

# Livestock Exhibitor Handbook

Presented by the 35<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association, a California State Fair



For more information call (209) 722-1507 or e-mail  
Livestock @countyofmerced.com

[www.MercedCountyFair.com](http://www.MercedCountyFair.com)

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900 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Merced, CA 95340

## MERCED COUNTY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTOR

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**Mark Erreca**  
**Lori Gallo**  
**Emily Haden**

**Mark Pazin**  
**Kim Rogina**  
**Carol Sartori-Silva**

### **2024 LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Our special thanks to the following individuals who donated their time and efforts in making our Livestock program a success.

Danny Avila	4-H Dairy	El Nido 4-H
Vicky Banaga	Board Member	Merced County Fair
Brian Benefield	4-H Swine	Ballico-Cressy 4-H
Natalie Borba	FFA Dairy Goat	Atwater FFA
Jimmy Burroughs	4-H Beef	McSwain 4-H Teresa
Burrola	Chief Executive Officer	Merced County Fair
Crystal Cortez	4-H Representative	Cooperative Extension
Rachel Day	FFA Beef	El Capitan FFA
Bailey Fernandez	4-H Meat Goat	Dos Palos 4-H
Emily Haden, Chair	Board Member	Merced County Fair
Cassie Johnstone	4-H Dairy Goat	Lancers 4-H
Amanda Leo	4-H Large Animal	Snelling 4-H
Alana-Grace Reeder	FFA Sheep	Livingston FFA
Kim Rogina	Board Member	Merced County Fair
Kelly Sanches	FFA Dairy	Gustine FFA
Amiee Strohmer	FFA Meat Goat	Pacheco FFA
Doreen Synder	4-H Sheep	Hilmar Colony 4-H
Madison Zittle	FFA Swine	Atwater FFA

The function of the Livestock Committee is to review premiums, classes, rules, and regulations governing the showing of beef, dairy, swine, sheep, and goats at the annual fair make recommendations, and give preferences for livestock judges.

The Livestock Advisory Committee shall be comprised of the Livestock Committee members, staff, and one representative from each species from both 4H and FFA, as appointed or elected by their respective organizations.

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# 2024 HORSE SHOW & SMALL ANIMAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 19, 2024 – Horse Show, Check-in 7:00 am – Merced Horsemen's Arena

**Friday, June 7, 2024 – Rabbit and Poultry Show, check-in at 7:00 am**

**Please Note - The Small Animal Auction will be held on FRIDAY, June 7, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Hilmar Cheese Barn**

## RABBIT & CAVY DIVISIONS

Check/Weigh-In Meat Pens  
Market  
Breeding & Cavy  
FFA Showmanship  
4-H Showmanship

H  
H  
H  
H  
H

**Friday, June 7, 2024**

6:30 am  
7:00 am  
7:00 am  
7:00 am  
7:30 am

## POULTRY DIVISIONS

Poultry Health Inspection  
Market & Breed Judging  
4-H & FFA Showmanship

Tent  
L  
L

**Friday, June 7, 2024**

7:00 am  
9:00 am  
\*\*

# 2024 LIVESTOCK SCHEDULE

Judging times may be changed to suit conditions and may vary because of the number of animals.

	Show Ring	Monday June 3th	Tuesday June 4th	Wednesday June 5th	Thursday June 6th	Friday June 7th	Saturday June 8th	Sunday June 9th
<b>Livestock Receiving</b>		By 10:00 am						
<b>OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN</b>								
Swine		7:00 am						
Sheep followed by Goats.		8:00 am						
Beef		9:00 am						
<b>BEEF DIVISIONS</b>								
FFA & 4-H Breeding	L			8:00 am				
4-H Market & Feeders	L			**				
FFA Market & Feeders	L			**				
4-H & FFA Showmanship	L			**				
Beef Bred Heifers	L			4:00 pm				
Beef Bred Heifer Sale	D			7:30 pm				
<b>DAIRY DIVISIONS</b>								
Replacement Heifer Check		2:00 pm						
Registered (milk cows)	D				8:00 am			
Grade	D				**			
FFA Showmanship	D					8:00 am		
4-H Showmanship	D					**		
Replacement Heifer Show	D					1:00 pm		
Replacement Heifer Sale	L					7:30 pm		
<b>SWINE DIVISIONS</b>								
4-H Market	H		7:30 am					
4-H Showmanship	H		**					
4-H & FFA Breeding	H		**					
FFA Market	H			7:30 am				
FFA Showmanship	H			**				
<b>SHEEP DIVISIONS</b>								
FFA Market & Feeders	L		7:30 am					
4-H Market & Feeders	L		**					
FFA & 4-H Showmanship	L		**					
4-H & FFA Breeding	L		**					
Lads and Ladies Lead Line	L		**					
<b>BOER GOAT DIVISIONS</b>								
4-H Market & Feeders	G			7:30 am				
FFA Market & Feeders	G			**				
4-H & FFA Showmanship	G			**				
4-H & FFA Breeding	G			**				
<b>DAIRY GOAT DIVISIONS</b>								
4-H & FFA Breeding	G				10:00 am			
4-H & FFA Showmanship	G				**			
<b>Large Animal Round Robin</b>	L					2:00 pm		
Small Animal Round Robin	L					**		
Pee Wee Showmanship	L					5:00 pm		
<b>Small Animal Auction</b>	H					6:30 pm		
<b>Jr. Livestock Auction</b>	H						9:30 am	
<b>Awards Presentation</b>	H							10:00 am
<b>Livestock Release</b>								2:00 am

\* \* Indicates judging to follow completion of previous classes

Show Ring Codes: D= Dairy Ring

G= Glacier Pavilion

H= Hilmar Cheese Barn

L= Les McCabe A

# To our Exhibitors, Parents, 4-H Leaders and FFA Advisors

## “What’s New”

- Elimination of required photo for every market entry.
- Code of Conduct – each exhibitor is required to upload the Code of Conduct Form with the parent’s or guardian’s signature. The Code of Conduct Form can be found on our website.
- New beef minimum weight of 1,100 and maximum of 1,400 to align with industry standards.
- Small Animal Show and Sale moved to Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>
- Market Turkeys have been added to our program.
- Dairy – Grade and Registered will be on the same day, Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Swine – Commercial Guilts – 350 max weight.

We are in our second year of ShoWorks fair entry management software program. All entries must be completed online. All required documents must be uploaded into the entries. Please follow the online instructions [www.mercedcountyfair.com](http://www.mercedcountyfair.com).

