

# 199 – SHEEP BREEDING

## 4-H PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

To complete a livestock project in 4-H, member must annually:

- Enroll in 4H Club by March 1
- Be 4-H member in “Good Standing” by completing county and club requirements
- Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- Complete Livestock Skillathon
- Non-Market/Breeding Livestock project must be in member’s possession by June 1.

\*NOTE: 4-H Members may also choose to exhibit their livestock at the Ross County Junior Fair. Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project in 4-H.

### 1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS

- **PROJECT BOOKS:** First-year members will receive a **Sheep Breeding Project/Record Book (#199)** and a **Sheep Resource Handbook (#194R)**. Members must retain these books for use in future years. 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 Skillathon** with all information completed up to the date of the Skillathon.

### 2. QUALITY ASSURANCE & DUNF FORM *(not required for Breeding Sheep; is required for Market Lambs)*

### 3. SKILLATHON

- All Ross County Jr. Fair Animal Project Exhibitors must complete a Skillathon to exhibit, show and/or their animal(s). Exhibitors may complete either the Ross County Skillathon **OR** the Ohio State Fair Skillathon (if offered) for their species. It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to submit proof of completion to the Extension office, if attending the OSF Skillathon.
- **Skillathon Dates:**
  - Location: Fairgrounds
  - July 7, 5:00pm-7:00pm
  - July 18, 9:00am-11:00am
- **Age Categories:** Members 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): Optional contest. 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*.

→ ***This is not a complete list of all Jr. Fair rules. Refer to Ross County Fair Book for all rules.***

To exhibit, show and/or sell an animal at the Ross County Junior Fair, exhibitors must:

- ☑ Enroll in 4-H Club and/or FFA Chapter by March 1
  - 4-H members sign up through 4Honline
  - FFA members sign up with Ag Teacher
- ☑ Be 4-H/FFA member in “Good Standing” by completing county and club/chapter requirements
- ☑ Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- ☑ Complete Livestock Skillathon
- ☑ Submit online “Jr Fair Livestock Entry Form” by July 15
  - One form includes Market, Breeding, and Showmanship entries

\*NOTE: Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project through 4-H or FFA.

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### 2026 IMPORTANT DATES

- **Jr Fair Livestock Entry Form:** July 15
- **Fair Move-in:**
  - **Breeding:** Move-in: first Saturday of fair, 5:00pm – 9:00pm
- **Fair Exhibitors’ Meeting:** first Saturday of fair at 10:00pm (*mandatory for all sheep exhibitors*)
- **Market Lamb Show:** Monday of fair, 10:00am
- **CBBR Market Lamb Show:** Wednesday of fair, 3:00pm
- **Breeding Sheep Show:** Wednesday of fair, following CBBR Lamb Show
- **Sheep Showmanship:** Wednesday of fair immediately following the Breeding Sheep Show

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### BEFORE THE FAIR

1. **POSSESSION.** All non-market/breeding livestock projects must be in the member's possession by **June 1**, current year. All Livestock Projects must be in the continual care of the youth and their parent(s) during the duration of the project.
2. **SCRAPIE TAGS.** ALL sheep (market and breeding) *must* have a **Scrapie identification tag** from the breeder when you take possession of the lamb. In addition, ewes and wethers that will cross state lines must have a Scrapie ID. You must keep record of your animal ID and the name and address of the breeder for five years after you sell the animal.
3. **JR FAIR LIVESTOCK ENTRY FORMS due July 15**
  - A. Exhibitors must submit an online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form to be eligible to exhibit at the Ross County Junior Fair.
  - B. Animals at the fair must match the entry form to be eligible.

### AT THE FAIR (*Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for complete rules!*)

1. **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).
2. **FAIR VETERINARIAN**  
The Fair Veterinarian is hired by the Ross Co. Agricultural Society per Ohio Dept. of Agriculture guidelines. Determinations related to animal health, care, and wellbeing are up to the discretion of the Fair Veterinarian up to and including animal removal and possession. (clarification that the Fair Vet gets final say)
3. **DRENCHING.** Drenching of livestock is **prohibited** at an exhibition, unless it is for a medical condition diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.
4. **MEDICATIONS.** If a prescription is written that requires medication/treatment, a superintendent must be present each time the medicine/treatment is administered to ensure compliance with the guidance in the prescription. The superintendent must be present before any medicine/treatment is mixed through delivery.

5. **PRODUCTS.** No application of products that are not approved for animal use. No paint anywhere on animal.
6. **BREEDING SHEEP JR. FAIR CLASSES:** *(There will be no pre-set breed classes)*
  - **Ram Lamb:** under one year
  - **Yearling Ram:** one year and under two
  - **Ram:** over 2 years
  - **Ewe Lamb:** under one year
  - **Yearling Ewe:** one year and under two
  - **Ewe:** over 2 years
  - **Flock** - 1 ram and 2 ewes of **SAME BREED** *(must meet Jr. Fair age and show requirements AND be showing in the Junior Fair Breeding Sheep Show this year).*

## SHEEP SHOWMANSHIP

*Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for complete rules (age divisions, fitting/showing rules, show order, etc.)*

Showmanship Sign-ups

1. **July 15** - Showmanship sign-ups (Beginner, Junior, Intermediate & Senior) are included in the online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form due July 15.
2. Peewee Showmanship sign-up sheets will be posted in each species' barn. Participants can sign up until the start of the Pee Wee Show.

## OUTSTANDING SHEEP EXHIBITORS

*Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for rules*

### Criteria- Points given for:

1. 20 pts. - Skillathon perfect score
2. 10 pts. - Showmanship placing 1st place
3. 10 pts. - Market and/or Breeding Class placing/ranking Grand
4. 5 pts. - Rate of Gain Place in Top 5
5. 5 pts. - Pen maintenance (dry, no food left or dirty water)
6. Bonus points: 1 pt. each - for participation in sheep clinics, barn activities, premier skillathon