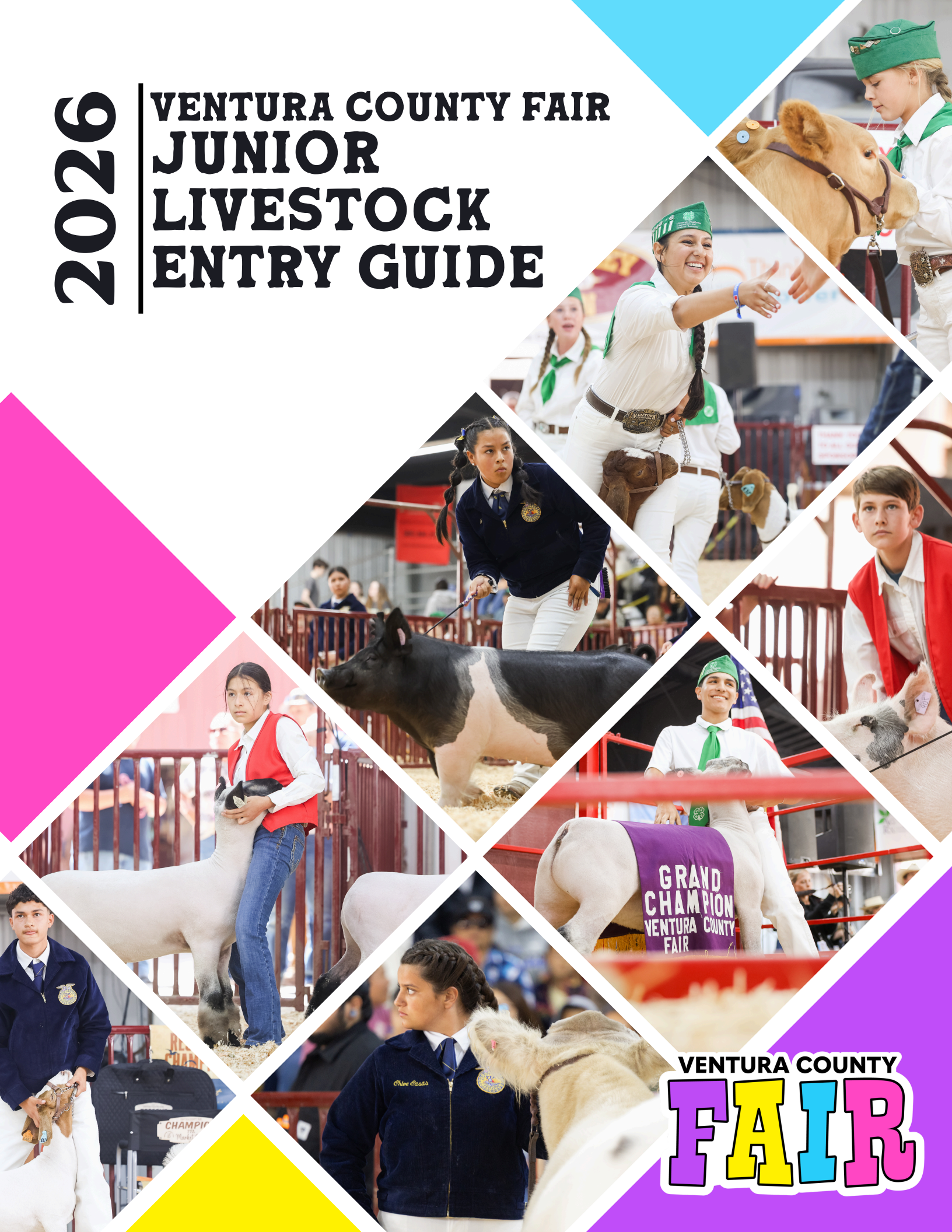


2026

VENTURA COUNTY FAIR
JUNIOR
LIVESTOCK
ENTRY GUIDE



VENTURA COUNTY
FAIR

LARGE LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT

2026 VCF Large Livestock Junior Department

Welcome back to the 2026 Ventura County Fair Large Livestock Department! Please note a few changes and reminders below.

2026 Schedule – The schedule will be released soon

Entries – All entries, forms and payments must be completed online. We do not accept paper entries. Junior Livestock entry portal closes on the following dates to give us time to coordinate paperwork for tagging dates.

- Market Beef
 - Entries close March 30th, 2026
 - Tagging is April 4th, 2026 9am-11am
- Market Hogs, Goats, Lambs
 - Entries close June 2nd, 2026
 - Tagging and DNA Kit pickup is June 6th, 2026 8am-11am
 - Market Hog DNA Kits due June 17th, 2026 by 4pm

Market Animal Weights

- Market Beef: 1000 lbs minimum, no maximum (Buyer pays to 1400 lbs)
- Market Hogs: 215-300lbs (buyer pays to 285lbs)
- Market Lambs: 110-165lbs
- Market Goats: 65-110lbs

Start Times – Start times for both Open and Junior weeks will remain the same as last year, to coincide with the opening time of the Fair.

Junior Breeding Divisions – The following have moved to the Junior Week (Junior Breeding Sheep, Junior Breeding Cattle). The Junior Dairy Goat Show will remain in week (1) of the Fair.

Market Classes and Breeding Classes – Market Animals cannot be entered in the Breeding Classes.

Camping –We will have designated camping at the State Beaches Lot. Please check back and watch the website for camping forms, fees and instructions.

Wristbands & Parking – Wristbands and parking passes will be available online through Showworks. Deadline for ordering is July 10, 2026. You will not be able to purchase them through the Livestock Office after this date. Please order in advance.

Independent Exhibitors – Independent Exhibitors **MUST** claim Independent status and turn in an application no later than April 1st, 2026.

Barrow Show – We are able to keep this in our schedule. This will be managed as a Jackpot Show and cash awards will be awarded to the Top 5. Please pre-enter so we can plan accordingly. The barrow entered in this class must also be entered in the market show.

Bred & Fed – Bred & Fed for all species will be brought back for the Bred & Fed Champion Selection.

Add-Ons – Add-ons will be available online and remain open through August 14th, 2026. More info will be sent to Leaders.

Judges – Names will not be released until contracts are signed and returned. Do not ask.

Foundation Animal – The 2026 Foundation Animal will be a market hog. Exhibitors tagging in two market hogs qualify to be selected for the foundation animal. Exhibitors must submit an essay as to why they should be selected as the Foundation Animal. The selected exhibitor receives a cash award from the VCF Foundation to cover the costs of raising the Foundation Animal. The Foundation Animal is auctioned during the 2026 JLA and proceeds are donated back to the Fair to assist with area improvements, equipment, etc. More information about the program will be sent to all leaders.

2026 LIVESTOCK JUDGING SCHEDULE

**Schedule is subject to change. Please check with Livestock Office upon arrival for any changes.
Management may combine or cancel Classes/Divisions for the betterment of Competition.**

TUESDAY, July 28, 2026

All Junior and Senior Breeding Livestock on grounds by 10 PM

WEDNESDAY, July 29, 2026

11 AM – Open Junior Dairy Goat Showmanship
Followed by Open Junior Division Dairy Goat Show
Followed by Club Groups
Followed by Senior Division Dairy Goats
All non-milkers of all breeds will be shown today.

THURSDAY, July 30, 2026

Ring A - 12 PM – Senior Division Dairy Goats
Milkers of all breeds will be shown today.
Followed by – Best Doe of Show Judging

Ring B - 2 PM - Senior Division Dairy Goats
Milkers of all breeds will be shown today.
Followed by – Best Doe of Show Judging

FRIDAY, July 31, 2026

12 PM – Senior Division Breeding Sheep

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

12 PM – Senior Division Breeding Sheep
Followed by - Supreme Champion Ewe and Ram Judging

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

RING 1

8 PM – Livestock Area Closes. Release order will be posted at the Livestock Office.
ALL PENS MUST BE CLEANED BEFORE EXHIBITORS ARE CLEARED TO LEAVE.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2026

ALL SPECIES MUST BE ON GROUNDS BY 12:00 PM

MOVE-IN SCHEDULE:

5 AM - 8 AM - SWINE
8 AM – 10 AM - SHEEP & GOATS
10 AM -12 PM - BEEF

All Cattle **must** have the following at weigh-in: Original Bill of Sale & Transportation Slip. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

2 PM - Brand Inspection

2 PM - Weigh-in called by species by Club: Lambs, Goats, and Steers

6 PM – Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting – Clark Pavilion.

NOTE: ONE WEIGH-IN ONLY

No re-weighs to meet tolerances will be allowed. The Certified Fair Scale shall be the Official Scale.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026**8 AM** – Weigh-in Market Swine**RING 1****1 PM** – FFA Market Goats

Followed by FFA Champion Judging

Followed by FFA Chapter Groups

Followed by 4H Market Goats

Followed by 4H Champion Judging

Followed by 4H Club Groups

Followed by FFA Market Lambs

Followed by FFA Champion Judging

Followed by FFA Chapter Groups

Followed by 4H Market Lambs

Followed by 4H Champion Judging

Followed by 4H Club Groups

Followed by Open Junior Breeding Sheep

5 PM –Grand Champion Judging Market Goat, Market Lamb, and Bred & Fed Champions

Schedule is subject to change. Please check with Livestock Office upon arrival for any changes. Management may combine or cancel Classes/Divisions for the betterment of Competition.

RING 2**7 PM** – Open Junior Barrow Show (must be pre-entered)**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026****12 PM** – FFA Market Swine

Followed by FFA Champion Judging

Followed by FFA Chapter Groups

Followed by 4H Market Swine

Followed by 4H Champion Judging

Followed by 4H Club Groups

Followed by Farmer's Pen of Three

5 PM – Grand Champion Judging Market Swine and Bred & Fed Champion**THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026****RING 1****12 PM** – FFA Market Steers & Market Heifers

Followed by FFA Champion Judging

Followed by FFA Chapter Groups

Followed by 4H Market Steers & Market Heifers

Followed by 4H Champion Judging

Followed by 4H Club Groups

Followed by Rancher's Pen of Three

Followed by Junior Breeding Heifers

4PM - Grand Champion Judging Market Steer and Bred & Fed Champions

Schedule is subject to change. Please check with Livestock Office upon arrival for any changes. Management may combine or cancel Classes/Divisions for the betterment of Competition.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION**FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026****The order of sale will be:**

9:00 AM – Chickens & Lambs

11:00 AM – Rabbits & Steers

12:00 PM - Champion Drive & Swine

3:00 PM Turkey & Goats

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

NOTE: All Showmanship Classes will show in the following order: Grange Junior / Senior / Novice; FFA Advanced / Novice; and 4-H Junior /Senior / Novice. Independents will show in their age appropriate 4-H or FFA Class. ***This schedule is subject to change.***

RING 1 Showmanship Classes

12 PM – FFA Market Goat
 Followed by 4-H Market Goat
 Followed by FFA Market Lamb
 Followed by 4-H Market Lamb
 Followed by FFA Market Beef
 Followed by 4-H Market Beef
 Junior Breeding Heifers and Market Beef will Show together

RING 2 Swine Showmanship Classes

11 AM – FFA Market Swine
 Followed by 4-H Market Swine

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

6 AM-8 AM – Removal of Tack and Live Animal Pick-Up. Decorations must remain until Livestock Area closes to the public.
11 AM Round Robin Showmanship

Award Ceremonies

1 PM – FFA Award Ceremony
2 PM - 4-H Award Ceremony
 Followed by:
4 PM - Pee Wee Showmanship
8 PM LIVESTOCK AREA CLOSES; ALL MARKET ANIMAL PENNING
ALL PENS MUST BE CLEANED BEFORE EXHIBITORS ARE CLEARED TO LEAVE.