### **The Entry Closing Deadline is Thursday, May 2, 2024**

Each year we have had exhibitors who missed this MOST IMPORTANT deadline and were disqualified from participating. It is heartbreaking and expensive, but our local rules clearly state **late entries will not be accepted, no exceptions**”.

To further explain, in the 2024 State Rules for California Fairs, under Eligibility II, 3. **“No entry form or entry will be accepted after the closing date for entries.”** Also, in the Preface, item 3. **“These rules cannot be waived or amended by anyone, including the fair board, management, or the judge.”**

We are not able to accept a late entry under any circumstance. To avoid any pitfalls to entering, below are just a few tips to help you with the process:

- Don’t forget to enter online by **Thursday, May 2, 2024.**
- It is suggested you submit your online entry sooner rather than later.
- Please don’t wait until 10:00 pm, the night it is due, because if something goes wrong, such as your computer failing, a power outage, or your credit card charge not going through we will be unable to help you.
- The system will automatically shut off at 11:59 pm on May 2, 2024, and the system will not let you enter, so again, please don’t wait until the eleventh hour.
- After entering online, you will receive a confirmation e-mail and a receipt. Print your receipt and check your entries. Make sure you have showmanship class and breeding or market. If you don’t receive your confirmation e-mail, the entry process is not complete, and you are not entered.
- If you entered the DHR Program by their deadline of February 6, 2024, REMEMBER, you must also enter your Dairy Heifer into the fair in the online portal. It is a two-step process.
- When entering your animal don’t forget to enter showmanship.

We want everyone to be able to participate, but the responsibility lies with the exhibitors and parents to do their part. Let’s make 2024 the year of no disqualifications!

## MERCED COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Exhibiting livestock at the Merced County Fair is a privilege and must be respected as such. To that end, all junior exhibitors who wish to sell and/or show at the Merced County Fair must adhere to the Code of Conduct to be eligible to participate at the Fair. This Code of Conduct covers the conduct of the exhibitor from the Sunday before the opening day of the fair through Sunday, the last day of the fair. Violations of the Code of Conduct will not be tolerated. An investigation of alleged violations will be conducted, and a decision rendered by the appropriate involved parties according to the Code of Conduct protocol. Violations may result in loss of premium, awards, and/or the right to sell animal(s) at the auction.

- Exhibitors will refrain from any use of alcohol, drugs, vaping, or tobacco during the Merced County Fair.
- Exhibitors may not use obscene or discriminatory language.
- Exhibitors are to be good citizens by helping those around them have positive experiences.
- Exhibitors are to demonstrate caring for people other than themselves. Know that harassment of any type is illegal and prohibited.
- Exhibitors must practice good sportsmanship behavior.
- Exhibitors will treat their animals safely and kindly. Animals will have the necessary feed and water the entire time they are at the fairgrounds.
- Exhibitors will always keep their animal pens clean and free of hazards.
- Exhibitors will treat adults, especially those in authority, with respect.
- Exhibitors will follow all State and Local rules that apply to your particular project(s)
- Exhibitors shall fit and groom their own animals for the show. Exhibitors may receive *limited assistance* from their parents, guardians, other exhibitors, Leaders, and Advisors.
- If Exhibitors are staying in the fair camping area, or visiting friends in the fair camping area, you will abide by all curfews and other camping area rules.

## MERCED COUNTY FAIR PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a parent of a Livestock Exhibitor at the Merced County Fair, you are expected to adhere to the following Code of Conduct. Failure to do so will jeopardize the participation of your child, or family member.

- The livestock show and sale is an educational experience for your child and as such, exhibitors shall fit and groom their own animals for the show. Exhibitors may receive *limited assistance* from their parents, guardians, other exhibitors, Leaders, and Advisors. No Professional Fitters.
- As a parent/guardian, you acknowledge that direct criticism or interference with the judge, show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, auctioneer, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. All judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation, and respect and as a parent/guardian, I will not allow any person connected with my child's animal project to direct abusive or threatening conduct toward any show official.
- Parents/guardians shall champion equality and respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all people involved in the Merced County Fair livestock program, regardless of gender, race, marital status, color, disability, sexuality, age, occupation, religion, or political opinion.
- Parents/guardians should use respectful language. No foul or abusive language or gestures shall be directed toward a judge or staff member at any time. Such conduct will not be tolerated.
- Parents/guardians should limit their use of alcohol in the barns to set a proper example for their child and the children of others.
- Parents/guardians shall not provide alcohol to anyone under 21 years of age.
- Parents/guardians shall not have any alcohol in a child's showbox in the barns.
- Parents/guardians shall not use any drugs that are considered illegal while on the grounds.
- There is no smoking or vaping permitted in or near the barns.
- I will follow the procedure and chain of command if there is a conflict.

# JUNIOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR CODE OF CONDUCT PROTOCOL

Violation: Fair Camping Area Curfew  
Report to: Livestock Superintendent  
Final Decision: Fair CEO

Violation: Fair Camping Area Disturbance  
Report to: Livestock Superintendent  
Final Decision: Fair CEO

Violation: Code of Conduct  
Report to: Livestock Superintendent/Fair CEO  
Final Decision: Board of Directors

Violation: State or Local Rules  
Report to: File a formal protest with the Livestock Superintendent. See local rules for protest procedure.  
Final Decision: Fair CEO and/or Board of Directors, and/or Division of Fairs & Expositions

Violation: Auction Rules  
Report to: Livestock Superintendent  
Final Decision: Auction Executive Committee

- All alleged violations will be reported in writing to the Livestock or Fair Office. No oral complaints will be investigated unless reported by fair security staff to Fair Management.
- Witnesses to the alleged violations will be contacted and interviewed. For Code of Conduct violations, witnesses may be asked to appear before the Board of Directors in front of the accused. It is in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors whether to hold a hearing.
- All decisions made by the Fair CEO regarding the RV Park may be forwarded to the Merced County Fair Board of Directors at their next meeting. To be placed on the agenda, contact the fair office immediately to meet the State of California open meeting notification requirements.
- Concerns regarding the board's decisions may be forwarded to the Merced Fair Board of Directors at their next meeting. To be placed on the agenda, contact the fair office immediately to meet the State of California open meeting notification requirements.
- All decisions by the Junior Livestock Auction Committee are final. Concerns regarding the committee's decisions may be forwarded to the full 35<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association, Merced County Fair Junior Livestock Auction Committee for their next regular meeting.
- All judge's decisions are final and cannot be protested.

