Livestock Committee Chairman on or before final weigh-in. The letter must state the coach/teacher will not excuse the member in question from the event that is in conflict with the Fair. In the event of a personal medical emergency or death in the immediate family, the Livestock Key Committee Chairman should be notified as soon as possible.
2. **Exhibitors or their families will not harass potential buyers, before, during or after the auction.**
3. **At final weigh-in:**
 - a. All exhibitors must state the specific animal they wish to sell in the auction. There will be a card provided at the weigh in table (This will also have your family and club information for you to proof for the auction program). This card must be proofed and ear tag number filled in by the time you leave the scale area with your animal.
 - b. If intending to ship a second animal exhibitors must also submit completed "Non-Market Animal Transfer Acknowledgement" Form by **3pm on Wednesday**.
4. Market animals going to processing will be released at approximately 4 pm on Monday.
5. After the auction, exhibitors must compose an appropriate letter of appreciation to the buyer of their animal. Letters must be submitted in a non-sealed, stamped envelope addressed to the buyer. Letters must be placed in the designated drop box in the Swine Barn **by 12:00 pm on Sunday of the Fair**.
6. Winners of **ALL** awards must also compose appropriate letters of appreciation to the award sponsors. Letters must be submitted in a non-sealed, stamped envelope addressed to the award sponsor. Letters must be placed in the designated drop box in the Swine Barn **by 12:00 pm on Sunday of the fair**.
7. The following fees are deducted from auction checks: ultrasound expenses, two percent auction sale commission to the Shawano Area Ag Society, two percent sale commission to the Livestock Key Committee, required promotional expenses, and an additional fee, set by the Livestock Key Committee, to cover sale and project expenses.
8. No sale checks will be issued to exhibitors until **ALL buyers pay** for animal(s) purchased. Individual exhibitors will not be issued sale checks until all records are verified and buyer/sponsor thank you letters are submitted.
9. Livestock auction checks, for those members meeting the above requirements, will be mailed to exhibitors.

<i>My Name</i>	<i>stamp</i>
<i>My address</i>	
<i>Buyer's name</i>	
<i>Buyer's address</i>	
<i>City, State, Zip Code</i>	

ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUAL SPECIES REQUIREMENTS

Market Goats – Wether and Does

1. All male animals must be castrated prior to initial weigh-in.
2. All goats must be less than 12 months old.
3. All goats must weigh, at minimum, **60** pounds to sell in the auction. Animals that weigh over 120 pounds will be sold at 120 pounds. Market goats must have a rate of gain of .15.
4. Market wether/does must be entered in the market class and may be purebred, grade, or crossbred.

5. Individual exhibitors may identify up to three market goats. If there is more than one exhibitor in an immediate family, each family member may tag up to three additional market goats under the immediate family name (i.e. three family members could tag a total of nine goats under the family name). Individual animals must be assigned to an individual exhibitor by August 1 **with no more than 3 market animals per exhibitor**. Extra market goats will not be weighed at the Fair.
6. All market goats **must** have a scrapie tag **and USDA RFID 840 button ear tag**.
7. The Goat Show begins approximately at 6:00pm on Thursday of the fair.
8. Meat goats may have horns as it is an accepted practice in their species. Dairy goats must have horns removed and healed over with no regrowth or scurs.

Market Hogs – Barrows and Gilts

1. *Youth in the swine project in their 1st year as a Shawano County Swine exhibitor will be limited to exhibiting one hog at the Shawano County Fair.*
2. All male animals must be castrated by the 3rd Friday of May.
3. Animals must weigh a minimum of 230 pounds to sell in the auction. Animals that weigh over 300 pounds will be sold at 300 pounds.
4. The Shawano County Fair abides by Wisconsin County, District and State Fairs 2021 Animal Health Rules and Regulations, which means no pseudo rabies test is required for hogs originating from WI.
5. All hogs must be accompanied by Wisconsin Intrastate Health Certificate (pink form) at final weigh-in. Exhibitors must use the **USDA RFID 840 button ear tag** as the animal identification number on the form. Forms must be signed by the veterinarian. Paper copy needed at weigh-in.
6. Market barrows and market gilts must be entered in market classes and may be purebred, grade or cross-bred.
7. Individual exhibitors may identify up to three hogs. If there is more than one exhibitor in an immediate family, each family member may tag up to three additional hogs under the immediate family name (i.e. three family members could tag a total of nine hogs under the family name). Individual animals must be assigned to an individual exhibitor by August 1, **with no more than 3 market animals per exhibitor**.
8. The Swine Show begins at 8:00 am on the Thursday of the Fair.

