



2026 Lancaster County 4-H & FFA Livestock Checklist

DEADLINES & EVENTS

- March 2, 6–7 p.m.** — Market beef weigh-in at Sandhills Global Event Center – EquineMarket Pavilion, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln.
- May 4, 6–7 p.m.** — Sheep and goat weigh-in & tag day at Sandhills Global Event Center – Currency Pavilion, 84th & Havelock.
- May 21 & June 4, 6–7 p.m.** — Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Face-to-Face Training for Livestock Animals at Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln.
- June 15** — No late entries accepted
 - 4-H enrollment due online at <https://4honline.com>.
 - Youth for Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training must be completed, and certificates due to the Extension office or emailed to lancaster4h@unl.edu.
 - Super Fair identification certificates/affidavits for beef, bucket calves, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats and rabbits are due to Extension office or emailed to lancaster4h@unl.edu.
 - State Fair breeding and market livestock nominations must be entered and paid at <https://showstockmgr.com> (step-by-step instructions are online at <https://go.unl.edu/lcsf-animal-entries>). DNA envelopes due to Extension office for State Fair.
- June 18–July 1** — Animal entries and stall/pen reservations for the Lancaster County Super Fair must be entered online through ShoWorks at <https://go.unl.edu/lcsf-animal-entries> between June 18 and July 1, 11:59 p.m. No late entries accepted.
- August 10 by 8 p.m.** — State Fair animal entries due online at <https://nebr.fairwire.com>. Select whether showing in 4-H or FFA.

ID REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPER FAIR

Pick up tags and ID forms from the Extension office M–F, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (forms are also at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair/animals>). You can email lancaster4h@unl.edu or call 402-441-7180 to request tags be placed in the drop-off box for pick up after-hours. Mail ID forms by June 15 to Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528; email to lancaster4h@unl.edu or drop off at Extension (after hours, use drop-off box).

MARKET BEEF, FEEDER CALVES

- Tagged with a 4-H ear tag*
- Submit Market ID Certificate (market beef)
- Submit Breeding ID Certificate (feeder calf)

BREEDING BEEF

- Breeding beef tattoo is their ID number*
- Submit Breeding ID Certificate

*FFA members can use an EID tag for breeding beef and feeder calves.

BUCKET CALVES (requires a record book)

- Tagged with a 4-H ear tag
- Submit Bucket Calf Ownership Affidavit

SHEEP, MEAT GOATS

- Tagged with a USDA scrapie tag (for more info, call 1-866-USDA-TAG)
- Submit Market or Breeding ID Certificate

SWINE

- Tagged with a 4-H ear tag
- Submit Market or Breeding ID Certificate

DAIRY CATTLE, DAIRY GOATS & PYGMY GOATS

- Submit Dairy Cattle or Dairy Goat ID Affidavit

RABBITS

- All rabbits must have a permanent, **legible ID (tattoo)** in the left ear.
- Submit Rabbit Ownership Affidavit (ID form)

ID REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE FAIR

Each livestock project must have a DNA envelope submitted and a \$7 nomination fee paid on Show Stock Manager (<https://showstockmgr.com>) by June 15. This includes feeder calves, and all market and breeding livestock for ALL SPECIES (excluding rabbits and poultry).

DNA envelopes from previous years are NO LONGER VALID.

Pick up tags and DNA envelopes from the Extension office M–F, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. You can email lancaster4h@unl.edu or call 402-441-7180 to request tags and/or DNA envelopes be placed in the drop-off box for pick up after-hours. Submit completed DNA envelopes by June 15 to the Extension office (after hours, use the drop-off box — place in the locked, silver mailbox within).

MARKET & BREEDING: BEEF, FEEDER CALVES, SHEEP, SWINE, MEAT GOATS

- Obtain a Premises ID from NE Dept. of Ag and submit it to the Extension office.
- All market beef, feeder calves, breeding and market swine must be tagged with an official 840 USDA EID tag.
- Registered breeding heifers MUST have legible tattoo OR identification type that is accepted by the breed association that matches online nomination. Commercial heifers may have a legible tattoo OR an EID tag that matches online nomination.
- All breeding and market sheep and meat goats must be tagged with a USDA official scrapie ID. For more info on obtaining USDA official scrapie ID, call 1-866-USDA-TAG.
- DNA envelopes with hair samples for all livestock nominations (breeding, market and feeder calves) submitted to Extension office by June 15.
- All livestock nomination(s) must be entered and paid at <https://showstockmgr.com> by June 15. More information and step-by-step instructions are at <https://4h.unl.edu/state-fair-livestock-id>. \$7 per head for all livestock nominations.