As the **Parent/Guardian of the Exhibitor**, I acknowledge I have read and understand the State and Local Rules posted on the following website State Rules:

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/exhibit\\_and\\_livestock.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/exhibit_and_livestock.html), Local Rules [www.mercedcountyfair.com](http://www.mercedcountyfair.com).



## EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

### LOCAL RULES

1. All State Rules for California Fairs apply. A copy of the State Rules for California Fairs may be obtained at [www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/)
2. **All entries must** be properly made online at [www.mercedcountyfair.com](http://www.mercedcountyfair.com).
3. **CLOSING DATES:** The management reserves the right to close a class before closing date in the event that all available space has been allotted or to extend closing date, by Board approval, if, prior to closing date, sufficient entries for proper competition have not been received.
4. All entries will be under the direction of the superintendent of the livestock department. The fair management will in no case be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.
5. All entries are entered at the exhibitor's risk.
6. Under no circumstances will a judge award a prize for any entry that does not merit such an award. This applies whether there are one or more entries in the class.
7. There must be two or more exhibitors in a division to qualify for "best in division" awards.
8. The State Rules, Species Rules, Health Rules and Judging Standards as prescribed by the Fairs and Expositions Branch and published in a separate booklet available at the fair office apply to all entries of this livestock show & sale.
9. Unless otherwise noted, entries are limited to residents of Merced County
10. The Livestock Superintendent will act in the best interest of the Animal Exhibit, Exhibitor, and the Fair.
11. Weather conditions may dictate changes in the livestock department. Haul-in times, Haul out, Show schedules, and Weigh-in times may be altered or changed in order to accommodate excessive heat.

### ENTRY FEES – Per Class

Beef Cattle	\$20.00
Market Beef	\$25.00
Beef Replacement Heifer	\$20.00
Breeding Boer Goats	\$20.00
Market Goats	\$25.00
Breeding Sheep	\$20.00
Market Sheep	\$25.00
Breeding Swine	\$20.00
Market Swine	\$25.00
Dairy Cattle	\$20.00
Dairy Heifer Replacement	\$20.00
Dairy Goats	\$20.00
Horse Show	\$ 5.00
Horse Drug Fee per Horse	\$14.00
Breeding Rabbits	\$ 5.00
Market Rabbits	\$10.00
Breeding Poultry	\$ 5.00
Market Poultry	\$10.00

### JUDGING SYSTEMS

**American** - The judging process to rank exhibits against one another and award one first place, one second place, one third place, etc.

**Danish** - The judging process to compare each exhibit on its own merit against a scorecard or recognized standard and award as many first place, second place, etc., as merited.

In all Departments using the Danish System, the following guidelines shall be used by the judges:

Judging Scale	Danish System	Score	Ribbon
Group 1	Superior	100%-92%	Blue
Group 2	Good	91%-84%	Red
Group 3	Average	83%-70%	White
Group 4	Poor	69 or less	None



# AWARD CATEGORIES

Unless otherwise noted, the following awards are offered in both the 4-H and FFA divisions.

## BEEF CATTLE

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Supreme Champion Registered Bull*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Feature Breed Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Feature Breed Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Feature Breed Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Feature Breed Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion All Other Breeds Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Commercial Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Commercial Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Market Beef*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Market Beef*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Market Beef.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Market Beef.....	Award & Rosette

## BOER GOATS

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Supreme Champion Buck*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Buck*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Doe*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Doe*.....	Award & Rosette
Senior Champion Buck*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion Buck*.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion Buck*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion Buck*.....	Award & Ribbon
Senior Champion Doe*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion Doe*.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion Doe*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion Doe*.....	Award & Ribbon
Supreme Champion Market Goat*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Market Goat*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Market Goat.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Market Goat.....	Award & Rosette
Market Division Champions.....	Award & Ribbon
Market Reserve Division Champions.....	Award & Ribbon

## SHEEP

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Supreme Champion Registered Ram*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Ram*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Registered Ewe*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Ewe*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Wether T Sire *.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Wether Sire*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Wether Dam.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Wether Dam.....	Award & Rosette
Lads & Ladies Lead*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Market Lamb*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Market Lamb*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Market Lamb.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Market Lamb.....	Award & Rosette
Market Breed Champions.....	Award & Ribbon
Market Reserve Breed Champions.....	Award & Ribbon

## SWINE

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Supreme Champion Registered Boar*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Boar*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Commercial Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Commercial Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Market Swine*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Market Hog*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Market Hog.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Market Swine.....	Award & Rosette
Market Breed Champions.....	Award & Ribbon
Market Reserve Breed Champions.....	Award & Ribbon

## DAIRY CATTLE

Outstanding Holstein Exhibitor. Merced County Holstein Assoc.	
Supreme Champion Registered Bull*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Registered Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Junior Champion Registered Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Junior Champion Registered Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Registered Udder*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Holstein Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Holstein Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Rosette
Senior Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion Holstein Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Champion Jersey Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Jersey Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Rosette
Senior Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion Jersey Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Champion All Other Breeds Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Bull*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Senior Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion All Other Breeds Female*.....	Award & Ribbon
Supreme Champion Grade Female*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Grade Female*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Rosette
Senior Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Senior Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Junior Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Reserve Junior Champion Grade Female.....	Award & Ribbon
Supreme Grade Udder*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Replacement Heifer*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Replacement Heifer*.....	Award & Rosette
Champion Replacement Heifer.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Replacement Heifer.....	Award & Rosette

## AWARD CATEGORIES

Unless otherwise noted, the following awards are offered in both the 4-H and FFA divisions.

