



Livestock SKILL-A-THON Guidelines



Questions:

For general questions regarding Western National Roundup, please reach out to the management team at:

westernnationalroundup@gmail.com or (970) 491-2711.

For specific questions about the Livestock Skill-a-thon Contest, Contact: one of the superintendents:

Georgia Younglove	georgia.younglove@ewc.wy.edu	(307) 799-5419
Tharyn Barker	tharynbarker@gmail.com	(307) 677-2412
Christina Seely	cseely@adcogov.org	(303) 345-5025

Entry

1. For a complete list of all rules, please refer to the general rules at: <https://co4h.colostate.edu/national-western-roundup/>
2. Each state is invited to enter one 4-H and one FFA livestock skill-a-thon team consisting of no more than four members.
3. Teams may be selected by any means appropriate to the state they represent and must be certified as eligible by the respective State 4-H Leader and/or State FFA Advisor.
4. Entries not officially entered will not be permitted to participate for any reason.





Method of Conduct

1. No contestant shall wear any clothing, pins, or badges that will in any way reveal his/her identity or the state that he/she represents. The contest will be held inside. The contest may involve animal handling. No hats are to be worn.
2. All electronic communication devices of any kind are prohibited, unless provided by the contest organizers. If a contestant's phone should ring, or if they are discovered using such electronic devices during the contest, the contestant and their team may be disqualified. Contestants may use a blank steno pad or a clipboard and blank paper. The contestants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area. Contest officials reserve the right to check all contestants' notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank prior to the contest. Simple calculators will be provided at stations where they have been deemed helpful/necessary by the officials. Violators are subject to contest dismissal and disqualification.
3. Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes, unless otherwise directed by contest officials.
4. While completing the individual stations, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials.
5. Team members will complete one official answer sheet for each team exercise, representing the combined effort of all team members.
6. Coaches are invited to review contest materials in the contest area at the conclusion of the contest at for a minimum of 15 minutes.



Contest Stations



The scope of the contest could include stations from the following list. The committee will make all reasonable efforts to adhere to these descriptions but reserves the right to make adjustments and deviate from this list.

Individual Stations

Possible stations that may be included in the individual portion of the contest (worth 500 points):

- **Livestock Equipment Identification:** Identify the proper name for pieces of equipment used in livestock production. Contestants may be asked to match the item with the most appropriate description.
- **Livestock Breed Identification:** Identify breeds of cattle, swine, sheep and goats (can include dairy breeds from all species). Contestants will be asked to identify breeds from live animals, breed pictures, descriptions or a combination of these.
- **Livestock Feed Identification:** Identify the proper name of feed samples. Contestants may be asked to match the item with the most appropriate description or classification.
- **Retail Meat Cut Identification:** Identify beef, lamb, and pork retail cuts. Contestants will identify the retail cut species, primal cut, and retail cut name.
- **Wool Judging Station:** Could include ranking a class of four wool samples and/or answer up to 10 questions.
- **Hay Judging Station:** Could include ranking a class of four hay samples and/or answer up to 10 questions about the class
- **Quality Assurance Exercise:** Example tasks could include items like: demonstrating how to read a medicine label or feed tag, calculating withdrawal times, completing a treatment record, answering questions about identification, or making ethical or management decisions regarding quality assurance.
- **Quiz:** Complete a 30-question multiple-choice quiz concerning the total livestock industry.





Contest Stations, Cont.

Team Stations

Possible stations that may be included in the team portion of the contest. Stations may include a team presentation. These stations may involve live animals. (worth 500 points).

- **Quality Assurance Exercise:** Demonstrate how to read an animal health product label, calculate dosage rates and withdrawal times, complete a treatment record, be familiar with administration routes, animal identification and restraint methods, understand and calculate pen/bunk size, and make responsible management decisions regarding quality assurance.
- **Meat & Carcass Evaluation & Marketing:** May include ranking a class of four retail cuts, evaluating photos of carcasses and/or pricing carcasses using a grid.
- **Animal Breeding:** Teams will be asked to complete an animal breeding task. Could include tasks such as: 1.) Team members will evaluate a breeding animal scenario and make animal selection/marketing decisions based upon performance/visual data to rank breeding animals or market them for use within the situation. May include questions on adjusted weaning weights or other common measures of breeding livestock performance. 2.) Teams may be asked to develop a planned out procedure to check the cows for pregnancy. Then, once your procedure is planned, each member of your team must use the palpation dummy to check the cow for pregnancy, using proper procedures. 3.) Teams may be asked to evaluate the genotype to determine the future offspring's genotype/phenotype.
- **Management, Performance & Marketing Problem(s):** Determine best options for management and marketing of livestock (e.g., should producers sell calves at weaning, retain ownership through feedlot, or a combination), when provided with information on markets and performance to evaluate.
- **Livestock Feeding:** Identify the proper name for livestock feeds and identify each corresponding nutrient group. Utilizing the feed ingredients given, formulate a ration for a group of livestock.
- **Reproduction:** Identify reproductive tract organs and functions and/or reproductive management equipment for livestock species. Demonstrate common reproductive management techniques such as artificial insemination and/or use of CIDRs.
- **Animal Bandages:** Teams may be asked to demonstrate bandaging practices and complete an animal record. Scores will include the proper sanitary techniques used.
- **Animal Aging:** Teams will be given a scenario and determine management decisions after aging each animal and completing an animal record.





