



Livestock Judging



State O-Rama – Senior 4-H'ers Only
Animal Science

OBJECTIVES

Targeted Life Skills: Self-esteem, Decision Making, Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Communication, Cooperation, Teamwork

Opportunities will be provided for faculty to share information about related college degree programs in animal science and career options in:

Feed and Feed Additive Sales
Cooperative Extension Service
Livestock Promotion, Sales and Advertising
Agricultural Lending Agencies
Professionals - DVM, MS, PhD

Pharmaceutical Sales
Food Safety
Processing and Marketing of Animals and Meats
Livestock Operations Management

This activity will train 4-H members in live animal evaluation of meat animals. In their training prior to the annual state contest, the 4-H'ers should learn the names of the parts of each of the three species which they are to judge. They should also learn breed differences within the species. 4-H members should learn to make their own decisions based upon the best available information. Experience is given in developing their speaking ability through the use of oral reasons. This oral presentation justifies the contestant's placement of the class and can be the most beneficial part of the contest. Individual teams are encouraged to compete in livestock judging contests as they are available for additional training prior to the state contest.

ACTIVITY

The State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest will be held during the Arkansas 4-H O-Rama. **All teams must be preregistered.** Contestants should be prepared to place three classes of beef cattle, three swine, and three sheep classes. (The final class selection will be based upon availability of suitable animals.) Oral reasons will be required on three or four of the selected classes. Classes may have a set of evaluation data and a production situation statement. **Note: Only contest officials, agents, and leaders assigned to the contest will be allowed on the arena floor during the livestock judging contest. Classes may be reviewed after the contest is completed.**

ELIGIBILITY

The contest is limited to Senior 4-H members. The contestant must be 14 years old on January 1 of the current year, but not have had his or her 19th birthday as of January 1 of the current year. Any 4-H member whose name is entered by his or her county extension agent will be eligible to enter this contest and compete as an individual. However, for a county to be eligible for team competition, it will have to have at least three entries. A county may enter four individuals, but only the top three scores will count toward the winning team.

AWARDS

The high-point contestant will receive a trophy. The winning team (three high scores and an alternate) will receive a trophy and will be eligible to attend the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest. Out-of-state trip expense will be covered if funding is available. Second- through fifth-place teams will receive ribbons.

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