Congratulations 2025 Grand Champions

Grand Champion Market Steer
 Annalise Barragan

Grand Champion Market Swine
 Olivia Nava

Grand Champion Market Lamb
 Andy Torres

Grand Champion Market Goat
 Reata Cruz

Large Livestock

Superintendent – Jimmy Hutchinson
 Online Entries – Holly Norris – VCFairauction@gmail.com
 (805) 648-3376 / livestock@venturacountyfair.org

HOW TO ENTER: Online only – entries close March 30th (market beef), MAY 30th (market hogs, goats & lambs) or JULY 10, 2026 (open show, all breeding animals), depending on the Division you are entering.

www.venturacountyfair.org

We will only be accepting online registration for entries. If you will require assistance in order to complete the online registration entries process, please call the fair office at 805-648-3376 and we will assist you with computer entries. **Except** Wool Fleece and any Division(s) with special entry requirements. See each Division for entry requirements. No late entries accepted. Online entries close at 11:50 pm for each deadline applicable to your entry. **Checks expire on October 23, 2026, and will not be redeemed after this date.**

We will only be accepting online registration for entries. If you will require assistance in order to complete the online registration entries process, please call the fair office at 805-648-3376 and we will assist you with computer entries.

State Rules Apply: As referred to in the Exhibitor Handbook, all state and local rules apply.

Entry: Late entries will not be received. Entry fees are nonrefundable. NO EXCEPTIONS

ENTRY FEES

Junior Breeding Divisions:

Breeding Heifers	\$20.00 per class
Breeding Lambs	\$20.00 per class
Showmanship	\$10.00 per class

Junior Market Divisions:

Steers, Swine, Lambs, Goats	\$40.00 (Each animal)
Barrow Show	\$35.00
Bred & Fed	No entry fee
Showmanship	\$10.00 per class
DNA Kit (per swine)	\$15.00 per kit

Entry Fees, Drug Fees, Vet Fees, and DNA Kit Fees are non-refundable
DNA KITS FOR SWINE AVAILABLE: (must be paid and ordered online – no onsite payments accepted)

ENTRY DEADLINES & TAGGING DATES

Junior Market Entries must be complete with all paperwork uploaded online before tagging day!

Market Steers: Online Portal will close March 30th, 2026 @ 11:59PM
Market Swine, Goats & Lambs: Online Portal will close June 2nd, 2026 @ 11:59PM
Market Swine DNA Kits: Due June 17th, 2026 by 4PM
Junior Breeding Division: Online Portal will close July 10, 2026 @ 11:59PM

Tagging Dates:

Steers: April 4, 2026 9AM-11AM
Goats/Lamb/Swine: June 6, 2026 8AM-11AM

NOTE – YQCA Certificates and Exhibitor Code of Practice must be uploaded with your entry!!

MOVE-IN/MOVE OUT SCHEDULE

JUNIOR MARKET DIVISIONS

The maximum market weights for all Market animals have been put back in place. Minimum weights did not change. The maximum pay weights remain in place and are relevant only to the Junior Livestock Auction and will not be considered in the class break process. Appropriate weight ranges for class winners will be determined by the individual Judges and their interpretation of current market standards. Market Steers Minimum 1000lbs-no maximum (pay to 1400lbs), Market Hogs 215lbs-300lbs (pay to 285lbs), Market Lambs 110lbs-165lbs, Market Goats

Move-In: Monday, August 3, 2026

Move-Out: Sunday, August 9, 2026

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK MARKET DIVISIONS

Open to 4-H, FFA, Grange & Independent Youth of Ventura County MARKET ANIMALS CANNOT BE SHOWN IN BREEDING CLASSES

1. Junior Livestock Market Divisions are open to Members of 4-H, FFA, Grange Youth Groups and Independent Youth of Ventura County. To participate in a 4-H, FFA and Grange Large Livestock Animal Project at the Ventura County Fair, a child must be an Official 4-H Member and be nine (9) years old on or before December 31, 2025; Official Grange Member must be nine (9) year old on January 1, 2026; and Independent Junior Exhibitors must be at least nine (9) years of age by January 1, 2026 and are eligible to Compete/Exhibit through December 31st of the year in which they turn 19 years of age and a resident of Ventura County. FFA Members may participate as Members until the end of the calendar year following the year of graduation.
2. Independent & Grange Exhibitors aged 9-13 years will Compete in 4-H Divisions and Independent Exhibitors aged 14-19 years will Compete in FFA Divisions. Independent & Grange Junior Exhibitors are limited to residents of Ventura County. Independent Exhibitors must have registered with Exhibit Office by April 1, 2026, to be eligible to participate in the 2026 Ventura County Fair.
3. All Market Livestock Classes restricted to Members of Clubs chartered under the Ventura County Section of FFA, Ventura County 4-H Council, Ventura County Grange, and Members of the following clubs: Agoura 4-H, Shadow Hills 4-H, and Carpinteria FFA. All Junior Livestock Exhibitors must be Ventura County residents or Members of the Ventura County Chartered Club or Chapter.
4. Unless an Exhibitor formally switched affiliation prior to January 1, 2026, they will be considered continuously affiliated with the organization to which they belonged prior to January 1, 2026, through the 2025 Fair. Exhibitors transferring from out-of-county or joining any organization for the first time will be allowed to enroll based on chosen organizations enrollment criteria as well as complying with all other Fair Rules, including but not limited to Minimum Length of Ownership, Records of Project Manager, etc.
5. Juniors who have been 4-H, FFA or Grange Project Members within 60 days (120 days for Horse and Market Beef) prior to the Fair are not eligible to compete in that project as Independent Youth or enter project(s) under a different organization. Independent Exhibitors must register with the Exhibit Office no later than April 1, 2026, to be eligible to participate in the 2026 Ventura County Fair.
6. Participant (Youth Exhibitor), Parent or Guardian, 4-H Leader, FFA Instructor or Grange Leader Agreement of Responsibility and Liability: It is clearly understood and agreed that the Ventura County Fair and its officials, officers, directors, employees and agents (herein collectively referred to as "Ventura County Fair") and State of California shall not be responsible for any damage, loss or injury to any person or property which is caused directly or indirectly for any reason. The Exhibitor, Owner, Parents or Legal Guardian, their Agents and/or Representative, (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Participants"), agree to indemnify and hold Ventura County Fair and the State of California harmless of any damage, injury or loss suffered during or in connection with the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Show and Auction (or any other animal event or competition). In the event Ventura County Fair is subject to any expense or liability, including but not limited to consultant fees, legal or court costs, Ventura County Fair Management labor and expenses, expenses and/or costs for blood, tissue, urine, DNA, hide and/or carcass sampling and testing incurred as a result of Ventura County Fair Rule and Regulation violation and all agreements thereunder, including, but not limited to unethical fitting, filling, meat tampering, illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication and/or prohibited substance(s) as a result of Participant's involvement in the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Show and Auction (or any other animal event or competition), Participant, or if participant is a minor, participant's Parent or Guardian shall indemnify and hold harmless the Ventura County Fair for all damage, expenses and liabilities incurred as a result thereof. Participant(s) may also be subject to criminal charges.
7. The Participants will have full control, custody, care and feeding of any animal(s) and/or personal property, which are brought on or about the premises of the Ventura County Fair.
8. It is clearly understood between the Participants and the Ventura County Fair that, as a material condition to any participant entering or showing at the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Show and Auction (or any other animal event or competition),

the Ventura County Fair will at no time have control, custody or care of any animal(s) and/or personal property which are brought on or about the Ventura County Fair.

9. For the overall working of the Show, the Participant will maintain control, custody, care and feeding of any and all animals and/or personal property in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Auction (or any other animal event or competition), and in no way will the Ventura County Fair be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur to the animal or personal property. By submitting an application for entry, Participants agree to comply with all Rules and Regulations governing the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Auction (or any other animal event or competition) as published in the Ventura County Fair Entry Guide. Further, Participants certify to the accuracy of the total ownership of the entry for the prescribed number of days, continuous possession and care, and the provisions of the rules against unethical fitting, filling, and/or alterations of conformation and color of animal(s), meat tampering and illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication, treatment and/or prohibited substances on the entered animal.
10. **NOTE:** All Junior Livestock Summary Forms MUST be signed by a 4-H Leader, FFA Advisor, Grange Leader, or Independent Junior Exhibitor's Parent or Legal Guardian by the close of entries. Failure to have all signatures will require the payment of a \$20.00 late penalty fee. Receipt of payment of late fee must be received by the Livestock Office prior to July 29, 2026, or Exhibitor will not be allowed to exhibit or participate in any Livestock Competition.
11. See each Division for close of entries.
12. Entries in Market Classes limited to two (2) Large Livestock animals of different species and/or one (1) Chicken, Rabbit, or Turkey Meat pens, and permitted to sell one (1) Large Livestock animal at the Auction and/or one (1) Chicken, Rabbit, or Turkey Meat pens.
 - a. An Exhibitor can tag up to 3 animals of any combination of specie. The animals they select to exhibit at the Junior Livestock Show must be of 2 different species.
13. All junior livestock entries must be in place by 12:00 PM, Monday, August 3, 2026.
14. Fair Management reserves the right to change the Entry Guide for any reason.
15. Premiums checks expire October 23, 2026, and Auction checks expire 90 days after issue date.

Move-in schedule as follows:

**Load In Begins – 5:00 AM
Swine – 5:00 AM – 8:00 AM
Sheep & Goats – 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Beef – 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

If you miss your species move-in time, come any time before 12:00 PM.

16. All Junior Livestock will be assigned pens and/or stalls by the Livestock Superintendent.
17. All pens and stall areas are to be cleaned by 9:00 AM daily and are to be always kept clean. ***DO NOT*** throw water in the barn aisle or put bedding in the trash cans.
18. ALL PENS MUST BE CLEANED BEFORE EXHIBITORS WILL BE CLEARED TO LEAVE THE FAIRGROUNDS ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026.
19. Bedding will **not** be provided by the Fair. The Exhibitor must furnish bedding, hay, and feed. Bedding will be available for purchase through an approved local feed vendor. Any other delivery must be made before 9:00 AM off grounds. No cars or trucks will be allowed in the Livestock Area.

20. Fair Management will not be responsible for any errors or omissions on online entries. ***There will be no late entries accepted.*** Showmanship Classes must be entered by the entry deadline.
21. All animals entered in the Junior Livestock Show must be capable of **BEING LED BY THE EXHIBITOR** or it will be released by the Livestock Superintendent upon arrival to ensure the safety of the public and Exhibitors.
22. Any Member persistently neglecting his or her Project Animal will be asked to remove said animal from the Fairgrounds. Project Animals are the responsibility of the Member while on the Fairgrounds.
23. It is the intention of Fair Management that the majority of the Livestock fitting is done before the animal arrives at the Fairgrounds and that Youth Exhibitors care for their own animal. No adult, leader/advisor, or non-Exhibiting Youth will be allowed to groom, prepare an animal for show or care for the animal while on the Fairgrounds.
24. Generators are encouraged and allowed on grounds.
25. Blocking chutes are allowed on grounds. The Superintendent may give permission for blocking chutes to be removed prior to 9:00 AM on Sunday, August 9, 2026.
26. No one will be permitted in the Judging Ring at the time of judging except those authorized by the Livestock Superintendent or Judges.
27. No person shall be allowed, under any circumstances, to interfere with the Judge(s) regarding their adjudications, or with the Fair's staff, or to offer any audible criticism of an Exhibit or Exhibitor. Violators of this rule shall be subject to such additional penalties, including cancellations of awards, as Management shall consider proper. Any interference / confrontation with the Judge or Weighmaster by any Parent, Leader or Exhibitor is grounds for dismissal from the Show. It is unethical to contact the Judge in any way (email, phone, Facebook, blog, Twitter, etc.) prior to judging.
28. **NOTE:** All Junior Exhibitors must have Project Management Records and Proof of Supervision available as to length of project. Project Records must be made available in the event they are requested. **PLEASE NOTE** – We are not collecting Project Records but may at any time require to review them.
29. No dogs allowed on grounds, except as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), in accordance with the Ventura County Fairgrounds and Event Center Dog Policy.
30. Food or Drink for human consumption is *prohibited* in the Livestock Area.
31. **NOTE:** All Exhibitors are required to have adult supervision when on the fairgrounds. Adult Supervisor must be at least 25 years of age. The Adult Supervisor's cell phone number must be on file with the Livestock Office.
32. Large Livestock animals are not permitted to leave the Large Livestock area, as defined by the areas west of Garden St. and north of Main St.
33. Exhibitors will each receive one (1) admission wristband, valid for admission to the Ventura County Fair for 12 days. All other family members need to purchase admission wristbands through the Ventura County Fair ShoWorks site.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION RULES.

