

## **SWINE**

### **4-H & JR. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**

(This is not a complete listing of all Jr. Fair exhibit rules. Refer to the current Ross County Fair Book for details.)

#### **1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS**

- **PROJECT BOOKS:** Each first-year member will receive a **Market Hog Project Book (#139)** and/or a **Swine Breeding Project Book (#140)** plus a **Swine Resource Handbook (#134R)**. Member must retain these books for use in future years. Replacement books can be purchased at the Extension office. Note: The Resource Handbook is given one per family and must be retained for future family members.
- **LIVESTOCK RECORD:** Each member will receive a **Livestock Record** annually. **Members are required to bring their completed Livestock Record to the Animal Project Skillathon** with all information completed up to the date of the Skillathon.

#### **2. QUALITY ASSURANCE (mandatory):**

All Ohio Junior Fair Market & Dairy Exhibitors must complete a Quality Assurance Training to exhibit and/or sell their animals at County, Independent or State Fairs.

All Jr. Fair Exhibitors shall successfully complete QA not less than 45 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition in which they will participate (ODA 1/2018).

- **June 1, current year:** To register/exhibit at the State Fair, youth must complete QA prior to June 1.
- **June 20, current year:** To exhibit and sell animals at the Ross County Fair, Jr. Fair Exhibitors **MUST** complete and submit proof of attendance by this date.
- **2021 QA Opportunities:** for dates/times, visit: [ross.osu.edu](http://ross.osu.edu)
  - **Ross Co. Virtual Zoom:** Ross County will offer (6) virtual QA sessions (all at 5:00pm on March 23, March 31, April 6, April 15, April 21, April 26). Members must pre-register at [go.osu.edu/qualityassurance21](http://go.osu.edu/qualityassurance21)
  - **Online website:** [yqca.org](http://yqca.org) (ages 15-18 as of January 1): Youth will use their 4-H online log-in information. Has a fee. One-year certification. Note: all other online courses do not meet the Ohio Youth Food Animal QA certification requirements (i.e. BQA, PQA, BEST, etc.) per Ohio Department of Agriculture. Exhibitor is responsible for submitting verification to Ross County Extension office.
  - **In-Person** (all ages): Exhibitors may attend trainings at approved QA programs/clinics but are responsible for submitting verification to Ross County Extension office.
  - **Test-Out:** In 2021, a Test-Out Option will NOT be offered.

#### **3. ROSS COUNTY ANIMAL PROJECT SKILLATHON (mandatory):** All Ross County Jr. Fair Animal Project Exhibitors must complete an Animal Project Skillathon to exhibit their animal(s). Exhibitors may complete either the Ross County Skillathon OR the Ohio State Fair Skillathon for their species.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to submit proof of completion, if attending the OSF Skillathon.

- **Skillathon Dates/Times:** go to [ross.osu.edu](http://ross.osu.edu)
- **Skillathon Study Guides:** go to [ross.osu.edu](http://ross.osu.edu)
- **Age Categories:** Exhibitors complete Skillathon according to their age (as of January 1).
  - Junior (8-11 years)
  - Intermediate (12 – 14 years)
  - Senior (15 – 18 years)

**PREMIER SKILLATHON** (all ages): This optional contest will be held during the Animal Project Skillathon. Participants will compete in a Premier Skillathon station in each specie area. Details will be in the *May Family Hotline* and *Ross County Fair Book*.

#### **4. JR FAIR EXHIBITOR DRESS CODE:** Exhibitors **must** adhere to the following dress requirements at all shows and sales at the fair: must wear nice jeans or slacks (no low-rise, no holes or tears); a shirt, blouse or polo with a collar and sleeves **AND** without slogans or advertisements (4-H club/member name is acceptable); no cleavage showing; no undergarments showing. Shoes must be closed-toe (no sandals or flip flops).