Market Lambs – Wethers and Ewes

1. All male animals must be castrated prior to initial weigh-in.
2. All lambs must weigh, at minimum, 110 pounds to sell in the auction. Animals that weigh over 170 pounds will be sold at 170 pounds. Sheep must have a rate of gain of .2.
3. Market wether/ewes must be entered in the market class and may be purebred, grade, or crossbred.
4. Individual exhibitors may identify up to three lambs. If there is more than one exhibitor in an immediate family, each family member may tag up to three additional lambs under the immediate family name (i.e. three family members could tag a total of nine lambs under the family name). Individual animals must be assigned to an individual exhibitor by August 1 with no more than 3 market animals per exhibitor. Extra lambs will not be weighed at the Fair.
5. All market lambs must have a scrapie tag and **USDA RFID 840 button ear tag**.
6. The Sheep Show begins approximately at 4:00pm on Thursday of the fair.

Market Beef – Beef Steers, Heifers, and Dairy Steers

1. All male animals must be castrated.
2. Horns must be cleanly removed and healed with no regrowth or scurs.
3. Beef exhibitors must be in the 5th grade or older at time of enrollment to show a market beef. If a 3rd grader shows a feeder calf, they may show THAT animal in market the following year as a 4th grader.
4. Feeder steers can be shown by exhibitors in the 3rd grade or older.

5. Feeder calves must be ear tagged with an **USDA RFID 840 button ear tag** and DNA sampled by August 1st
6. Feeder calf classes can be broken down in up to three different weight group for beef, cross-bred, and dairy beef depending on the number of entries which will be left up to the discretion of the beef superintendent.
7. At final weigh-in, the beef exhibitor or another junior fair exhibitor must lead the animal to the scale. An adult may accompany exhibitor. If any exhibitor cannot lead his/her steer(s) by him/herself unaided, the steer cannot be shown or sold by the exhibitor.
8. A market animal may be any combination of the true beef breeds, **crossbreds (1 parent dairy and 1 parent beef or non-identifiable dairy breeds Lineback and Milking Shorthorn)**, or dairy (any purebred or combination of the following dairy breeds-Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, and Guernsey).
9. Individual exhibitors may identify up to three market beef (steers/heifers/dairy steers). If there is more than one exhibitor in an immediate family, each family member may tag up to three market beef (steers/heifers/dairy steers) under the immediate family name (i.e. three family members could tag a total of nine beef under the family name). Individual animals must be assigned to an individual exhibitor by August 1 **with no more than 3 market animals per exhibitor.**
11. Beef market animals must meet the following specified minimum weights at final weigh-in:

	Minimum	Capped	Rate of Gain
Dairy on Dairy	1,100	1,650	2.0 lbs/day
Beef on Beef Steer/Heifer	1,100	1,575	2.0 lbs/day
Dairy on Beef Steer/Heifer	1,100	1,650	2.0 lbs/day

12. The Beef Market Show begins at 8:00 am on the Friday of the Fair. The market animal show (dairy, cross, beef) will be first followed by feeder calves, Showmanship, and breeding stock.

There will be NO exceptions to the rules.

Decisions of Show Judges, 4-H Livestock Committee, and Shawano County Fair Board are FINAL.

Mandatory Fair Checklist – Market Livestock Project

Activity	Deadline	Submission Location	Completed
Enrolled in Youth Organization of Choice	February 1	4-H Online; FFA; etc.	
Beef Weigh In	February 28th 8 am to 11 am	Paul McClone Livestock, N4774 High Line Rd, Bonduel, WI 54107	
Ear Tag and DNA <i>hair</i> Sample Kit Purchased	By Species Weigh In or May 1	Extension-Shawano County Office	
Contract and DNA Samples for Beef, Sheep, Goats	Due at species weigh-in	Weigh-in	
Sheep and Goats Weigh In	May 7th 5pm - 7 pm	Shawano Fairgrounds	
Swine DNA Sample and Contract Submitted	Dropped off by Third Friday of May	Extension-Shawano County Office	
YQCA	Postmarked or dropped by Third Friday of May	Extension-Shawano County Office	
Two Earned Livestock Credits	August 1	Extension-Shawano County Office	
Fair Entry	August 1	online at www.fairentry.com (preferred) or Extension-Shawano County Office	
Sale Animal Photo	Submitted by August 1	Extension-Shawano County Office	
Feeder Calf Ear tag	Purchased by August 1	Extension-Shawano County Office	
Ag Society Project Financials Papers	August 1	Shawano County Fair Office	
Mentor Designation Form (if applicable)	Final Weigh-in	Final Weigh-in	
WI Intrastate Health Certificate (swine only)	Before pigs unloaded Wednesday of Fair	Final Weigh-in	
Sale Animal Identified	At table during final weigh-in	Final Weigh-in	
Extra Animal Ship Form (Non-Market Animal Transfer Acknowledgement)	At table during final weigh-in by Wednesday at 3pm	Final Weigh-in table	
Thank You Note to Buyer	12 pm Sunday of Fair	Swine Barn 3 Drawer Organizer	
Thank You Note to Award Donor (if applicable)	12 pm Sunday of Fair	Swine Barn 3 Drawer Organizer	

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