1. Entry is required online only at www.venturacountyfair.org for any and all entries submitted; submissions of data require that you will abide with all the terms and requirements as defined and published (printed and electronic) in the Large Livestock Entry Guide and Regulations of the same. A copy of these Rules and Regulations, and the complete Entry Guide is online at the Fair's website. By typing "Yes" to proceed with online entry submission, the Exhibitors and their Agents, Parents, and Leaders acknowledge and agree that they: Understood and have read the State Rules and Local Rules and the entire Large Livestock Entry Guide; agree to abide by them; certify that all information submitted on the online entry is true and accurate; and agree to comply with the Fair's decision regarding any alleged violation of the State or Local Rules as an entrant. The Exhibitor hereby releases the Ventura

County Fair and the State of California from all liability of every kind and character on account of loss, damages, or injury to property, which they may have on the Fairgrounds. The Exhibitor understands that information contained in the entry may be released to the media. If this online submission is not completely and correctly filled out and “Yes” provided in the below box, the Exhibitor may be eliminated from the Show. By submitting the entry information, the Exhibitors and their Agents, Parents and Leaders acknowledge and agree that they understand and have read the Entry Guide, State Rules and Local Rules, agree to abide by them, and understand that violation of rules will result in some level of sanction, and certify that all information on the online entry is true and accurate, and agree to comply with the Fair’s decision regarding any alleged violation of the State or Local Rules.

2. Exhibitor may enter a maximum of three (3) animals of the any species, with the following fees: Entry fee: **\$40.00 per animal** (only **two** (2) animal may be brought to the Fair); due at time of online entry deadline - Market Steer, **Entries close March 30th, 2026 – tagging is April 4th, 2026**; Market Goat, Market Lamb and Market Swine, **Entries close June 2nd, 2026 tagging is June 6th, 2026**.
3. Exhibitors are limited to the sale of one (1) Large Livestock Market Animal: Goat, Lamb, Steer or Swine and/or one (1) Chicken, Rabbit or Turkey Meat Pen per Exhibitor.
4. If an exhibitor competed with two Large Livestock Market Animals, they must notify the Large Livestock Office of which entry they intend to sell at the Auction. **Exhibitors must declare which animal they intend to sell at the time of weigh in.** The only instance in which an exhibitor is permitted to sell two Large Livestock animals is if both of their entries finished as Overall Grand Champion. This exemption does not extend to division Grand Champions, such as FFA Grand Champion or 4-H Grand Champion.
5. In order for Market Swine to be eligible to show at the Fair, a **“Pre-Entry” DNA Sample(s)** must have been submitted to the Fair Administration Office **by 4:00 PM, June 17th, 2026**. (Please note) ownership deadlines are March 31st, 2026, for Market Steers/Heifers; May 30th, 2026, for Market Goats, Market Lambs, Market Swine; and June 29th, 2026, for Market Meat Pens (Chicken, Rabbits, Turkeys).
5. **Ownership Requirements:**
 - a. For the purpose of enforcing Ownership Requirement, the Ventura County Fair will require that Market Swine designated for entry in the 2026 Ventura County Fair must have had a hair sample(s) submitted by the Exhibitor on or prior to or before June 17th, 2026. No Market Swine will be eligible for official entry unless this sample is obtained and an official DNA Registration Form was completed, and sample received by the deadline. All DNA Samples in the first collection will be the responsibility of the Exhibitor as required by the DNA Collection Packet and related collection procedures.
 - b. Designated Junior Market Swine will be required to have a second DNA sample collected after they are weighed in. Exhibitors must be accompanied by a Parent, Legal Guardian, Leader, or Advisor at this time. From these two samples, a DNA Matching Analysis Test may be run to verify both samples match and confirm the identity of each animal. There will be no deviation from this procedure. Any animal not having a sample collected before the Ownership Deadline or at the Fair or both will not be allowed to enter or compete in the 2026 Junior Swine Shows.
 - c. All Market Swine Exhibitors must purchase a DNA Collection Kit and complete the collection process by the deadline as listed in rules and online.
 - d. The Exhibitor will be responsible for the hair collection and the animal must be ear tagged by the Exhibitor at the time of the first DNA collection. Exhibitor must be accompanied by a Parent, Legal Guardian, Leader, or Advisor at this time. Ear tags are to be placed on the outside of the left ear with the number facing in the upright position so the Judge and the Clerks may easily read your tag. Animal with no ear tag will not be weighed.
 - e. In the case where an animal sample of any species does not match after the DNA Analysis test, the animal in question will be disqualified, all awards must be returned, premiums money and sale proceeds must be returned, and all Ventura County Fair Rules and State Rules for California Fairs will be enforced. The Owner/Exhibitor and members of his/her immediate family may not be eligible to compete in subsequent Ventura County Fair Programs. The extent and degree of future eligibility shall be determined by Fair Management. The Ventura County Fair further reserves the right to test samples at any time after collection (i.e., during Fair and future years).
 - f. The Official DNA Ear Tag must always be on the animal or awards will not be paid.

To meet the Fair’s DNA requirements, Exhibitors need to do the following for Swine:

- a. Purchase DNA Kit for each animal (Swine) entering at a cost of \$15.00 per kit. The kit will include DNA Registration Form; 2 envelopes for hair samples, instructions on how to collect hair samples, and an ear tag.

- b. DNA Kits will be available on June 6th, 2026, at tagging day 8 AM – 11 AM, and completed samples due back by 4:00 PM on June 17th, 2026.
 - c. 2 pictures due with DNA ON JUNE 17th: a close up showing the head with ear tag/notches visible and a pic of animal with the Exhibitor. ON June 6th: 4 pictures are due (Swine): right side profile, left side profile, rear view, clear head shot, with the Exhibitor in one of the pictures. (see diagram on page 29)
6. Exhibitors who have sold animals in 2026 at other County Fairs will not be permitted to sell at the Ventura County Fair.
 7. Animals will be divided into weight groups for judging after weigh-in.
 8. Animal must be always in the possession of Exhibitor by the Ownership Requirements set forth by the State Rules for California Fairs. Market Steers/Heifers–March 31st, 2026; Market Goats/Lambs/Swine – May 30th, 2026.
 9. All entries must be in place by 12:00 PM Monday, August 3, 2026. A Certificate of Animal Medication and Treatment is required for all Market Animals certifying that the animal is drug free. This certificate must be presented at the scale or animal will not be weighed.
 10. All Market Animals must be weighed on a certified scale located on the Fairgrounds. **ONE (1) WEIGH-IN ONLY**. No re-weigh. The Exhibitor is responsible for seeing that animals under their control are available for weighing at the time designated by the Superintendent of the Large Livestock Department. No private scales are allowed on Fairgrounds. Any violation of this rule will be cause for disqualification of any/all Exhibitors involved.
 11. All Youth Exhibitors are required to participate in barn duty. All Exhibitors are to always have adult supervision when on the fairgrounds. The Livestock Area has limited hours, please check schedule.
 12. No Junior Exhibitor may exhibit an animal in a Market Class once it has been sold as a Market Animal through a Fair Junior Livestock Auction.
 13. During the Fair, the Large Livestock Superintendent must be notified immediately upon the death of a Market Animal. Anyone reporting a deceased animal **must speak directly** to Livestock Superintendent, no “messages”. It is the Exhibitor’s responsibility to report the death of a Market Animal directly to the Superintendent.
 14. The Auction will be **Friday, August 7, 2026**, beginning at 9:00 AM. Goats, Lambs, Steers, Heifers, and Swine will be sold by the **pound**. Market Rabbits, Roasters and Turkeys will be sold by the pen.
 15. Only “Market Ready” (Group 1 & 2) Goats, Lambs, Steers, Heifers and Swine will be eligible for Auction.
 16. Auction sales are limited to Exhibitors eligible to show in Market Classes. All animals selected as Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion must be sold at Auction.
 17. Classification weight will also serve as sale weight, with no shrinkage taken.
 18. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to see that the animal is at the Sale Ring according to the sale order.
 19. Except for Grand and Reserve Grand Champions, a Market Animal that qualifies for Auction may be withdrawn from Auction at any time before 5:00 PM the day preceding the Auction. For an animal that goes to Auction, the Auction participant must agree to waive his or her “right to reserve bid” and authorize the Fair Association to sell “without reserve” to the highest bidder, the Exhibitor agrees to abide by this rule.
 20. No Exhibitor will be permitted to bid on an animal from the Sale Ring. It is not considered ethical for Parents to bid or buy their child’s animals. Exhibitors must sell their own animals unless permission is granted by Fair Management to do otherwise.
 21. **NO** Auction Animal Exhibitor, Parent, Grandparent, Aunt, Uncle, Sibling, Guardian or Leader/Advisor shall contact Buyers for the purpose of buying back animals or ask Buyer to give an animal back. Exhibitors found to be in violation of this rule will face

consequences up to revoking future eligibility to exhibit at the Ventura County Fair, determined on a case-by-case basis by the Fair Management Team.

- 22. No "For Sale" signs are allowed under any circumstances. *No soliciting of Buyers allowed during Auction.*
- 23. **If Fair ear tags are removed from Market Animals during Fair, the Exhibitor and/or Organization will be fined \$500 per animal.**
- 24. A commission fee of 4% on Steers and 6% on Swine, Lamb, Goat, and Rabbit Meat Pens, Chickens and Turkeys will be charged. Commission fee is based on gross income from the sale and add-ons of the animal. This commission is used to offset the cost of the Auction.
- 25. All Exhibitors are required to write Thank You letters to Buyers (including add-on buyers). Thank You letters must be turned into the Fair Administration Office before the Auction check will be released to Exhibitor/Parent/Advisor/Leader.
- 26. **Thank You Letter Procedure:**
 - a. *All participants in the Junior Livestock Auction are required to write a Thank You letter to their Main Buyer and Add-on buyers. Junior Livestock Auction Buyers support and advocate Youth Large and Small Animal projects. Please take the time to thank them properly for their continued support and generous contributions. Leaders/Advisors will be provided with a list of Main and Add-on Buyers for the Exhibitors use to write their Thank You letters.*
 - b. *The Thank You letters should be **handwritten by the exhibitor** in pen by the exhibitor and must be in a properly and completely addressed, stamped, and unsealed in an envelope (See diagram below). The Fair will not supply any material or stamps for your use.*
 - c. *The Thank You letters are to be turned in to the **Main Administration Office once exhibitors have been notified that checks are ready for pick up.** The Fair Administration Staff will collect the letters and mark off the Exhibitor as turning in their Thank You letters. The Thank You letters will be mailed from the Fair Administration Office on the day they are received from Exhibitor.*
 - d. *No Auction checks will be released until Thank You letters have been turned in to the Fair Administration Office.*
 - e. *No Auction check will be released until all Buyer payments, drug testing results, DNA testing results, and Thank You letters are received by the Fair.*
 - f. *When checks are available, notification emails will be sent to Youth Organizations for Pick-up and Distribution to Exhibitors; the notification will also be posted on the Fair website. Checks will not be mailed.*

Example of how to address an envelope:



- 27. Replacement of Auction checks and/or Premium checks: If an Auction check or Premiums check which has been issued to an Exhibitor has been destroyed or lost by the Exhibitor or his/her agent, a replacement check can be issued after a stop payment has been made and a fee of \$50 has been paid. ANY CHECK \$25 and under will not be replaced. *Premium Checks will not be redeemed after October 23, 2026.*