Awards

- 1. Individual Identification:**
 - Sum of individual 1) Equipment ID, 2) Breeds ID, 3) Retail meat ID, and 4) Feed Identification. Tiebreakers: 1) Feed ID, 2) Breed ID, 3) Equipment ID, 4) Meat ID 5) Overall individual total.
- 2. Individual Evaluation:**
 - Sum of individual 1) Wool judging, 2) Wool questions, 3) Hay judging, and 4) Hay questions. Tie-breakers: 1) Wool questions, 2) Hay questions, 3) Overall individual total.
- 3. Individual Quality Assurance:**
 - Sum of individual 1) Quality Assurance and 2) Quiz. Tie- breakers: 1) Quiz, 2) Quality Assurance, 3) Overall individual total
- 4. Individual Overall Total:**
 - Sum of individual 1) Identification, 2) Evaluation, and 3) Quality Assurance. Tie-breakers: 1) Individual quality assurance, 2) Quiz, and 3) ID.
- 5. Team Identification:**
 - Sum of top three individual ID scores for team. Tie-breakers: 1) Team equipment ID, 2) Team Breed ID, 3) Team Retail meat ID 4) Team Feed ID
- 6. Team Evaluation:**
 - Sum of top three individual Evaluation scores for team plus team exercise scores for Animal Breeding, Livestock Feeding, Reproduction, Management-Performance-Marketing, and Meats Carcass Evaluation. Tiebreakers: 1) Livestock feeding team exercise score, 2) Meat and carcass evaluation team exercise score, 3) Management-performance-marketing team exercise score.
- 7. Team Quality Assurance:**
 - Sum of top three individual quality assurance scores plus team Quality Assurance score. Tie-breakers: 1) Quality Assurance team exercise score, 2) Individual quality assurance (not quiz) scores of top three team members, 3) Overall team score.
- 8. Overall Team:**
 - Sum of top three individual scores plus all team exercise scores. Tiebreakers: 1) Team ID score, 2) Team Quality Assurance 3) Team Evaluation score.



Contest Resources



The following is a list of references that will assist in preparing for livestock skill-a-thon contest that involved beef, sheep, meat goat, and swine. Please note that actual references used may be added to or deviated from, in an effort to keep current with a rapidly changing livestock industry. Please note - This list is not all-encompassing.

- 4H 134R: Swine Resource Handbook for Market and Breeding Projects – The Ohio State University <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/swine-resource-handbook/>
- 4H 194R: Sheep Resource Handbook for Market and Breeding Projects – The Ohio State University <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/sheep-resource-handbook-for-market-and-breeding-projects/>
- 4H 117R Beef Resource Handbook for Market & Breeding Projects – Ohio State University <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/beef-resource-handbook/>
- 4H 135R: Goat Resource Handbook – The Ohio State University <https://extensionpubs.osu.edu/goat-resource-handbook/>
- Sheep Production Handbook: <https://sheepusa.org/shop>
- Sheep 101: <http://www.sheep101.info/> viii. Sheep 201/
- Texas A&M AgriLife: Judging Wool and Mohair <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Judging-Wool-and-Mohair.pdf>
- PQAPlus Education Handbook, Version 3; <https://d3fnsOa45gcg1a.cloudfront.net/sites/all/files/documents/PQAPlus/V3.0/BinderMaterial/Tab%202/1%20PQAhandbook.pdf>
- Beef Quality Assurance Manuals; <https://www.bqa.org/resources/manuals>
- Center For Food Security and Public Health: <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Secure-Food-Supply/>
- Scientific Farm Animal Production An Introduction (11th Edition) by Thomas G. Field (Author), Robert E. Taylor (Author) *Can be found both in hardcover and eTextbook on amazon.com.
- Current Event References – A small percentage of questions will be based on current events in the beef, sheep, meat goat, and swine industries. Since studying from these may appear to be overwhelming, keep these points in mind. Think about major issues that have affected the livestock industry in many ways such as animal diseases, exports, animal ID, environmental issues, and regulatory changes.
- Oklahoma State Breeds of Livestock Library; <https://breeds.okstate.edu>
- Equipment will be taken from industry applications along with sources such as; Valley Vet Supply, Chewy Farm and Livestock Supply, QC Supply, Nasco Farm and Ranch, PBS Animal Health, Premier 1 Supply, Jeffers, etc.
- Study materials posted on the National 4-H Livestock Skill-a-thon page or Arizona National Livestock Show's Resource Book (excluding meat cuts)





Superintendent

- It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to see that all rules and regulations of the contest are followed. He/she shall determine the answers to all questions which may arise in connection with the interpretation of the rules governing the contest.
- The Superintendent shall have contest committee members and helpers to assist with contest management.
- The Superintendent shall take charge of all records and shall have all scores tabulated and totaled.
- All decisions by the Superintendents, officials and/or event administration shall be deemed final and shall not be further challenged.