## DAIRY GOATS

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Supreme Champion Doe*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Doe*.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Best Udder*.....	Award & Rosette

## HORSE

All-Around Walk Jog/Trot Champion*.....	Horse Tack
Reserve All-Around Walk Jog/Trot Champion*.....	Horse Tack
Junior English Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve Junior English Champion*.....	Award
Senior English Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve Senior English Champion*.....	Award
Junior Western Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve Junior Western Champion*.....	Award
Senior Western Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve Senior Western Champion*.....	Award
All-Around Junior Gymkhana Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve All-Around Junior Gymkhana Champion*.....	Award
All-Around Senior Gymkhana Champion*.....	Buckle
Reserve All-Around Senior Gymkhana Champion*.....	Award

## RABBITS

Outstanding Exhibitor.....	Award
Best of Show*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve In Show*.....	Award & Rosette
Best of Breed*.....	Award & Ribbon
Best Opposite Sex*.....	Award & Ribbon
(Best of Breed & Best Opposite of Breed awards will be awarded for each breed with a minimum of 5 entries)	
Club/Chapter High Point*.....	Award
Supreme Champion Meat Pen*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Meat Pen*...	Award & Rosette
Champion Meat Pen.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Meat Pen.....	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Single Fryer*.....	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Single Fryer*....	Award & Rosette
Champion Single Fryer.....	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Single Fryer.....	Award & Rosette

## POULTRY

Best of Show*	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve In Show*	Award & Rosette
Best in Division*	Award & Ribbon
Reserve In Division*	Award & Ribbon
Supreme Champion Meat Pen*	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve Supreme Champion Meat Pen*	Award & Rosette
Champion Meat Pen	Award & Rosette
Reserve Champion Meat Pen	Award & Rosette
Supreme Champion Market Turkey	Buckle & Rosette
Reserve supreme Champion Market Turkey	Award & Rosette

## SHOWMANSHIP & ROUND ROBIN

**4-H JUNIOR, 4-H INTERMEDIATE, 4-H SENIOR, FFA NOVICE, FFA FRESHMAN, & FFA ADVANCED SHOWMANSHIP FOR FIRST PLACE**

Beef*	Award & Ribbon
Boer Goat*	Award & Ribbon
Dairy Cattle*	Award & Ribbon
Dairy Goat*	Award & Ribbon
Sheep*	Award & Ribbon
Swine*	Award & Ribbon
Horse*	Award & Ribbon
Rabbit*	Award & Ribbon
Poultry*	Award & Ribbon
Turkey	Award & Ribbon
4-H Large Animal Round Robin*	Buckle & Rosette
4-H Small Animal Round Robin*	Buckle & Rosette
FFA Large Animal Round Robin*	Buckle & Rosette
FFA Small Animal Round Robin*	Buckle & Rosette

## THURMAN AWARD

4-H Club*.....	Award
FFA Chapter*.....	Award

**\*One selected from all exhibitors participating**



# JUNIOR LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENTS

Terri O'Leary-Collins, Superintendent  
Livestock@countyofmerced.com  
Livestock Office Phone  
(209) 722-1421

## LOCAL LIVESTOCK RULES AND INFORMATION

A copy of the 2024 State Rules may be obtained  
at [www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/fe/)

All local rules apply.

**GENERAL:** All livestock will be under the direction of the livestock superintendent. Fair Management will in no case be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Each exhibitor or their representative will be solely responsible for consequential or other loss, injury or damage to, or occasioned by or arising from an animal exhibited by him and for its description, as given in the premium list; shall indemnify the ASSOCIATION against all legal or other proceedings thereto.

**EXHIBITS:** No animal shall be admitted or remain on the grounds that show any evidence of any communicable disease or unsightly condition. This may include but is not limited to; caseous lymphadenitis (CL), ringworm, club lamb fungus, contagious ecthyma (sore mouth), and prolapsed or open wounds. All exhibits must remain on display for the duration of the livestock show and sale and may be removed only with the written permission of the Fair management. If an entry is removed without a release form, that exhibitor will forfeit all premiums and sale proceeds and may be subject to further disciplinary action. All milking cows and milking goats will be released at the completion of their respective shows. A release must be obtained from the livestock office before the animal can be removed from the fairgrounds.

**Cleaning of Barn Area:** Animals, pens, and stalls must be kept groomed and in show condition at all times. Due to water conservation measures use of water may be greatly curtailed by Fair management. Including but not limited to washing, cooling and other water use in the Livestock area. Nozzles are required on all hoses.

**Post/late entries:** No late entries will be accepted, **no exceptions per State Rules.**

**Entry Closing Date:** Entries and fees are due on or before **May 2nd by 11:59 p.m.**, online only. **If you don't receive an e-mail confirmation, you are not entered and it means you did not complete the entry process. Be sure and check your Spam folder as well, depending on your security it may view this program as spam.**

### Eligibility and Age Requirements:

**FFA Members** - Limited to students in Merced County High Schools unless otherwise noted. FFA members may participate as members until the end of the calendar year following the year of graduation from high school.

**4-H Members** - Limited to 4-H Clubs located in Merced County. 4-H members may enroll if they are 9 years old by December 31, 2023, and can exhibit as a member until the end of the calendar year in which they reach age 19. Second and third graders, officially enrolled in 4-H, may exhibit in special divisions designated for 4-H Primary-Members.

**Independent Junior Exhibitors** - Limited to residents of Merced County, unless otherwise noted, who are not members of FFA or 4-H unless otherwise noted, **exhibitors must be at least 9 years old by January 1, 2024.** Exhibitors are eligible to compete/exhibit through December 31 of the year in which they turn 19 years of age. Independent junior exhibitors must enter an open junior class unless one is not available. If open junior classes are not available, junior exhibitors may enter appropriate FFA or 4-H classes if they meet all appropriate age and State Rule requirements.

### Independent Junior Exhibitors in the Livestock Department

will compete in appropriate Divisions based on school grade level completed. Eligible Independent exhibitors who have completed 3rd-grade through 8<sup>th</sup>-grade graduation will compete within the 4-H Divisions. Exhibitors who graduated from 8th grade through 12th grade will compete within the FFA Divisions. Exhibitors must complete and file with the Fair the Independent Junior Livestock Exhibitor Packet which includes supplying the Fair with a copy of their birth certificate or driver's license, purchasing liability insurance (Large Livestock) and providing the Fair with a picture of their animal, appropriate proof of ownership, permanent tag, tattoo and/or hog ear notch information 120 days prior to the fair for market beef & dairy replacement heifer. 60 days for all breeding species, market sheep, market swine, market goats, rabbit, cavy & poultry entries. An FFA or 4-H member may exhibit as an independent junior if that exhibitor is not enrolled in an FFA or 4-H project within 60 days (120 Market beef & Dairy replacement heifer) prior to the livestock show and sale. Check with the fair office for deadlines and forms.

**Uniform Requirement:** When showing, FFA exhibitors will be required to wear the official show uniform of FFA. For 4-H exhibitors, it is required that white pants, a plain white shirt with a collar (short or long sleeve), and a tie/scarf be worn. The 4-H hat is optional. For Independent Junior exhibitors, it is required that white pants and a white dress shirt (short or long sleeve) be worn. For all exhibitors, no bare midriffs or flip-flops are allowed.



**Animal Health Issues:** Animals identified by fair management as having a potentially contagious disease may be required to leave the grounds immediately. As animal health issues arise, various health tests or proof of animal health may be required before animals are brought onto the grounds. Fair management will notify leaders and advisors if such testing should become necessary.