28. **The Perfect Buyer's Gift**- A donation to the Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation! Purchase Your Auction Buyer's Gift from the Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation. Buyers Certificates are a great alternative to traditional Buyer's gifts. Your donation, in any amount, supports the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Certificates may be purchased for any amount and will be available for purchase at the Auction Office on Auction Day.
29. There will be no resale on Market Hogs.
30. All Resale animals will be sold to the highest bidder by species. All bids must be turned into the Livestock Office by 12:00 PM on Thursday, August 6, 2026. No individual buybacks allowed.
- a. **NO** shipping changes for animals purchased in Auction after 12:00 PM Saturday, August 8, 2026.
31. No Livestock (underweight or overweight) sold under private treaties will be allowed on the Auction Committee trucks. Arrangement for transportation of said animals must be made between the Buyer and the Seller.
32. In the event of a terminal show the Fair reserves the right to recover from the Exhibitor, the cost of transportation and processing of all animals that must be terminated but did not go through the Auction.
33. **PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT** any activities to deceive the Judges and/or Buyers or misrepresent the true natural condition of animals including, but not limited to, applying ice by whatever means to exhibit animals in any form within forty-eight (48) hours prior to competition, judging, selling, or other such practices including but not limited to, feeding of salt or other substances intended to make the animal drink unusual amounts of water to increase weight; excessive and/or forced watering to increase weight; or injecting substances intended to make the animal drink less to reduce weight, is an unethical activity and any animal subject to such activity will be disqualified from further competition, and shall be ineligible for sale in the Junior Livestock Auction of a Market Animal.
34. Any Exhibitor found guilty of violation of any of the above rules may be disqualified from the Fair or Auction or both and their privilege to enter animals at the Ventura County Fair revoked.
35. **Quality Assurance Training:** The Ventura County Fair is committed to Livestock Quality Assurance training and the important animal care information now available to all Youth and Parents. **All** Youth Exhibitors (excluding primary members) competing in Small and Large Livestock categories are required as a condition of entry to complete the National Online Training program known as **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)**. Learn more and complete your training by going to: <http://yqcaprogram.org/>. This Certification Program will NOT be required for primary members. All Exhibitors must complete the YQCA training for the 2026 Ventura County Fair.
- a. The program is required to be completed by the Exhibitor; upon completion a Certificate of Completion will be given to signify completion of the program.
- b. Certification is good for one calendar year from the date of completion.
36. Neglect of an animal after Market Judging will result in removal of animal from the Auction.
37. Any Youth who does not participate as an Auction Runner will be charged a \$50.00 fee.
38. Independent Exhibitor Information (please see Independent Exhibitor Guidelines located on the Fair website for more information):
- a) An Independent Exhibitor Application must be filed with the Exhibit Office by April 1, 2026 to participate in the 2026 Ventura County Fair; b) pictures of the Market Animal must be included with entry form (5 pictures – Swine-right side profile, left side, rear view, clear front head view, and one with the Exhibitor and Swine); c) Appropriate proof of ownership (bill of sale); d) Adult Supervisor must be at least 25 years of age; e) all Independent Exhibits must complete a Project Management Report (download from Fair website) and turned in to Exhibit Office; f) Independent Exhibitors are required to perform a minimum of 6 hours of community service; g) Independent Exhibitors are required to provide proof of liability insurance; and g) Independent Exhibitors are required to follow all rules pertaining to Junior Livestock Exhibitors.
39. **NOTE:** Payment for all Veterinarian/Hospital services must be paid at time service is performed.
40. Add-Ons will be also be available online and open until August 14th.

41. Exhibitors are not permitted to solicit or encourage add-ons or contributions to be made through private payment channels, for example but not limited to Venmo or GoFundMe. Exhibitors found to be in violation of this rule will face consequences up to revoking future eligibility to exhibit at the Ventura County Fair, determined on a case-by-case basis by the Fair Management Team.

It is recommended that Exhibitors bring materials to safely secure the pen gates (*NO LOCKS*). Animals in the tie barns will need neck ropes and halters.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

In the event an entry or an Exhibitor is disqualified for any rule or policy violation (including but not limited to practice or procedures that are unethical, those in violation of the Fair's Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program and those not adhering to the Fair's schedule for the program), any or all of the following actions can or will take place:

- a. The entry or Exhibitor that is disqualified will be declared ineligible and may not receive awards, premium money and/or sales proceeds. Further, the Exhibitor shall be responsible for payment of any fees, fines due or costs incurred by the State and the Ventura County Fair as a result of disqualification.
- b. The Owner/Exhibitor and members of his/her immediate family may not be eligible to compete in subsequent Ventura County Fair Programs. The extent and degree of future eligibility shall be determined by Fair Management, including, minimally not be eligible for 12 months, or if the infringement is severe enough expelled from future competition at the Ventura County Fair.
- c. Fair Management reserves the right but is not required to move entries up in placing after judging has taken place when an award void is created by disqualification. This process of moving up judged entries shall only take place, however, when it is clear what the Judge's placing would have been had the disqualified entry not been in competition. For example, when a Champion is disqualified, the Reserve shall move up and be named the Champion; however, no other changes shall take place below the Reserve Champion. The same shall apply in the Class, Section or Division winner when Second Place has been clearly indicated by the Judge. If it is not possible to clearly determine a new placing, no change shall take place. When a placing change does take place, the entry moving up will receive all the awards, appropriate titles and all premiums of the disqualified entry but will not receive any of the original placing awards or premiums won in the second category. In other words, Second Place will now receive First Place money and "no" entry will receive Second Place.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The **Official 4-H Show Uniform** consists of dark blue, black, or white pants, a plain white shirt with collar (any length sleeve, including sleeveless), 4-H tie or scarf (optional), 4-H hat (branded with UC ANR and the 4-H clover logo (current green hat and/or white hats are acceptable), brown, black or white belt, and brown, black or white shoes/boots. Boots are to be worn inside the trouser legs. No sandals allowed. Hat is to be worn on head.

The **Official FFA Uniform** consists of white trousers, white dress shirt (long or short sleeved) with the FFA emblem attached to the left pocket and the official FFA four-in-hand necktie. Official FFA jacket is optional; if worn, shirt emblems are not required. Hats or headgear of any kind shall not be worn with the official show uniform while showing. Boots are to be worn inside the trouser legs. No sandals allowed.

The **Official Grange Uniform** consists of dark blue denim pants, white long or short sleeved button front dress shirt with collar; the official red waist vest with an emblem on the back; black or brown belt with appropriate buckle; and brown or black boots (lace-up style preferred). Hats or headgear of any kind shall not be worn with the official uniform while showing. Members may wear awards pins on the upper left chest of the vest. Boots are to be worn inside the trouser legs. No sandals allowed.

The **Official Dress for Independent** Junior Exhibitors is dark blue or black denim pants, long or short-sleeved white button-down dress shirt with collar, black/brown boots or closed toed shoes, and black/brown belt. Boots are to be worn inside the trouser legs. No sandals allowed. No hats of any kind. Neckwear is optional.

4-H UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:

4-H Program Supervisor:

Janet Garcia

4-H Youth Development Programs are non-traditional, voluntary educational programs operated under the auspices of the University of California Cooperative Extension and the United States Department of Agriculture. The projects exhibited at the Ventura County Fair are the result of member's efforts under the supervision of adult volunteers.

FFA UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:

Camarillo High School:	Breanna Berrington
Carpinteria High School:	Emily Garcia
Fillmore Union High School:	Pam Klittich, Sal Lopez
Santa Paula High School:	Alex Flores
Ventura High School:	Amy Lewandoski
Nordhoff High School	Annelisa Cohen

The Future Farmers of America (FFA) is the largest High School Student Organization in the United States. Its purpose is to provide students with the confidence to succeed. This is accomplished through classroom instruction, student projects, leadership, and community service. Participation in Fairs and Livestock Shows under the Supervision of the Agriculture Instructor is an integral component for the Exhibitor and the FFA Program.

GRANGE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF:

CA State Grange Master (President):	Joseph Stefenoni
CA State Grange Fair Program:	Tacy Curry

The Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, is a National organization with State, County, and Local Community Chapters. It is of interest to all who are growers, processors, and consumers of agricultural products. The "Grange Youth Fair Program" is a sanctioned body of the California State Grange, made up of young people from the age of 5 through 19 years of age. The members of the Grange Youth Fair Program participate voluntarily in a non-formal program designed to: increase their confidence; strengthen their character; and teach the importance of self-discipline while enjoying the fellowship of other young men and women. The projects displayed at the Fairs by members are the results of their own efforts under the supervision of volunteer leaders. *(SEE LOCAL RULES)*

DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING

Except for Showmanship Classes, all breeds are judged together. Ribbons only awarded: Champion Rosette, Reserve Champion Rosette.

The Danish System of Judging is based upon established standard of quality for each type of product. In this system each exhibit is judged according to how well it meets the standard rather than how it compares to other exhibits.

JUDGING SCALE – DANISH SYSTEM

1st Group:	Superior	92% - 100% Blue
2nd Group:	Good	84% - 91% Red
3rd Group:	Average-Acceptable	70% - 83% White
4th Group:	Poor-Undesirable	69% or less No Ribbon

State Rules and Health Rules applicable to the Senior Department also apply to the Junior Department.

Exhibitors and Parents/Guardians are required to sign the statement on the Livestock Entry form indicating you have read and understand the following rules: Animal Health Rules as listed in the State Rules for California Fairs, must be followed. All Exhibitors must exhibit in required uniform.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT RULES

OBJECTIVES FOR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW EXHIBITORS

1. Read and understand the Rules and Regulations found in the Entry Guide including the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program.
2. Acknowledgement of your responsibility to provide a safe, wholesome product for consumer, as they should expect.
3. Understand how to follow labels carefully for every feed additive, drug, or chemical used for treatment of your project animal.
4. Develop a close working relationship with the attending Fair Veterinarian, Project Leader and/or Farm Advisors especially when needing advice about your project.
5. Foster your project with continuous care, grooming, and feeding. Prepare your project for the Junior Livestock Show with humane practices.
6. Participation should demonstrate your ability, knowledge and skill as a feeder and fitter of your Show Animal.
7. Develop a sound moral character in yourself. Your Animal Project is to be an example of how to accept what life has to offer, good and bad, and how to live with the outcome.
8. Develop integrity/moral values, responsibilities, positive work ethics and financial knowledge to carry with you throughout your personal and professional life.
9. Aspire Junior Livestock Exhibitors to continue their education within the Agricultural Industry, Veterinary Medicine Studies, and Food Animal Industries.

FAIR VETERINARIAN

1. Examines health certificates as required.
2. Inspect each animal for infectious or contagious diseases.
3. Follow all Federal and State Laws and Regulations relevant to a Licensed Accredited Veterinarian.
4. May order the immediate removal of any animal, which in the opinion of the approved Veterinarian places other animals at unacceptable risk of disease.
5. Coordinate urine sample collection following Ventura County Fair Collection protocol. Serve as Fair Management's Agent as it relates to the collection of urine samples at exhibition.
6. Livestock Exhibitors will be responsible for all veterinary fees applied to their animals. The Ventura County Fair may at its sole discretion require a necropsy of any animal that may die while on the Fairgrounds. Necropsy fees will be the responsibility of the Exhibitor if found in violation of the Ventura County Fair Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program.

VETERINARIAN/CLIENT/PATIENT RELATIONSHIP (VCPR)

ALL CONDITIONS MUST BE MET FOR A VCPR TO EXIST

1. The Veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making a clinical judgment regarding the health of an animal needing treatment and the Client agrees to follow Veterinarian's instructions.
2. The Veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal, and he/she has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the animal and has examined the animal.
3. The Veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in the event of adverse reactions or failure of treatment.

ANIMAL HEALTH RULES

As per State Rules for California Fairs Section X. ANIMAL HEALTH RULES - Use of Pharmaceuticals in Market Animals:

1. Signature on Entry Form signifies compliance with all manufacturer and veterinarian pharmaceutical, biologic and chemical instructions, and withdrawal requirements, and that all off- label treatments to Market Animals have been administered lawfully in accordance with a prescription from a California-licensed Veterinarian whose statement notes dosage, date, and purpose for administration.
2. All Exhibitors must advise Management of any drugs and medications administered to an animal that might still be detected at the time of showing and at meat inspection. The name of the drug, its purpose, withdrawal time, route, time, and date of administration must be presented to Management prior to the showing and sale of the animal. Livestock treated within the specified withdrawal period cannot be sold without notifying the Buyer.
3. Exhibitors must complete the Fair's Medication Certificate prior to sale.

WHAT IS THE STATE FAIR'S ANIMAL HEALTH PROGRAM?

The program includes the State Fair's established Practices and Procedures, which affects animal health, including health certificates, veterinary care, drug statement, and Federal, State and Local Rules and Regulations. It also includes the written and unwritten practices used to conduct the sale (i.e., health checks, facility safety, and dust control). There should be provisions to deal with conflict resolution about veterinary treatment at the Fair, disqualifying animals for improper drug use, etc.