## **MARKET HOG PROJECTS:**

### **2021 IMPORTANT DATES** (\*subject to change due to County, State, Health Dept guidelines)

- **Market Hog SPRING Tagging Dates:**
  - Saturday, May 1 8:00am - 11:00am Ross County Fairgrounds
  - Monday, May 3 6:00pm - 8:00pm Ross County Fairgrounds
- **Fair Move-in and Rolling Weigh-in:** first Saturday of fair, 7:00am – 12:00noon
- **Market Hog Show:** Tuesday of fair at 8:00am
- **Swine Showmanship Contest:** Wednesday of fair at 8:00am
- **Market Hog Sale:** Thursday of fair 6:00pm

### **Additional Events/Opportunity**

- **Livestock Carcass Show** – For rules, refer to the current Fair Book

## **MARKET HOGS EXHIBITED AT THE FAIR:**

1. **NEW in 2021:** Exhibitors may take up to two (2) market species to the Ross County Junior Fair. Exhibitors must follow the guidelines of the number of animals per species and abide by the specific rules for each species.  
Refer to the current Fair Book for Livestock Sale procedure/rules. (i.e. Exhibitors may sell only one time through the sale unless exhibiting more than one overall species Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion)
2. Exhibitors (4-H or FFA) may take two (2) market hog animals to the Ross County Junior Fair. The two market hogs can be a combination of two barrows, two gilts, or a barrow and a gilt.
  - A. Gilts will show with Gilts. Barrows will show with Barrows. There will be a total of eight division winners competing in the Final Drive.
  - B. The Grand Champion and the Reserve Grand Champion Overall will then be selected from the Final Drive. Once a Grand Champion Overall Market Hog is selected, the reserve champion from that division will compete with remaining division champions for the Reserve Champion Overall Market Hog. There will be 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Overall selected.
3. **Market Hog SPRING Tagging:** hogs must be tagged at a Spring Tagging to be exhibited at the fair
  - A. Dates listed above
  - B. Pigs should **weigh 50 - 70 lbs.** by the tagging date.
  - C. Each exhibitor may tag two market hogs. Families with 2 or more members taking market hogs may tag-in and designate 1 family market hog. A family with one exhibitor can tag three (3) market animals. (2019)
4. **ONLINE DUNF forms due August 1.**
  - A. All DUNF forms must be submitted online by August 1 (link TBA).
  - B. A separate DUNF must be submitted for each animal.
  - C. If an animal's condition changes between August 1 and the fair move-in date, then Exhibitor must contact the Extension office so the online form can be updated.
  - D. Form must be correctly submitted or exhibitor will not be allowed to weigh-in their animal(s).
5. **FAIR Weigh-in:** Market hogs must weigh **between 220 lbs. – 290 lbs.** at the fair weigh-in to be eligible for the market show, the Champion Drive, and the Junior Fair Swine Sale.
6. The Market Hog Show is a terminal show. Refer to Fair Book for information.
7. **Jr. Fair Market Hog Sale:**
  - A. Hogs will sell Thursday evening. Refer to Fair Book for Sale information.
  - B. Hogs weighing less than 220 or more than 290 will not receive a premium and will be sold at the packer price for their respective weight.
8. **Safety:** Any animal found by the Swine Superintendents to be a risk to the health and wellness of exhibitors and/or fair goers will not be permitted to show or sell can be dismissed from the fairgrounds at any time.
9. **Drenching:** Drenching of livestock is **prohibited** at an exhibition, unless it is for a medical condition diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.
10. **Hog Hair Length:** Each hog must have at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch minimum of measurable hair to be eligible for the show and sale. Hair must be checked before the animal permitted to go across the scale at the fair move-in/weigh-in. Body clipping/shaving of hogs is NOT a recommended practice. Clippers/scissors are not allowed in the barns and clipping

of hogs is not allowed during the fair. Clipping of the hog's **EARS AND TAIL ONLY** is allowed but MUST be done prior to the animal coming to the fair.

An approved ½ inch hair-line ruling tool will be used to determine hair length by a paid Hair Judge. The Hair Judge's ruling is final and cannot be petitioned. Any violation of this rule will result in dismissal from the fair swine market show and sale; however, the exhibitor will be allowed to show their hog in showmanship.

Any hog rejected due to an infraction of this rule will remain the owner's responsibility for care (feeding, watering, pen cleanliness, etc.). The animal will be sent to the processing plant designated by the Jr. Fair Sale Committee with the other "keep" animals and the owner will be responsible for all fees and processing costs incurred for this animal. The owner will also be responsible for picking up the processed meat. The member will not receive a packer bid or any compensation for the animal.