**Awards Ceremony:** For exhibitors receiving awards, please sit in the chairs closest to the presentation area so as not to delay the program. All exhibitors should wear the appropriate dress when receiving an award.

**Barn Space:** Pens, stalls, and livestock must be kept thoroughly groomed, clean, and in show condition at all times. Exhibitors must supply their own equipment in caring for animals. Entry fees **do not** guarantee tie space or pens. Management reserves the right to reassign barn space based on the number of animals brought to the fair. No water troughs are permitted on fairgrounds.

**Brand Inspections:** All beef and dairy sale cattle must have a brand inspection 120 days prior to the fair except for animals raised by the exhibitor through his/her own breeding project. Brand inspection certificates must be surrendered upon arrival at the fair.

#### **Proposition 12 Certificates:**

Prop 12 Certificates are required for all market hogs that are entered. Exemption certificates will also be required for 4-H/FFA raised and sold market hogs. Certificate upload required at time of entry.

**Clean Barn Awards:** Clean barn will be given to the outstanding 4-H Club and FFA Chapter for the neatest and cleanest barn areas maintained throughout the duration of the fair. Judging will take place daily.

**Dogs/Pets:** No pet dogs are permitted on fairgrounds, except service animals.

**Entry Limits:** Exhibitors are limited to a maximum of 10 animals, including market entries. Registered sheep exhibitors are limited to a maximum of **14** animals, including market and feeder entries. Exhibitors may not show more animals than they are able to care for personally. Exhibitors are limited to two entries per class in divisions where the breed is specified. In the "All Other Breeds" and "All Breeds Judged as One" divisions, two entries per class per breed will be accepted.

**Exhibit Installation:** Stall decorations must not block the flow of air in the barns. The Exhibitors must have their exhibits in place by 10:00 a.m., Monday, June 3th. Decorating stalls may start Saturday, June 1st beginning at 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Large livestock receiving will be Sunday, June 2th starting at 6:00 AM until 9:00 PM and resuming Monday, June 3th 5:00 AM and must be in place by 10:00 AM.

A fee of \$25.00 per animal per day will be charged for any livestock brought onto the fairgrounds prior to 6:00 a.m., Sunday, June 2<sup>th</sup>.

**Exhibitor Showing & Selling:** Exhibitors must be present at show & sale rings when their animals are shown/sold or the animal will be disqualified. Exception requests must be in writing and presented to the Board of Directors by Friday, May 31 at 5:00 PM. Exceptions include attendance at a funeral, either their own or sibling's graduation, injury, or participating in a school-related sports activity. Participating in a city league or traveling sports team does not qualify.

**Grooming & Fitting:** The livestock show & sale is an educational experience and, as such, exhibitors *shall* fit and groom their own animals for the show. Exhibitors may receive *limited assistance* from their parents, other exhibitors, Leaders and/or Advisors. No professional fitters.

**NOTE:** Violation of this rule will result in disqualification of the exhibitor and exhibit, forfeiting all awards, premiums, and eligibility to participate in the auction. All cattle must be shown on leather show halters.

**Loss or Injury:** Exhibitors will at all times give the necessary and personal attention to whatever they have on exhibit. Each exhibitor, or his representative, will be solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage caused by any animal exhibited by him and shall hold the Association and its agents harmless and indemnify them against any legal proceedings arising from such loss, injury or damage.

**Market Entry Limit:** Exhibitors are limited to one market or feeder entry per species.

#### **Market Weight Minimum:**

Beef	1,100 pounds
Swine	200 pounds
Sheep	100 pounds
Goats	60 pounds

**Sale Weight Maximum:** For sale purposes, payment will be made on maximum weights as follows:

Beef	1,400 pounds
Swine	265 pounds
Sheep	150 pounds
Goats	105 pounds

**Outstanding Exhibitors:** Awards will be presented to the Outstanding Beef, Boer Goat, Dairy Goat, Sheep, Swine, and Rabbit Exhibitors in both 4-H and FFA and will be determined by the total amount of premium

money won. Premiums won on a maximum of 5 animals only will be considered.

**Ownership Requirements:** Livestock projects must be owned by and under the exhibitor's care and management and under the supervision of the organization in which the project will be shown as follows: 30 consecutive days for all breeding species, feeder, market rabbits, and market poultry; 60 consecutive days for market swine, sheep, and goats; 120 consecutive days for market beef and dairy replacement heifers. The official ownership date is the date shown on the Bill of Sale unless the animal was bred by the exhibitor. The days are counted prior to the opening day of the livestock show & sale.

**Ownership:** No livestock owned solely by a chapter or club, or conducted as a joint project by two or more individuals, is eligible. No partnerships.

**Parking - Exhibitor:** Parking for exhibitors and their families is provided in the "G" Street Parking Lot. The parking permit must be visible, or the vehicle will NOT be admitted to the "G" Street parking area. Exhibitors will be allowed to drive their vehicles containing necessary feed or bedding onto the fairgrounds for the purpose of caring for and feeding animals between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m., **Wednesday through Saturday.**

**Preferred Parking:** Preferred parking pass is for parking only. It does not include admission to the Fair. Preferred parking with in/out privileges begins Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Permits are transferrable. Permits are required to park in the on-ground lot. The vehicle is limited to passenger vehicles and trucks, no RVs. Permits must be properly posted as vehicle towing will be enforced.

**Pass Policy:** The following policy will be enforced: "any person using or distributing counterfeit credential(s) (admission pass, wristband or parking pass) may be subject to removal from the fairgrounds and/or exhibit removed and/or all premiums forfeited. Any person utilizing, distributing, or selling counterfeit credential(s) may be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Use of non-authorized credentials is theft of state funds.

**Passes - Exhibitor:** Each exhibitor will receive a wristband and one "G" Street parking permit good for one admission per day for the five days of the fair. If the wristband breaks for any reason the broken one must be returned to the livestock office to receive a replacement wristband.

**Passes - Parent:** Because of limited space in the livestock office, we will no longer sell parent passes at that location. Pre-Sale Admission and Carnival Pre-Sale may be purchased from the Administration Office "Box Office" in front of the fairgrounds on MLK Jr. Way.

Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 5:00 PM. The Livestock gate will operate as paid admission on a 24-hour basis beginning Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. For everyone's convenience, we will have the Kiddieland "G" Street entrance gate open at 7:00 a.m. for pedestrians to enter the grounds.