Planning and Exhibitor education is critical to success. The program should be developed by the Fair Board in consultation with the Farm Veterinarian, designated Animal Health Officer, Farm Advisor, Youth Advisors, Auction Committee Representative, and Fair Livestock Superintendents.

ANIMAL HEALTH CHECK

Why is it advisable?

Fairs are responsible for ensuring that only healthy animals are exhibited, and for taking reasonable measures to protect both animals and public health.

Animal health checks can:

1. Reduce liability for both Exhibitors and the Fairs by excluding animals with a contagious disease.
2. Protect other Livestock against exposure to contagious disease.
3. Protect the public from exposure to Zoonotic Disease, a disease transmissible from animals to humans.
4. Promote responsible Fair participation and animal health management by the Owner.
5. Improve opportunities to educate Exhibitors.
6. Ensure fair and equitable competition; and
7. Improve public relations by eliminating unsightly conditions from public view.
8. Animals exhibiting signs of pinkeye, sore mouth, active ringworm, scours or abscesses which are balding, showing hair separation, open draining or still scabbed shall not be exhibited. These animals will be dismissed from the Fairgrounds. Animals will be quarantined, and the Exhibitor will be charged \$20.00 a day per animal if they are not removed from the Fairgrounds immediately. If there is any question as to an animal's condition, it is advisable to leave it home.

The program should:

1. Establish standards and procedures to meet the Fair's Animal Health Objectives and to ensure equity for all Exhibitors, include appropriate process for Exhibitors to report problems.
2. Determine whether Market Animals that require medically necessary treatment should be treated and withdrawn from the sale or be treated and entered into the sale.
3. Establish a process to deal with animals exhibiting signs of unsightly conditions or contagious disease, even if they have documentation of veterinarian diagnosis and treatment.
4. Determine who will have the authority to make a final decision, which should be either the Fair's Veterinarian or Animal Health Committee, depending on the issues.
5. Check all animals, Open and Junior Departments.
6. Provide for an isolation area to temporarily house suspected animals.
7. Explain that Owners are responsible for the expense of any follow-up tests, supplies or treatment.
8. Be communicated clearly and effectively to all participants prior to the Fair. Required materials must be provided to all Exhibitors.

How it Can Be Done at the Fair:

1. Health checks should be conducted by a Veterinarian provided by the Fair or by a Fair-designated Health Officer.
2. If the check is done during unloading at the Fair, consider: a "holding area" for animals arriving during the night, traffic congestions, staggered arrivals, Veterinarian time, etc.
3. If it is done after unloading, the check should precede animal co-mingling.

Program Suggestions if an Animal Exhibits a Health Problem:

1. Place the animal in isolation until diagnosis and Management decisions are complete.
2. Animals with minor ailments resulting from Fair stress or injuries may be treated with supervision of the Veterinarian or Health Office, in consideration for withdrawal time for Market or Dairy Animals.
3. Unhealthy animals should be sent home, unless the Veterinarian or Health Officer decides that the problem can be effectively treated to remain on the grounds for competition and sale. The decision of the Veterinarian or Health Officer should be final.

4. Medically necessary treatment should never be denied because of concerns about an animal's ability to show or sell. The animal's wellbeing must always be the number one priority, even though treatment may disqualify the animal from competition and sale.
5. In the case of animal death, necropsy is advisable, especially if contagious disease is suspected. The decision of the Veterinarian or Health Officer should be final. Veterinarians have access to California Diagnostic Lab.

Ventura County Fair Market Livestock Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program
“Enhancing the educational experience of Exhibitors and assuring the highest quality end product to Buyers and Consumers”

Minimum Health Care Requirements for all Market Animals. Record Keeping Requirements for all Market Animals. Reporting Requirements for Medications / Biologicals / Treatments administered after the first day of Fair, Wednesday, July 29, 2026. Drug testing and DNA testing of all Champion and Reserve Champion Market Animals are required and random drug and DNA testing of Market Animals.

VENTURA COUNTY FAIR RESIDUE AVOIDANCE PROGRAM

In an effort to increase awareness of the production of consumer-oriented products, the Ventura County Fair requires Exhibitors of Market Animals to sign a Medication Declaration Form. This includes substances used per label or in an extra-label drug usage **MUST** be done under the supervision of a licensed Veterinarian and their contact information is required. Any animal requiring medically necessary treatment prior to competition may need to be withdrawn from competition if hydration status, mentation, or way of going will be affected by the medically necessary treatment. The intent of the program is not to prevent medically necessary treatment, but to insure the animal's wellbeing and fair competition. The decision of the Fair Management regarding eligibility for competition shall be final. Compounds tested for may include but are NOT limited to:

Antibiotics, Diuretics, Local Anesthetics, Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs, Sedatives/ Tranquilizers, Steroids/Growth Promotants.

DRUG FREE STATEMENT

Policy for 2026: The Ventura County Fair is continuing its Residue Avoidance Testing Program and reserves the right to test any animal officially entered in any Division at any time without notice, for foreign substances including but not limited to drugs, chemicals, or feed additives. For the purpose of funding this program, promoting fairer competition and creating awareness, each Exhibitor in the Junior Livestock (Market) Program will be charged a **\$10.00** (included in animal entry fee) drug testing fee due at entry online.

Sample Collection Notice for Exhibitors

Thank you for your cooperation in assisting us with the Food Animal Quality Assurance Program. In order to make things go more smoothly, we ask that you read and follow these basic guidelines:

1. The Exhibitor, Parent and/or Leader and the animal must report to the testing area immediately.
2. The Exhibitor and Parent and/or Leader must be always present once the animal leaves the show room.
3. Both Exhibitor and Parent and/or Leader must remain in the testing area until the sample is collected, the paperwork signed, and the Clerk registers the sample.
4. Both Exhibitor and Parent and/or Leader must witness the collection of the sample.
5. In order for a sample to be accepted, a Veterinary Assistant must witness the collection.
6. Please provide your animal with plenty of water during the testing procedure.
7. The sample jar must contain a sufficient amount to satisfy laboratory requirements.
8. No food or caffeinated beverages allowed in the testing area.

NOTE TO PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN:

By signing/submitting the Summary Form, each Parent/Legal Guardian acknowledges that:

- a. He / She has read the Entry Guide, Junior Livestock and Ventura County Fair Market Livestock Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program sections.
- b. The Junior Exhibitor has owned, fed, and cared for the Market Animal throughout the required ownership period. He/she has supervised the Junior Exhibitor and the Junior Livestock animals have not had any drugs, chemicals, feed additives, or other substances used on them except pursuant to the label specifications, or unless under the direction and supervision of a licensed Veterinarian for therapeutic purposes.
- c. He / She has supervised the Junior Exhibitor and the Junior Livestock animal(s) have not been tampered with in any way, including but not limited to, unethical fitting or any method altering the natural conformation of any part of the animal(s) body.
- d. He / She understands the penalties for violating these General, Livestock and Special Rules and Regulations, included but not limited to, monetary penalties, and the immediate disqualification of the Junior Exhibitor.

NOTE TO LEADER/SUPERVISOR:

By signing/submitting the Summary Form, each Leader / Supervisor acknowledges that:

- a. He / She has read the Entry Guide, Junior Livestock and Ventura County Fair Market Livestock Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program sections.
- b. The Junior Exhibitor has owned, fed, and cared for the Junior Livestock animal(s) throughout the required ownership period. He / She has supervised the Junior Exhibitor and the Junior Livestock animal(s) have not had any drugs, chemicals, feed additives, or other substances used on them except pursuant to the label specifications, or unless under the direction and supervision of a licensed Veterinarian for therapeutic purposes. All drugs, chemicals, feed additives or other substances must be declared on the Medication Declaration Form at official weigh-in.
- c. He / She has supervised the Junior Exhibitor, and the Junior Livestock animal(s) have not been tampered with in any way, including but not limited to, unethical fitting or any method altering the natural conformation of any part of the animal(s) body.
- d. He / She understands the penalties for violating these General, Livestock and Special Rules and Regulations, include but not limited to, monetary penalties, and the immediate disqualification of the Junior Exhibitor, and/or jeopardizing the Chapter or Club's entry in the 2025 Ventura County Fair and any subsequent Fairs.

RESIDUE AVOIDANCE POLICY

The Ventura County Fair reserves the right to test any animal officially entered in any Division at any time without notice, for any foreign substance including but not limited to drugs, chemicals, or feed additives. At a minimum, some animals from the following groups will be tested: any animals suspected in terms of unusual physical appearance, demeanor, or activity. As a condition precedent to accepting an entry, an Entry Form signed by the Exhibitor, FFA Agricultural Science Instructor, 4-H Leader, Grange Advisor, Parent or Legal Guardian grants the Ventura County Fair permission to test any entry. Testing may be performed on any body tissue or fluid on both, the live animal, or the carcass. Test samples collected from any animal must have zero tolerance for any identifiable or unidentifiable foreign substances including drugs (legal and illegal), chemicals of any kind or feed additives, unless otherwise established as permissible by the USDA, FDA, and FARAD. Animals testing positive to an unapproved foreign substance including but not limited to drugs, chemicals, or feed additives, will be disqualified, and declared ineligible to receive awards, premium money, or sale proceeds. In addition to the disqualification and forfeiture of awards, premiums and/or auction proceeds, the Ventura County Fair may release to the media the name of the Exhibitor, Leader, Advisor, and the name of the Exhibitor's animal that was disqualified and was in violation of the Drug Residue Program. The live Market Animal or carcass that tests positive will immediately become the property of the Ventura County Fair and the Exhibitor may be compensated for the market value, less expenses, if the animal passes inspection. Carcass of disqualified animal will be disposed of per written instructions from USDA, FDA, or FARAD.

If entry is disqualified, the entry and/or the Exhibitor will be declared ineligible and will not receive awards, premiums and/or sale proceeds, further the Exhibitor will be responsible for payment of any fees, fines due or costs incurred by the Ventura County Fair as result of the disqualification. The Owner/Exhibitor and members of his/her immediate family may not be eligible to compete in subsequent Ventura County Fair Programs. The extent and degree of future eligibility shall be determined by Fair Management based upon the severity of the offense and the circumstances giving rise to the violation. If foreign substance residues including drugs, chemicals or feed additives are found in tissue of carcass of animals sold through the auction, the Ventura County Fair will in no way be liable or responsible for condition of carcass or sale price of animals.

If for any reason, any part of a carcass must be removed by U.S.D.A. Inspectors, the sale price will be discounted accordingly.

WHOLESALE ASSURANCE STATEMENT

The use by non-Veterinarians of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with the labeling approved by the FDA is a violation of Federal Law.

Note: Abuse of the extra-label privilege by Veterinarians is unethical and is subject to serious consequences such as license revocation. Any food animal must not exceed FDA/EPA/IUSDA established tolerances for any foreign substances including drugs, pesticides, feed additives or other chemicals.

Violative results of residue testing are subject to investigation by the USDA, FDA, and FARAD for Prosecution.

Any misrepresentation of a food animal that can potentially affect the acceptability of the carcass or milk will be considered fraud.

VIOLATIONS: If a Junior Exhibitor is found in violation of any of the Livestock Show Rules, they and their family may be forever barred from showing at the Ventura County Fair.

Postmortem Examination: The Ventura County Fair may require a postmortem examination of any animal which dies at the Ventura County Fair. This will be performed by a licensed Veterinarian at the expense of the Exhibitor.

NOTICE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

Policy for 2026: To keep costs down for 2026, if an animal tests positive on the original residue test screen, the Exhibitor shall be responsible for paying for the confirmation test (up to \$500.00). If the confirmation test is negative, fees will be refunded. If the Exhibitor fails to pay or post fees for the confirmation test, the animal in question will be declared ineligible.