DAIRY CATTLE

- Paper ID affidavit is no longer required, but the same information will need entered in ShoWorks.

RABBITS

- Nebraska State Fair does not require a separate ID form, however, tattoo must be listed during the online entry process.

4-H & FFA Animal Requirements for Super Fair and State Fair

Animal identification requirements

- All livestock and rabbit identifications — as well as **DNA envelopes** — are due by **JUNE 15**. See **Livestock Checklist on previous page**.
- Horse identifications are due **JUNE 1** for the Lancaster County Super Fair.
- 4-H poultry, dogs, cats and household pets do not require identification forms.

Premises ID requirement for market animals

All 4-H & FFA market animals carrying an EID tag are required to have a Premises ID (this includes any that may show at only the county level). Note: Market rabbits do not need a Premises ID. In order to show at the Nebraska State Fair, a Premises ID must be on file for a market animal exhibitor.

A Premises ID number can be obtained through the Nebraska Department of Agriculture by calling 402-471-2351 or 1-800-572-2437. Only one Premises ID is necessary for a family with multiple exhibitors (provided livestock are housed at the same location). Only one Premises ID is necessary for an exhibitor that shows multiple species (provided livestock are housed at the same location). The Premises ID number should correlate to the location in which livestock are kept/housed permanently. For more information, go to <https://nda.nebraska.gov/adt/premises>.

The Premises ID number must be recorded on all livestock identifications.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals requirements for 4-H & FFA members exhibiting **ANY livestock project** at the Lancaster County Super Fair and/or Nebraska State Fair

4-H & FFA members participating in any of the following animal projects will need to complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training:

- Beef (bucket calf, feeder calf, breeding beef, market beef)
- Dairy cattle
- Goat (breeding meat goat, market meat goat, bottle meat goat, dairy/pygmy goat)
- Poultry
- Rabbit
- Sheep (breeding sheep, market sheep)
- Swine (breeding swine, market swine)

Youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H Online at <https://4honline.com>. Only parents/guardians may enroll 4-H members. In Lancaster County, youth may choose one of two options to complete their YQCA requirements:

- Complete online training at <https://yqcaprogram.org>. Cost is \$12. For directions and more information, visit <https://4h.unl.edu/yqca>.
- Attend an in-person training held Thursday, May 21 or Thursday, June 4, 6–7 p.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherry Creek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln. To sign up for in-person trainings, you must go to <https://yqcaprogram.org> before the training. The training will cost \$3, payable by credit or debit card on the website. We cannot take payments in person; all families must register and pay online. You must sign in as proof of attendance — certificates will be available online. **Note: You will need to take a 5-question pre-test at <https://yqcaprogram.org> before attending.**

Deadline to complete YQCA and submit certificates of completion is **JUNE 15**. Send completed certificates to lancaster4h@unl.edu or Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherry Creek Rd., Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68528. If certificates are not submitted, 4-H staff have no way of knowing if trainings have been completed.

If you have further questions, contact the Extension office at 402-441-7180 or lancaster4h@unl.edu.

Aksarben Stock Show

The Aksarben Stock Show is a junior livestock show format. Youth from 9–19 years of age are eligible for the competition with no prerequisite of youth organization affiliation. The Aksarben Stock Show will be held Sept. 24–27, 2026 in Grand Island. **NEW in 2026: Exhibitors planning to show the same animal at both the Nebraska State Fair and the Aksarben Stock Show must submit two separate DNA envelopes and online nominations.** The Aksarben Stock Show online nomination system will be different than Show Stock Manager. Link will be at <https://aksarbenstockshow.com>. Nomination deadline and entry window dates are TBD. For more information, go to <https://aksarbenstockshow.com> or contact the show office at info@showaksarben.com or 308-382-1620.