**Passes - 4-H Leader:** 4-H Community Leaders will receive one leader wristband good for admission into the livestock show and sale and a G Street Parking Permit for them and each large animal species exhibited by the 4-H Club. Distribution of leaders' passes will be the responsibility of the Community Leader.

**Passes - FFA Advisor:** FFA Advisors for livestock entries will receive one "G" Street Parking Pass and a wristband good for one admission per day for the five days of the fair.

**Pop-up Tents:** Per the State Fire Marshal, no pop-up tents are allowed in the barn areas during the livestock show & sale. This is due to safety concerns and the need to maintain emergency vehicle access around the barns.

**Generators:** Per the California State Fire Marshal Generators are not allowed to be stored in the barns at any time. Generators must be a minimum of 20 feet away from the Barn.

**Premiums:** No premiums paid on market animals.

**Pro-lapse** - Market lambs exhibiting signs of pro-lapse, or obvious repair to a pro-lapse, will be excused from the show and fairgrounds at the direction of the management.

**Registered Animals:** All animals in *the* "Registered Purebred Breeding Animal" Divisions must be registered and recorded with a United States (U.S.) Breed Association in the exact name of the exhibitor (owner) as declared on the entry form (*see State Rules for exceptions*). All registered animals are subject to tattoo and registration identification checks by fair management.

**Release of Tack or Animal:** Release of tack and large breeding animals will be permitted on Sunday after 2:00 a.m., June 9<sup>th</sup>. Regarding the final clean-out, Beef & Dairy exhibitors are to pull their bedding/manure back one foot from tie rail. Sheep exhibitors move bedding/manure to East side of barn. Swine exhibitors are to move their bedding to dirt area behind the milk barn prior to dismissal. Beef Heifers sold through the sale, may be removed by the new owner starting Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Dairy Heifer Replacements sold through the sale may be removed by the new owner starting Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Breeding Rabbits and Poultry may be removed following their shows on Friday Market

rabbit & poultry may be removed by the buyers after the small animal auction.

**Final Clean-out:** Exhibitors in the Beef & Dairy barns are to pull their bedding/manure back one foot from tie rail. Exhibitors in the Sheep barn are to move bedding/manure to East side of barn. Exhibitors in the Swine barn are to move their bedding to dirt area behind the milk barn. Exhibitors in the Glacier Pavilion can leave their bedding in the pens. Dairy Heifer Replacements sold through the sale may be removed by the new owner after the completion of the sale and their purchases have been paid for. Market rabbit & poultry may be removed after the completion of the sale and their purchases have been paid for.

### **Ropes & Lasso**

To prevent the spooking of animals and for everyone's safety, there will be no ropes/lassos allowed to be played with on the grounds.

**RV Camping:** Trailer registration begins April 1st for \$150.00 per trailer. The RV lot will be the fairground "G Street lot". Registration forms are available at the fair office and online. Trailers may be brought in on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, and Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. No trailers will be permitted in the campgrounds prior to 7:00 a.m. on Saturday. All trailers must enter through the "G" Street campground gate and must be registered with the livestock office. Trailers must be removed from the G Street campground by 5:00 p.m. Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Scrapie** - Scrapie tags are mandatory for sheep and goats: All sheep and goats require individual identification. All official identification will be kept on the animals. The official identification may be official USDA individual identification ear tags, premises ear tags or legible premises tattoos (if they include a unique animal number), Scrapie Flock Certification Program ear tags, legible registration tattoos if accompanied by registration papers, or other methods approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. *See State Rules for additional requirements.* All animals on the fairgrounds are subject to blood testing by the state. Sale checks and/or premiums may be withheld pending blood test results. In cooperation with the USDA Wholesome Meat Act and to insure the nation's food supply, all livestock are subject to drug testing for Quality Assurance.

**Selling and Showing at Auctions:** Exhibitors may sell in two of the following four areas:

- 1) Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale
- 2) Beef Bred Heifer Sale
- 3) Small Animal Sale (rabbit & poultry)
- 4) Jr Livestock Sale (beef, swine, sheep, goats)

Exhibitors not wanting to sell a market animal that qualifies for a sale must notify the livestock office no later

than 30 minutes following the completion of that species show.

**Showing of Animals:** Exhibitors must show their own animals, unless they have more than one animal in a class.

**State Rules:** State Rules, Species Rules, Health Rules, and Judging Standards as prescribed by the Branch of Fairs and Expositions and published in a separate booklet available online [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Fair\\_Information/State\\_Rules\\_for\\_California\\_Fairs.aspx](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/FairsAndExpositions/Fair_Information/State_Rules_for_California_Fairs.aspx) apply to all entries of this fair.

**TB Testing** - TB testing is not required for dairy cattle.

**Vehicles on the Grounds** Because of State Fire Marshal regulations, all trucks, trailers and cars must be parked in the spaces provided. No vehicles may be parked between or behind barns, buildings or on fairgrounds streets. Unload and move your vehicle to the parking areas.

**Washing of Livestock:** A nozzle with automatic shut off must be used. Absolutely NO free flow of water will be allowed.

**Weigh-in:** Market livestock entered by division number only will be entered in the proper classes by the livestock entry clerk in accordance with weight of each animal and breed called at scale. Weighing to be done Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> as follows:

Swine	7:00 a.m. Order to be posted
Sheep	8:00 a.m. Order to be posted
Goats	Follows sheep Order to be posted
Beef	9:00 a.m.

Market and feeder lambs will be checked at weigh-in for 1/4" of stretched fleece. Lambs not meeting this requirement will not be weighed for showing until rule is complied with. No portable scales are permitted on grounds.

**Re-Weigh Policy:** If an exhibitor wants to re-weigh their animal, it must be requested while the animal is at the scale. The animal will be removed from the scale, the scale will be zeroed and then the animal will immediately be placed back on the scale. There will be no other re-weigh once the animal has left the scale area.

**Youth for The Quality Care of Animals:** The California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) is requiring all youth livestock participants (excluding horses, cavies, & dogs) 9 years of age and older to obtain annual certification in the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) program. Those not certified will not be able to participate at a California Fair. To comply, Merced County Fair is requiring all exhibitors who fall under this rule to complete the training by Thursday, May 2nd, 2024 (entry deadline). If you do not complete the training



by 11:59 PM on May 2nd your entry will be considered ineligible, and you will be disqualified from exhibiting at the fair.

Training can be completed in two ways:

- 1) Going to YQCAProgram.org and completing the online course.
- 2) Attending and completing an in-person instructor lead course by a YQCA approved instructor.