1. It is the policy and rule of the Ventura County Fair that no animal, which is entered for Competition in the Ventura County Fair, shall contain any trace residues of any substance, which are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for slaughter animals.
 - a. It is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor to ensure that the animal is free of the above prescribed drugs and substances. Extent of knowledge on the part of the Exhibitor with regards to the drugs or substance found in the animal is not relevant to any issue, and it shall not be the defense of the person or persons unknown introduced the prescribed substance into the animal prior to, or at arrival, or after arrival on the Ventura County Fair property.
 - b. Personnel (employees and contractors) of the Ventura County Fair reserves the right to take urine, blood, hair and other body tissue samples from any animal or it's carcass at any time without notice, for the purpose of determining whether there is any residue of any substance found within in the body of the tested animal. The Exhibitor, by entering his/her animal, expressly agrees that he or she will cooperate with the person or persons charged with the responsibility of taking the sample from the animal at the time of arrival, weigh-in, during the Show or any other time the animal is on the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Failure to fully cooperate with testing procedures, and/or representatives collecting samples shall indicate a voluntary withdrawal by the Exhibitor of the animal from the Competition and result in the immediate disqualification of this project and automatic loss of participation privileges in all future Ventura County Fair Competitive Events.
 - c. All samples shall be taken by persons designated by the Ventura County Fair and tested in an approved laboratory. Reasonable care will be taken regarding maintaining the purity and identity of the sample. The only chain of custody required will be that routinely relied upon by Veterinarians practicing in and around Ventura County area. As samples are taken, the Junior Exhibitor, a Parent or Legal Guardian and/or a Leader/Supervisor shall be present to view the procedure. Upon collection of a sample, the Junior Exhibitor, and a Parent or Legal Guardian or Leader/Supervisor shall provide their signatures to acknowledge that the sample was collected from the Exhibitor's animal.
 - d. In the event that any animal is disqualified as a result of the violation of any of the rules found within the Residue Avoidance Program, or the animal is voluntarily withdrawn from the competition as a result of failure to cooperate with the testing procedures, then the Exhibitor shall immediately return Awards, Premiums and Auction proceeds previously presented. With regard to Auction sale money, it shall be the option of the individual purchasing the disqualified animal to either donate the money to the Junior Livestock Auction for the next year's use or upon request, receive a total refund of the Auction sale money paid.
2. Any other reference which may be found within the rules of the Ventura County Fair with regards to prohibited substances, drugs and/or testing policy and procedures shall be in addition to the rules set forth within this section shall control.
3. By making entry in the Ventura County Fair Junior Livestock Show, the Exhibitor, a Parent or both Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) and Project Leader/Advisor agree to abide by this Residue Avoidance Program.

For complete information and a copy of Minimum Health Care Requirements, Verification/Certification Forms, and Record of Medications / Biologicals / Treatments Forms, contact your 4-H Project Leader, FFA Advisor, Grange Leader, or the Fair Office.

PROTESTS/APPEALS FOR DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF AWARDS AND/OR PROCEEDS OF AUCTION FOR VIOLATION OF DRUG RESIDUE PROGRAM

1. All protests from notice of disqualification of awards and forfeiture of proceeds of Auction because of violation of Residue Avoidance Program shall:
 - a. A written notice of the intent to appeal must be submitted in writing to the Chief Executive Officer within 72 hours of receipt of formal notice of disqualification.
 - b. The written protest must be received by the Chief Executive Office at the Ventura County Fair address of 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura CA 93001, within 10 calendar days of receipt of formal notice of disqualification or forfeiture for violation of the Residue Avoidance Program; all notices of disqualification will be sent by certified mail to the Exhibitors address listed on the entry form; submitted by the Exhibitor at the time of entry. Notice will be deemed received 3 days from the date of mailing of the formal notice of disqualification.
 - c. The written Protest/Appeal must be accompanied with a \$500.00 protest fee (payment for this fee must be cash, certified bank check or money order) made payable to the Ventura County Fair. The fee will be used for a confirmation retesting of the sample, which was the basis for the disqualification. Any portion of the fee not used for testing will be returned. If the cost of the confirmation testing is more than \$500.00, no results will be released until the difference is paid by the Exhibitor.

- d. The Protestant/Appellant has 72 hours to request that the split sample be tested at any qualified certified testing laboratory of Protestant's choice. The Protestant agrees to pay for all costs associated with the transportation and testing of the retained split sampling. If Protestant does not exercise this option, by giving notice to the Ventura County Fair in the written protest, which must actually be received by the Ventura County Fair within 72 hours of notice of disqualification, then the time for exercising this option expires, and the Protestant waives any right to have a split sample tested at Protestant's expense or at all.

Please take notice, that failure to appeal in writing within the 10-day time frame of receipt of formal notice of disqualification, the disqualification shall be deemed final. In the event a written appeal is received in a timely manner, the appeal will be reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer and two Veterinarians who are members of the Ethics Advisory Committee of the Ventura County Fair within a reasonable amount of time, and their decision shall be final. The Protestant will be given an opportunity to appeal before the Board of Directors and to present arguments and evidence.

After the Board of Directors holds a hearing, within a reasonable time frame, the Protestant shall be notified by certified mail of the decision. This decision shall be final. No protests of violations of the Residue Avoidance Program can be submitted if prohibitive substances are detected in samples taken prior to competition.

VIOLATIONS

1. The Management shall reserve the right to vacate, declare ineligible for Competition, and/or order the removal of any entry which is not in the best interest of the Fair, is unsightly, unhealthy, injured, lame, unsound, endangers public safety, violates the Fair's Animal Welfare Policies, or has been entered in violation of these Rules and Regulations.
2. Each Exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to, or occasioned by, or arising from, any animal or article exhibited by him/her. Exhibitor agrees to indemnify, and save harmless, the Ventura County Fair and all its officers, agents, and employees thereof from all claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, or liability costs suits or actions of every name, kind, and description, brought forth from or on account of, injuries or death of any person including but not limited to workmen, and the public, or damage to property resulting from the performance of the Exhibitor or its entries. Neither party shall request an apportionment of liability by a jury.
3. Any live animal or carcass that tests positive for undeclared medications will become the property of the Ventura County Fair to insure the proper disposition of the carcass in consultation with CDFA and the FDA. The Exhibitor may be compensated for market value, less expenses, if the animal passes inspection.
4. See State Rules for State protest procedures. Final decision may be protested to the Board of Directors and then to the State.

PROTEST

Other than: Appeals for Disqualification and Forfeiture of Awards and/or Proceeds from Auction for Violation of Residue Avoidance Program. Protests will be considered only if there has been a violation of State or Local Rules. Decisions of Judges, Veterinarians, Weighmasters, Breed Callers, Tail Dock Officials and Timers cannot be protested and are final.

Any protest must be made in writing and submitted to the Chief Executive Officer. The protest must be made within 8 hours of the cause of the protest. All protests must be signed and accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00 (cash, money order or certified bank check) payable to the Ventura County Fair or \$200.00 if the protest relates to violations of State Rules X-XI (*Animal Health Rules*). NOTE: The deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld. If the protest is upheld, the Violator may be held liable for any portion of the direct costs incurred by the Fair in the course of the protest resolution. Failure to reimburse the Fair shall be cause for disallowing future entries in any of the network of California Fairs.

Protest must be based on a violation of rules and must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal and set forth the facts relied upon, or rule violated and must include the names of a minimum of two (2) supporting witnesses, including their phone numbers (both temporary while at the Fair and permanent) upon whom proof is to be made.

If the protest concerns alleged violation of the Residue Avoidance Program or false identification of animal(s) and requires retesting of animals, the Ventura County Fair will retest the animal once the above stated conditions are met. If an animal tests positive for a violative or undeclared residue, then the protest fee will be returned. The purpose of the fee is to off-set drug-testing fee expenses and to prevent frivolous protests. For this ground of protest, only one witness is sufficient for the protest.

Judging procedures will not be interrupted for investigation; and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a thorough investigation and if necessary, a hearing is completed. No complaint or appeal concerning a Judge or Judge's decision will be considered. The protest shall be adjudicated by Fair Management. Fair Management will consult with a member of the Board of Directors who shall be designated by the President of the Board of Directors. The decision of Fair Management is final.

All questions of disputes and differences not provided for under the Rules and Regulations shall be referred to the Chief Executive Officer, whose decision shall be final.

Any animal not involved in a protest is eligible to compete until the protest is resolved. Any Classes that involve a protested animal will not be officially placed until the protest is resolved. In any Championship Classes involving that animal, the Judge shall also select a 1st and 2nd Reserve Champion, in case of a disqualification.

DEFINITIONS

Approved: When used in reference to drugs, means approval by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in the species indicated on the label.

Drug Use Notification Form: The document completed in accordance with the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program.

Exhibition: A Show or Sale of Livestock at a Fair or elsewhere that is sponsored by or under the control of a County or Independent Agricultural Society; a Show or Sale of Livestock at the Ventura County Fair; a Livestock Show at a Fair elsewhere or a Livestock Sale at or associated with a Fair or Livestock Show that is assembled for any length of time; a Show or Sale at or associated with a Fair with origins outside of California.

Exhibitor: Any person who shows, displays, or exhibits Livestock at an exhibition.

Extra Label Use: The actual use or intended use of a drug in Livestock in a manner other than in accordance with the drug label directions.

Family: 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, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, or guardian.

FARAD: Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database.

FDA: Food and Drug Administration.

Immediately: When used in reference to a drug, means the period of time from the cessation of administration of a drug until the detectable levels of the drug residue in the Livestock or a test sample from the Livestock are within tolerance levels or at zero tolerance, unless a safe level has been established by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Internal (Local) Rule: Any rule adopted by the Ventura County Fair applicable to the Exhibition and includes all State Rules.

Junior Livestock Show: A Show limited to Exhibitors nine (9) years of age or in the 4th grade through nineteen (19) years of age, or as authorized to participate in either 4-H, FFA, Grange or other Youth Organization.

Livestock: Any animal generally used for food or in the production of food, including cattle, sheep, goats, rabbits, poultry, turkey, and swine.

Mandatory (State) Rule: Any rule adopted by the State relating to food safety or the health, safety, or welfare of Livestock and from which an Exhibitor may not exempt itself or its Exhibition.

Market Livestock: Exhibition Livestock bred, raised, and intended for slaughter for food purposes.

Medication: Administration of a remedy.

Optional Rule: Any rule adopted by the Ventura County Fair from which an Exhibitor may exempt itself or its Exhibition.

Over the Counter Drug: Any drug that lawfully may be purchased without a prescription.

Sabotage: Intentionally tampering with any Livestock belonging to or owned by another person that has been registered, entered in, or exhibited in any exhibition, or raised with apparent intent of being entered in an exhibition.

Tamper: A treatment of Livestock in such a manner that food derived from the Livestock would be considered adulterated, as defined below:

- a. Injection, use, or administration of prohibited drug, or misuse of an approved drug.
- b. Injection or other internal or external administration of any product or material for the purpose of concealing, enhancing, transforming, or changing true conformation or condition of the animal.
- c. Use or administration of steroids, growth stimulants or internal artificial filling.
- d. Use or administration of any drug or feed additive affecting the central nervous system.
- e. Use or administration of diuretics for cosmetic purposes.
- f. Surgical manipulation or removal of tissue so as to change, transform, or enhance the true conformation of the Livestock.

Tolerance Level: The detectable level of a residue or other substance in Livestock, in a livestock test sample, or in food, in a level less than or equal to the maximum level determined to be safe, acceptable, or non-violative by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Treatment: The management and care of a patient for the purpose of combating disease or order.

Unlawful Substance: Means any of the following:

1. Any prohibited drug; or

2. A substance which is not normally found in or does not naturally occur in Livestock; or
3. A substance which is normally found in or does naturally occur in Livestock, but is detected or discerned in amount or area greater than normal; or
4. Any drug required to be listed, but which is not listed on a drug use notification form; or
5. Any drug present in an animal regardless of how the drug came to be present if the drug was not administered by licensed Veterinarian.

U.S.D.A.: United States Department of Agriculture.