11. **Use of RACTOPAMINE (i.e. Paylean® or Engain®) is BANNED from birth to butcher, zero trace policy. Swine exhibited at the Ross County Jr. Fair are required to be ractopamine-free. (sfb 03/2020)**
  - A. Testing Procedure:
    - i. Jr. Fair Market Swine Show Top 5 winners will be subject to rapid testing for ractopamine immediately following winning.
  - B. Penalty if testing found positive (by either Ross County Jr. Fair or the Packer):
    - ii. Ross County Jr. Fair penalty: If the immediate on-site rapid test or further packer testing results test positive for ractopamine traces, then a 3-year ban for participation in market livestock exhibition is placed on the member and the member's family.
    - iii. Ross County 4-H penalty: If the immediate on-site rapid test or further packer testing results test positive for ractopamine traces, member will not be permitted to take a livestock project for 3 years.
  - C. An affidavit will be required to be signed & returned by all exhibitors and parents/guardians confirming no use of ractopamine before being permitted to show or sell.
12. **Care:** Exhibitors with hogs not meeting weight requirements and/or with short-haired hogs are still responsible for all care of the project animal for the duration of the fair!
13. **Scales:** No outside scales may be brought onto the fairgrounds. "Official" fairground scales may be used by designated officials.
14. **Bedding:** Use ONLY shavings for bedding.
15. **Waterers:** PVC Waterers are recommended (not required).
16. **Pens:** Only ONE pig per pen allowed (as long as enough pens are available). Pigs MUST stay in their assigned pen (unless relocated by superintendent). Violation will result in exhibitor's dismissal from Jr. Fair swine show and sale.
17. **Tack:** All tack must be kept in designated tack areas. Tack is NOT permitted in/above hog pens.
18. All livestock exhibitors must clean their stall/pen and aisle by 12:00 noon Sunday after fair. Exhibitors not in compliance will be placed on a 1-year probation. If second offense occurs, the exhibitor will be ineligible to exhibit the following year.

### **SWINE BREEDING PROJECTS:**

1. Breeding animals must be in the member's possession by **May 1** of the current year.
2. Each 4-H member must have a **Swine Resource Handbook (#134R)** and the **Swine Breeding Project and Record Book (#140)**.

### **SWINE BREEDING FAIR CLASSES:**

1. Breeding gilts will not be shown at the Ross County Fair. Hogs will be graded at member's home for a project grade by the club advisor.
2. A maximum of two gilts per age group may be utilized.  
**Breeding Gilt:** farrowed prior to January 1 of current year  
**Breeding Gilt:** farrowed between January 1 and April 1 of current year

**Showmanship info - next page**

## **SWINE SHOWMANSHIP:**

1. **Showmanship Sign-ups:** Deadline is first Saturday of the fair at 10:00pm. To sign-up, complete the online form (link TBA).
2. Swine showmanship divisions (*and age as of January 1 of current year*) are:
  - Senior Division (15 years and over)
  - Intermediate Division (12 – 14 years)
  - Junior Division (8 – 11 years)
  - \*Beginner Division (8 – 11 years and showing for the first time)
  - \*Master

**\*Notes:** a.) Any first-year showman meeting the age category has the option of entering the Junior Division and not the Beginner Division.  
b.) The Master Showmanship Contest is open to all Junior Fair Livestock members who are current or previous winners of a swine showmanship class.
3. Showmanship Show Order: 1) Senior, 2) Intermediate, 3) Junior, 4) Beginner, 5) Master Division
4. An exhibitor may win a showmanship age division only one time. Once an exhibitor has won a particular division, they must compete in the next age division. Once an exhibitor wins a Senior age division showmanship, they are allowed to continue to show in Senior Showmanship throughout their 4-H eligibility.
5. Participants must be current Junior Fair Livestock exhibitors and must show one of their own current project(s).
6. Each contestant must fit and show their own animal. During the course of the contest, contestant may be asked by the judge to show some other animal.
7. The animal used for showmanship must be one entered and shown by the exhibitor in respective production or market class in the Junior Fair.
8. Light-weight, heavy-weight, and short-haired hogs are eligible to participate in showmanship classes.