Your certificate number will be required to complete your online entries. During the online entry process, you will also be required to upload your YQCA Certificate. Please plan to take the course BEFORE you complete your entries. You will not be able to complete your entries without certification. Please note if your certificate is expiring prior to our Fair, you must renew prior to the entry deadline.

## **Organization Sponsored Awards**

**California Shorthorn Breeders Association** will award prizes to the Outstanding 4-H or FFA Registered Shorthorn Exhibitors. Competition to run duration of fair. Selection to be based on the following: 1) Dollars Earned. 1 point per dollar earned in individual Registered Shorthorn classes. Top five animals per exhibitor to be considered for points. 2) Presentation in Show Ring. 25 bonus points may be earned based on the following: a) ability to present animals in the show ring and, b) showmanship and cooperation in show ring in individual and group classes. 3) Showmanship. 15 points for entering showmanship. An additional 10 points if placed in the final lineup of each showmanship division as recorded by fair management. 4) Good Housekeeping. 25 points for good housekeeping and presentation of exhibit in cattle barns. Emphasis will be given to those who perform their own work. Exhibitors will be given good housekeeping points. In the event of a tie, the committee will conduct interviews to decide the winner.

**Merced County Holstein Association:** awards for Outstanding 4-H and FFA Holstein Exhibitors. Competition to run the duration of fair. Selection to be based on the following: 1) Dollars Earned. 1 point per dollar earned in individual Registered Holstein classes only. No more than 1 can be a bull. Top five animals per exhibitor to be considered for points. 2) Good Housekeeping. 25 points for good housekeeping and presentation of animals and exhibit in the barn, and in show ring for duration of fair. Emphasis will be given to those who perform their own work. 3) Showmanship. (Points earned in respective age groups only) 15 points for exhibiting in showmanship; then 5 additional points for placing in final "ribbon" lineup of your Showmanship division (4-H Novice, FFA Senior, etc.) as recorded by fair management; plus 1st place exhibitor in each respective division will get an additional 5 points; 2nd place, 4 points, down to 5th place who will get 1 extra point. No exhibitor can receive more than 25 total Showmanship points. 4) Sportsmanship, Attitude,

Behavior and Interview may be included in deciding this award.

## **4-H AND FFA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE**

**Sale Date and Time:** The Merced County Fair will sponsor a livestock sale starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, June 8th in the Hilmar Cheese Barn.

**Animal Criteria:** Animals exhibited at the Merced County livestock show & sale meeting the following criteria as defined in the 2024 State Rules for California Fairs, may be sold:

Beef-Market Ready	Sheep-Market Ready
Swine-Market Acceptable	Goats-Market Ready
Rabbits-Market Ready	Poultry-Market Ready

The Merced County Fair Livestock Show & Sale reserves the right to limit the number of animals to be sold. Exhibitors are limited to the sale of one large livestock (beef, goat, sheep, & swine) and on small livestock (rabbit & poultry) only unless awarded multiple champions listed below. All Fat Stock Champions must be terminal, with no live pick-up.

### **The following champions are REQUIRED to sell:**

#### **Fat Stock Champions**

4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Market Beef  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Market Beef  
4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Market Goat  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Market Goat  
4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Market Lamb  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Market Lamb  
4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Market Swine  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Market Swine

Small Animal Champions must sell but may be live pick-up, resale or process.

#### **Small Animal Champions**

4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Rabbit Meat Pen  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Rabbit Meat Pen  
4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Rabbit Single Fryer  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Rabbit Single Fryer  
4-H Champion & 4-H Reserve Champion Chicken Meat Pen  
FFA Champion & FFA Reserve Champion Chicken Meat Pen

### **Champions selling**

The fat stock Champions will start selling at Lot #251 immediately after the Buyer of the Year award presentation during Saturday's Junior Livestock Auction at approximately 12:30 PM.

**Sale Runners:** Each 4-H Club and FFA Chapter is responsible for providing runners. A time schedule and

number of runners from each club/chapter will be arranged by the Livestock Office.

**Agent:** It shall be expressly understood that the 35th District Agricultural Association (Merced County Fair) acts only as an agent for the consignors, and assumes no liability, legal or otherwise.

**Animal Disposition:** No animal purchased through the Livestock Sale or Small Animal Sale may be returned or given back to the exhibitor by the buyer. **Disposition called by the auctioneer at the time of sale is final, no changes can be allowed.**

**Animal Pickup:** Live pickup animals must be paid for and picked up at the conclusion of the sale.

**Buyer Accounts:** Buyers with outstanding accounts as of September 30, 2023, will not be eligible to purchase at the 2024 auctions.

### **Overpayments**

Refunds of over-payments under \$10.00 will not be made.

**Buyer's Gifts:** Alcohol may not be given as part of any buyer's gift as it **conflicts** with the 35th District Agricultural Association's Alcohol Management Policy.

### **Ice Chests/Show Boxes**

When bringing ice chests and show boxes onto the grounds, they shall **not** contain any alcohol. Again, under our Alcohol Management Policy, no outside alcohol may be brought onto the grounds.

**Callipyge:** Any market lamb found by the processor to contain the callipyge gene will be rejected and the seller will be responsible for the resale amount plus the slaughter fees.

**Commission:** A 5.5% commission on beef, 6.5% on hogs, sheep, and goats, & 3.5% commission on market rabbits and poultry will be deducted from all sale checks. The commission will be held in a restricted account as required by CDFA to cover bad debts and used for capital improvements to benefit the livestock program. These funds can't be donated to any charity or special donation as that would be considered a gift of public funds.

### **Donation of Auction Proceeds:**

In order to be recognized at the auction block and announced that an Exhibitor is donating their auction proceeds, the Exhibitor must notify the Fair upon submitting their Entry by the entry closing deadline date. All net proceeds (100%), after deduction of the auction commission and fees, must be donated to the Exhibitor's charity of choice or special donation. Under no circumstances will the auctioneers announce any

donation less than 100% net proceeds at the auction block. An Exhibitor may choose to donate less than 100%, however, it will be considered a "private" donation and, therefore not announced.

**Drug Presence or Residues:** Sellers are responsible for animals rejected at any processing center due to the presence of drug residues. Seller may be liable to the buyer for an amount equal to three times the purchase price and may also be liable for attorney's fees and civil <https://www.msn.com/en-us/feed/penalties> (Food and Ag Code Section 14363). All Market Exhibitors must sign a drug declaration statement prior to going across the scale.