PROHIBITED AND/OR ILLEGAL PRACTICES

This is a mandatory rule

Shall include but not be limited to the following and no person shall:

- A. Administer a prescription drug to Livestock either immediately before an Exhibition or during the Exhibition unless the prescription drug is administered:
 1. By or under the supervision and direction of a Veterinarian; and
 2. Only in accordance with label directions; and
 3. In conjunction with a valid Veterinarian-Client-Patient relationship; and
 4. For a valid medical purpose; and
 5. In compliance with the drug use notification form requirements.
- B. Administer an over-the-counter drug to Livestock either immediately before an Exhibition or during an Exhibition unless the over-the-counter drug is administered:
 1. By or under the supervision or direction of the Exhibitor, the Exhibitor's designee, the owner of the Livestock or a Veterinarian; and
 2. Only in accordance with label directions; and
 3. Only for a valid medical purpose; and
 4. In compliance with the drug use notification form requirements.
- C. Administer either a prescription drug or an over-the-counter drug other than in accordance with the drug's label directions unless extra label use of the drug is:
 1. By or under the supervision and direction of a Veterinarian; and
 2. Only in accordance with the extra label directions provided by the Veterinarian; and
 3. In conjunction with a valid Veterinarian-Client-Patient relationship; and
 4. For a valid medical purpose; and
 5. In compliance with the drug use notification form requirements; and
 6. An extended withdrawal time is assigned to the drug by the Veterinarian as part of the extra label directions and reported on the drug use notification form.
- D. Show any Livestock that contains an unlawful substance.
- E. Show any Livestock that has been subjected to unacceptable practices.

ACCEPTABLE PRACTICES

This is a mandatory rule

Shall include but not be limited to the following grooming, commercial, or medical practices deemed acceptable to protect and promote the health, safety, and welfare of Livestock:

- A. **Grooming Practices:**
 1. Adding caffeine free soda pop, gelatin, or other sweeteners to drinking water in normal amounts to encourage water consumption.
 2. Hoof trimming.
 3. Cosmetic dehorning in Market Class Livestock.
 4. Using Collodium as a teat sealant, but for no longer than eighteen (18) hours.
- B. **Commercial Practices:**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adding molasses or other sweeteners to feed to encourage consumption. 2. Properly administered approved growth implants. 3. Castration. 4. Beak trimming. 5. Dehorning. 6. Tattooing. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Hot or freeze branding. 8. Humane ringing. 9. Tail docking. 10. Ear notching. 11. Ear tagging. 12. Shearing.
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C. Medical Practices:

1. Drenching of lambs for medical purposes.
2. Acceptable surgery, including clamps, brands, and chemical castration.

UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICES

This is a mandatory rule

Shall include but not limited to the following: grooming, commercial, or medical practices that are detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of Livestock and are prohibited.

- A. Applying any electrical, mechanical, or other appliance to Livestock repeatedly or for a prolonged time period.
- B. Hitting, striking, beating, or otherwise impacting Livestock that induces swelling or enhances, transforms, or changes the true conformation, configuration, or appearance of the Livestock.
- C. Plugging of teats.
- D. Sealing of teats using unapproved substances or for longer than eighteen (18) hours using approved substances.
- E. Injecting material into udders or teats for non-medical purposes or otherwise artificially modifying the appearance or conformation of the udder or teat.
- F. Using ice internally or externally for purposes of enhancement.
- G. Using a stomach tube or pump for any purpose other than for relief of tympany or gas on the day of Exhibiting.
- H. Use of ramps, elevated feeders or like apparatuses/situation for feeding Livestock. (All animal feeders need to be at a level where the animal can stand flat on the ground).
- I. Use of treadmills or exercise equipment to fit animals is prohibited.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK HERDING AWARD

The County 4-H, FFA and Grange Clubs will award ribbons to the individual groups in Steer, Sheep, Swine, Market Goats, and Dairy Goats and then an overall trophy to the Club or Chapter displaying their Livestock Projects in the most superior manner with the following qualification:

1. Overall cleanliness.
2. Attractiveness: the presentation of the project that attracts the interest of the Fairgoers.
3. Education and interest: the presentation of the project should lend information and stimulate on-going interest concerning Livestock Projects at our Fair.

Note: Scorecard and details to be posted at 4-H and Grange Office, available for FFA Advisor and Fair Office. Special additional Herding Awards may be given.

Herdsmanship: A perpetual trophy in Honor of ARLIE HARVEY will be awarded to the Overall Winner in 4-H, FFA and Grange. (**Note:** Ventura County Fair Large Livestock Department is not responsible for the above awards.)

MARKET STEER, MARKET HEIFER

Danish System of Judging

This division is part of the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program
Silver Belt Buckle awarded to Grand Champion Steer

Entry Fee: \$40.00

Online Entries close @ 11:59pm March 30th, 2026. Entries must be complete and paid in full. YQCA Certificate and Exhibitor Code of Practice must be uploaded with entries. All Market Steers must attend the mandatory ear tagging and tattoo to be held on April 4, 2026 9am-11am. All Market Steers must be castrated prior to entry date. All Market Steers must be *solely* owned by the Exhibitor for a minimum of **120 consecutive** days prior to the opening day of Fair, Wednesday, July 29th, 2026.

Note: All steers being transported to and from the Fairgrounds require a completed and signed yellow transportation form.

- **\$3.50 fee** per Steer will be deducted from Auction check proceeds for brand inspection.
- Market Steer classes must be entered online by March 30th, 2026. Entry Fees, Drug Fees, and Vet fees must be paid online at www.venturacountyfair.org
- **Paperwork due with entries:** Exhibitor Code of Practice; YQCA Certificate
Note: Exhibitors with incomplete/missing forms will be charged a \$20.00 penalty fee.
- **Paperwork due at Weigh-in:**
 - ▶ Original Bill of Sale (or a Signed Statement that the animal was dropped from the Exhibitor's cow and raised by the Exhibitor).
 - ▶ Transport Slip.
 - ▶ Medication/Biological Treatments Form
 - ▶ Adult Code of Conduct
- Animals must be dehorned. (*Scurs must not be longer than 1/2-inch.*)
- Market Steers are allowed hair. Slick must be slick sheared. Hair must be sheared to 1/4-inch including belly hair. Non-slick steers may have natural hair. The show is considered a "blow and go" format. Beef exhibitors may wash their animals, use blowers, conditioners, sheens, etc. Adhesives (glues) may not be used. If caught using glues, the exhibitor may be disqualified.
- The use of artificial hair products (fake hair) is not allowed on any Market Animal. Please read the labels before applying since some products may interfere with drug testing (alcohol based).
- The use of Ralgren (Zeranol) is not permitted after April 29, 2026 (90 days prior to fair).
- A Brand Inspection Certificate or California Sales yard out billing or statement sworn to under penalty of perjury, that the animal was raised by the Exhibitor and under his or her care, and a yellow transportation slip, must be presented at time of weigh-in for Market Steers.

GRADE

Market Ready: Market Steers projected to have sufficient fat deposition to meet the marbling specifications for USDA Prime, Choice, or Select+ quality grades.

Not Market Ready: Market Steers lacking evidence of sufficient fat deposition to produce a desirable consumer product. Steers projected to grade USDA Select- or lower. (*These animals will not be eligible for the Auction.*)

DIVISION 939 – 4-H MARKET STEER/HEIFER

DIVISION 940 – FFA MARKET STEER/HEIFER

Market Steers Must Weigh Minimum 1000lbs no maximum(buyer pays to 1400lbs.)

Class

1. Market Steer – 1000+ lbs

Management reserves the right to combine classes for the betterment of the Competition.

DIVISION 942 – JUNIOR BREEDING HEIFERS

\$20.00 Entry Fee per Class

(All organizations show together)

Class

1. Junior Breeding Heifers under 24 Months of Age, uncalved

Management reserves the right to combine classes for the betterment of the Competition.

MARKET SWINE

Danish System of Judging

These Divisions are part of the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program
Silver Belt Buckle awarded to Grand Champion Swine

Entry Fee: \$40.00 DNA Kit \$15.00

Online Entries close @ 11:50PM June 2nd, 2026. Entries must be complete and paid in full. YQCA Certificate and Exhibitor Code of Practice must be uploaded with entries. All Market Swine must pick up their DNA Kits and ear tag on June 6th, 2026 8am-11am. All animals must be castrated by entry date. The Exhibitor must **solely** own Market Swine for a minimum 60 **consecutive** days prior to the opening day of the Fair, Wednesday, July 29th, 2026.

- Market Swine classes must be entered online by June 2nd, 2026. Entry Fees, Drug Fees, and Vet fees must be paid at www.venturacountyfair.org. DNA Kit due Wednesday, June 17th, 2026, by 4:00 PM – Fair Administration Office. (DNA Kits available June 6th, 2026, at tagging (8AM-11 AM).)
- Paperwork due with entry: YQCA Certificate and Exhibitor Code of Practice;
 - Photographs due to pick up DNA kit at tagging, ON JUNE 6th: 1 pictures are due (Swine): right side profile, left side profile, rear view, clear head shot, with the Exhibitor in one of the pictures.(see examples on following page)
 - 2 pictures due with DNA ON JUNE 17th: a close up showing the head with ear tag/notches visible and a pic of animal with the Exhibitor (with VCF tag clearly visible in both, See examples on following page).
 - **Note:** Exhibitors with incomplete/missing forms will be charged a \$20.00 penalty fee.
- Paperwork due for Weigh-in:
 - ► Medication/Biological Treatments Form
 - ► Adult Code of Conduct
- Pork Board Check-Off Fee (\$.004 x gross value) will be deducted from Auction check.
- Photo identification must accompany all Swine Entries. Five (5) photographs required – right side profile, left side profile, rear view, clear front head view and head shot with ear tag. The photos must be large enough and clear enough to see detail on the animal. The head shot should show the swine's ears clearly to see any notches. The Exhibitor must be in at least one photo. Photos must be attached to an 8 ½" X 11" sheet of paper. Swine **MUST** be clean in photographs so that markings can be seen.
- A separate set of photographs must accompany each entry. If you are tagging two swine, identify swine as "Market Swine A" and "Market Swine B."
- Ear Tags should be attached the left ear with the tag on the backside of the ear and the button on the inside of the ear.

GRADE

Market Acceptable: U.S. No. 1 and No. 2 hogs of average or greater conformation that are acceptable in leanness, muscularity, and production traits.

Not Market Acceptable: Any hog of below average conformation including U.S. number 3, U.S. number 4 and utility grade hogs. (These animals will not be eligible for the Auction.)

DIVISION 943 – 4-H MARKET SWINE

DIVISION 944 – FFA MARKET SWINE

Market Swine Must Weigh 215lbs – 300lbs. (buyer pays to 285lbs.)

Class

1. Market Swine – 215-300 lbs.

Management reserves the right to combine classes for the betterment of the Competition.

DIVISION 946 – MARKET BARROW SHOW

Entry Fee: \$35.00

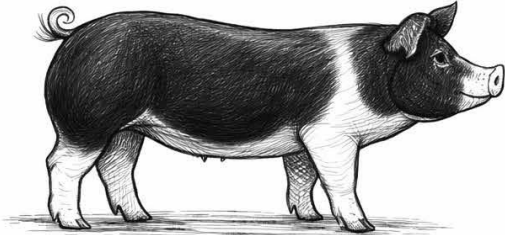
Cash Awards will be awarded to the Top 5

Class

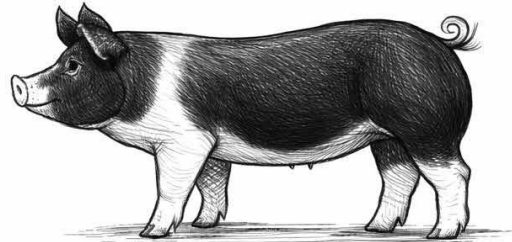
1. Market Barrow – 215-300 lbs

5 Photos due at Tag ins:

Animal should be clean and free of any mud in all images. All 5 photos should be printed and attached to 1 8.5"x11" sheet of paper.



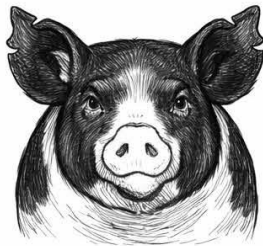
Right side of swine



Left side of swine



Rump



Clear view of face and all notches



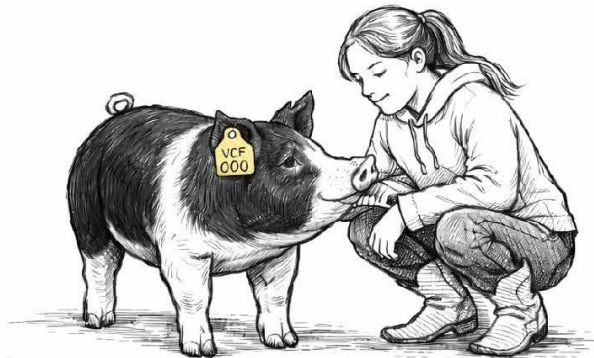
Exhibitor with swine

2 Photos due with DNA Kit:

2 additional NEW images due when turning in DNA Kit. Ear tag must be clearly visible or images and kit will not be accepted.



Face with clean tag visible



Exhibitor with tagged swine

MARKET LAMB

Danish System of Judging

These Divisions are part of the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program
Silver Belt Buckle awarded to Grand Champion Lamb

Entry Fee: \$40.00

Online Entries close @ 11:50PM June 2nd, 2026. Entries must be complete and paid in full. YQCA Certificate and Exhibitor Code of Practice must be uploaded with entries. All Market Goats and Lambs must attend a mandatory ear tagging on May 31st, 2025 8am-11am. All animals must be castrated by entry date. Market Lambs are to be **solely** owned by the Exhibitor for a minimum of **60 consecutive** days prior to the opening day of Fair, Wednesday, July 29th, 2026.

- Market Lamb classes must be pre-entered by June 2nd, 2026. Entry Fees, Drug Fees, and Vet fees must be paid online at www.venturacountyfair.org
- Paperwork Due with entry: YQCA Certificate, Exhibitor Code of Practice;
- Exhibitors with incomplete/missing forms will be charged a \$20.00 penalty fee.
- Paperwork due at Weigh-in: Medications/ Biological/ Treatment Form,
 - ▶ Medication/Biological Treatments Form
 - ▶ Adult Code of Conduct
- Exhibit animals will not be muzzled while on Fairgrounds.
- Scrapie ear tags are to remain attached to ear (*see State Rules X Animal Health Rules*).
- **Tail Docking.** To qualify for exhibit Market Lambs must be docked such that the tail (dock) is healed and can be lifted from the exterior. Market Lambs *will be* disqualified if docks are too short.
- Market Lambs must show lambs teeth.
- Market Lambs may not carry more than 1/2 inch stretched fleece at any point on their bodies at weigh-in. Any lamb with more than 1/2" fleece when checked at the scale must wait until all other lambs have weighed to be checked again. They can ONLY be checked two more times. If fleece is still over 1/2" after 3rd check the animal will be disqualified.
- Animals must be dehorned. (Scurs must not be longer than 1/4-inch.)

GRADE

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice quality with 12th rib back fat range .16-.35, average or greater conformation and cutability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12th rib back fat range <.16 or >.35; under finished lambs grading USDA good or lower, below-average conformation or cutability. (These animals will not be eligible for the Auction.)

DIVISION 947 – 4-H MARKET LAMB

DIVISION 948 – FFA MARKET LAMB

Market Lambs Must Weigh 110lbs – 165lbs.

Class

1. Market Lamb - Wether or Ewe, 110-165 lbs.

Management reserves the right to combine classes for the betterment of the Competition.

DIVISION 950 – JUNIOR BREEDING LAMB

\$10.00 Entry Fee per Class

(All organizations show together)

Class

1. Junior Breeding Ewe Lambs – under 1 year

MARKET GOAT

Danish System of Judging

These Divisions are part of the Residue Avoidance/Quality Assurance Program
Silver Belt Buckle awarded to Grand Champion Goat

Entry Fee: \$40.00

Online Entries close @ 11:59PM June 2nd, 2026. Entries must be complete and paid in full. YQCA Certificate and Exhibitor Code of Practice must be uploaded with entries. All Market Goats and Lambs must attend a mandatory ear tagging on June 6th, 2026 8am-11am. Goats are to be **solely** owned by Exhibitor a minimum of 60 **consecutive** days prior to the opening day of Fair, Wednesday, July 29th, 2026.

- Market Goat classes must be pre-entered by June 2nd, 2026. Entry Fees, Drug Fees, and Vet fees must be paid online at www.venturacountyfair.org.
- **Paperwork due at entry:** Exhibitor Code of Practice, YQCA.
- Exhibitors with incomplete/missing forms will be charged a \$20.00 penalty fee.
- **Paperwork due at Weigh-in:** Medications/ Biologicals/ Treatment Form,
 - ▶ Medication/Biological Treatments Form
 - ▶ Adult Code of Conduct
- Market Goats are Wethers and Does only. Market Goats must show milk teeth.
- Market Goats must be free of horns. (*Scurs may not be any longer than 1/4-inch.*)
- Scrapie ear tags are to remain attached to ear (*see State Rules X Animal Health Rules*).

GRADE

Market Ready: USDA Prime or Choice quality with 12th rib back fat range .08-.12 most desirable, .13- .22 back fat acceptable, average or greater conformation and cutability.

Not Market Ready: Good or lower quality grade with 12th rib back fat range <.08 or >.22; under finished goats grading USDA good or lower, below average conformation or cutability. (*These animals will not be eligible for the auction.*)

DIVISION 951 – 4-H MARKET GOAT

DIVISION 952 – FFA MARKET GOAT

Market Goats Must Weigh 65lbs – 110lbs.

Class

1. Market Goat, 65-110 lbs.

Management reserves the right to combine classes for the betterment of the Competition.

All breeds judged together. Does cannot show udder development.

VENTURA COUNTY BRED & FED MARKET ANIMALS

Highest Placing Animal
American System of Judging
Ribbons to 5th place.

This Division is intended to showcase Ventura County Produced Livestock. Ventura County Bred & Fed Market Animals must be entered in a Market Class. To qualify all animals entered must have come from female (bovine, sheep, swine, or goat) owned by a Ventura County Producer. Except in the case of artificial insemination and ovum/embryo transfer, the female must be bred in Ventura County, housed, and fed in Ventura County prior to breeding and through delivery of offspring. Exhibit animals from birth must have been housed and fed in Ventura County through Fair date. This includes any Club or Chapter that is chartered in Ventura County.

Exception for ovum/embryo transfer and artificial insemination: If every condition of Bred and Fed is met except for the actual breeding via ovum/embryo transfer or artificial insemination due to conditions out of the breeder's control, the following conditions must be met to be eligible for Bred and Fed:

1. Ventura County Breeder must be the owner of both the female at conception and owner of the egg donor for ovum/embryo transfer. The Exhibitor must provide written proof of Ventura County Breeder ownership of both receiving female and donor egg female at entry.
2. Ventura County Breeder must be the owner of the female at the time of artificial insemination procedure takes place.
3. The animal must be returned to Ventura County as soon as the pregnancy is confirmed after the artificial insemination, or the ovum/embryo transfer is completed.
4. There is not a local Ventura County Veterinarian certified to perform the ovum/embryo transfer or the artificial insemination procedure. This makes artificial insemination and ovum/embryo transfer, breeding methods which are conditions out of the breeder's control. Therefore, they are eligible for Bred and Fed as long as the other requirements are met.
5. in the case that the Overall Grand Champion animal, of any specie, is entered into Bred and Fed, they will be automatically awarded the title and an additional Bred and Fed show will not be held.

NOTE: Must be pre-entered by March 30th, 2026, for Steers and June 2nd, 2026, for Goats, Lambs and Swine.

DIVISION 954 – BRED & FED

Class

1. Market Goat
2. Market Lamb
3. Market Steer
4. Market Swine

CLUB AND CHAPTER GROUPS

No Cash Awards-Ribbons to 5th Place.

Do not pre-enter online. Club & Chapter Leaders will enter this on Monday, August 3, 2026 at the Livestock Office

Three animals not necessarily of same breed from one Club or Chapter - quality and uniformity to be considered. Must be owned by separate Exhibitors. NO ENTRY FEES. Each Club or Chapter limited to one group. Agriculture Instructor or Leaders must enter for the entire Chapter or Club.

DIVISION 955 – 4-H CLUB DIVISION 956 – FFA CHAPTER

Class

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Market Goat | 3. Market Steer |
| 2. Market Lamb | 4. Market Swine |

LARGE LIVESTOCK SHOWMANSHIP

Entry Fee: \$10.00 per class

Premiums Offered per Class

1st	2nd	3rd	4th
\$20	\$18	\$16	\$14

RULES – ALL DIVISIONS

1. Exhibitor must show his or her own animal in the Showmanship Class and it must have been entered in a Market or Breeding Class.
2. **Entry Fee: \$10.00** per Showmanship Class. Market and Breeding Classes must be pre-entered by the entry deadline. Late entries will not be accepted.
3. All Exhibitors, 4-H, FFA, Grange and Independent are required to wear the official dress described in the Junior Department Rules.
4. Independent Exhibitors 9-13 years will show in 4-H Divisions and 14-19 will show in FFA Divisions.
5. Novice Divisions: are for those Exhibitors who are in their first year of showing any species of large livestock. No age limit over 9 years of age.
6. Advanced: For FFA Exhibitors who do not qualify for Novice.
7. Junior: Any Exhibitor between 9 years of age and 13 years of age who do not qualify for Novice Division.
8. Seniors: Exhibitors 14 years of age through December 31st of the year the Exhibitor turns 19 years of age who do not qualify for the Novice Division.
9. If an Exhibitor wins more than one Showmanship Class, he/she must decide which species they will show in Round Robin. The second-place winner will then be able to show in Round Robin if they choose. If they do not or cannot participate, that specie will not be represented in Round Robin.
10. The order of showing: Juniors will show first, followed by Senior or Advanced. Novice will show last. This will give the Novice showmen a chance to watch and learn from the Junior/Senior/Advanced showmen. The winner of the Junior Class may advance to the Senior Class if they so choose.
11. The Exhibitors must be on hand and ready to Exhibit in their Class on time. It is considered part of Showmanship to be ready for your Class. **Make sure you know which Class you are assigned to show in.** There will be a one-minute hold on the gate if Exhibitor misses their Class call, they will be scratched from the Class. If there is a problem with the sound system in the barn area it is still the responsibility of the Exhibitor to be ready at the gate for their Class.
12. Animals that did not make weight are eligible to compete in Showmanship if and only if this animal is the only animal the Exhibitor has brought to the Fair.
13. There will be no Round Robin Showmanship for the first week breeding animals due to the lack of animals for competition.

See Judging Schedule for Date and Time

DIVISION 960 – Market Goat

DIVISION 961 – Market Lamb

DIVISION 962 – Markey Steer

DIVISION 963 – Market Swine

Class

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. FFA Novice | 4. 4-H Junior |
| 2. FFA Advanced | 5. 4-H Senior |
| 3. 4-H Novice | |

Judging Criteria for Showmanship

Appearance (40%) - Condition (10%), Grooming (20%), Cleanliness (10%); Appearance of Exhibitor (10%);
 Showing in the Ring (50%) - Moving or leading (15%); Posing (15%); Show animal to the best advantage (10%); Poise, alertness, and attitude (10%); Total 100%

ROUND ROBIN MASTER SHOWMANSHIP RULES

1. Round Robin will follow all State Fair Rules and Guidelines including divisions offered.
2. First Place winners of Senior and Advanced Showmanship will qualify to compete in Round Robin. If an Exhibitor wins more than one Showmanship Class, they must decide which species they will represent in Round Robin. The Second-Place winner will then be able to Show in Round Robin if they choose. If they do not or cannot participate that species will not be represented in Round Robin.
3. Each Market Contestant will Show the following animals in rotation: Steer, Sheep, Swine, and Market Goat.
4. The animals to be used in the Round Robin Competition will be decided by the Large Livestock Management.
5. In the event of a tie between 2 or more Exhibitors, the score for the specie which Exhibitor qualified with will be removed.

ADMISSION WRISTBANDS AND PARKING INFO

Exhibitor Family Admission wristbands are \$40.00 each – *a maximum of 8 admission passes per family may be purchased.* Note: Admission wristbands will not be available for purchase after July 1st, 2026. Pre-purchased wristbands are to be picked up at the Livestock Office Saturday, July 25th 10am-5pm or Sunday, July 26th 10am-5pm. If not picked up on these dates, families may pick up when they move in on Monday, August 3, 2026

Parking: Parking passes will be available for purchase online. A limit of one parking pass per exhibitor and a maximum of two passes per family. The cost will be \$40 per pass.

Camping: Information will be posted and exhibitors will be notified as soon as it is available.