**Ear tags:** All animals must have ear tag information on their entries. Like last year, FFA Leaders and 4-H Advisors must email a list of exhibitors for each species to the Livestock Superintendent at [Livestock@countyofmerced.com](mailto:Livestock@countyofmerced.com) no later than March 25, 2024 to give ample time to prepare your packet. Ear tags will be dispersed to leaders, parents, and advisors, starting April 15, 2024.

**Bills of Sale Upload Required:** A Bill of sale will be required for entries of all species.

**Prop 12 Certificates** will be required for all Market Hog Exhibitors. Certificates must be uploaded at the time of entries.

**Exhibitor Selling:** Exhibitors must be present at the sale ring when their animals are sold or the animal will be disqualified. Exceptions to this rule must be requested in writing from the Board of Directors by Friday, May 31st at 5:00 p.m.

### **Exhibitor's Auction Checks**

Auction checks will be available for pick-up on Monday, June 17, 2024, by the FFA Advisors and 4-H Community Leaders. This will allow enough time for processing Bump Bids and for Buyers to review their auction statements for corrections.

### **Bump Bids**

The Livestock office will begin taking bump bids once the sale catalogs have been released to allow the Buyers to fully complete the form with the needed lot numbers. To better serve our community partners and our exhibitors, Bump Bids for all auctions will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024.

**Exhibitors' Animal Responsibility:** Responsibility for livestock sold at the auction remains with the exhibitor until the transportation company moving the stock has it loaded aboard its trucks. Thereafter, responsibility will rest with the transportation company for safe delivery.

**Previously Shown Animal:** No exhibitor may show an animal that has been sold as a market animal through a

fair junior livestock auction, whether there is an actual change of ownership or not.

**Selling Requirement:** All animals qualified for sale that are not properly pulled within 30 minutes of the completion of their show will be required to sell. If the animal and/or exhibitor are a no-show for the auction animal will be marked as a resale and sold at the resale price announced at the auction. If an exhibitor misses their lot number, they are not permitted to sell out of order. The animal will be sold for resale and the Exhibitor will be paid the resale amount for their animal.

### **Small Animals**

**Disposition Options:**

Rabbit: Live Pickup, Process  
Poultry: Live Pickup, Process

**Tattoos/Leg Band:** For market animals, an identifying tattoo or leg band must be placed on or attached to the animal prior to arriving at the fair and must be on the animal at all times. Failure to comply may result in sale checks, premiums and/or awards being withheld.

**ID Check:** Tattoos and leg bands may be checked ringside to verify animals.

**Transporting:** Each exhibitor is responsible for providing their own box to transport their rabbits or poultry to and from the auction ring.

## **DAIRY HEIFER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM & SALE**

Purpose of the program and sale is to provide 4-H and FFA members an opportunity to:

- Learn how to select a dairy heifer (heifer calf) that has the potential of being a good producing cow.
- Learn how to raise good quality dairy animals, demonstrating approved management principles.
- Offer for sale a top-quality dairy Heifer Replacement at the conclusion of the program if they desire.
- Give non-dairy farm members an opportunity to gain valuable experience in dairy husbandry.
- Learn how to present and market a dairy Heifer Replacement.



## **HEIFER REPLACEMENT SALE**

The Merced County Fair Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale will be held on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

1. The following are acceptable ways to pay for a Heifer Replacement Purchase: CASH, CHECK, VISA, and MASTERCARD or DISCOVER.
2. Auction accounts are due and payable within 30 days of billing.
3. Buyers with outstanding accounts as of September 30, 2023, will not be eligible to purchase at the 2024 auction.
4. There is a 7% commission that will be deducted from all sale checks. The commission will be held in a restricted account as required by CDFA to cover bad debts and used for capital improvements to benefit the livestock program. These funds can't be donated to any charity or special donation as that would be considered a gift of public funds
5. ALL SALES ARE FINAL! Removal of heifer from the Fairgrounds constitutes acceptance by the buyer.
6. In order to be recognized at the auction block and announced that an Exhibitor is donating their auction proceeds, the Exhibitor must notify the Fair upon submitting their Entry by the entry closing deadline date. All net proceeds (100%), after deduction of the auction commission and fees, must be donated to the Exhibitor's charity of choice or special donation. Under no circumstances will the auctioneers announce any donation less than 100% net proceeds at the auction block. An Exhibitor may choose to donate less than 100%, however, it will be considered a "private" donation, therefore not announced.
7. Alcohol may not be given as part of any buyer's gift as it conflicts with the 35<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association's Alcohol Management Policy of "no outside alcohol may be brought onto the grounds".

### **ELIGIBILITY**

The program will be available to all 4-H and FFA members and qualified Independent exhibitors residing within Merced County. The heifer must be part of a bona fide dairy project, which means any member carrying this project must be enrolled in a 4-H Dairy project, be a member of a FFA Chapter, or be a qualified independent exhibitor. Exhibitor must use show halters and proper 4-H and FFA uniforms are required as stated in .

Applications into the program are due in the fair office no later than February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

If for unforeseen reasons the project is terminated before the sale (to be held as a part of the 2024 livestock show) the original owner must be given first opportunity to purchase the heifer.

1. There will be absolutely no substitutions of animals after the application deadline as stated in the heifer requirements.
2. Any Replacement Heifer that calves prior to Monday, June 3<sup>th</sup> will not be allowed to sell through the sale at the Merced County Fair. The heifer may be transferred and exhibited in the appropriate class.
3. Members are encouraged to insure their animals.
4. No premium money will be paid on any animal that is sold through the auction.
5. On Monday, June 3<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. All Heifers selling through the 2024 Sale will:
  - a. Undergo a thorough veterinary health check for pregnancy confirmation, udder soundness, Brucellosis vaccination tattoo verification and a check for general health and soundness. During this check any heifer found:
    - Without a valid, legible Brucellosis tattoo
    - Open, or not bred to calf within 90 days of the auction;
    - Blind in one or more quarters;
    - For the other detrimental health reasons as determined by the veterinarian(s) will be disqualified from the sale. Any heifer found without a valid, legible Brucellosis tattoo will be sent home immediately. Other heifers on recommendation of the veterinarian(s) may be sent home. The decision of the veterinarian will be final (Refer to State Rule X. 5).
  - b. Have the State Brand Inspector perform a brand inspection on each heifer.
  - c. Have a picture review verification of all heifers by members of the Merced County Fair Dairy Heifer Replacement Committee

## **LARGE ANIMAL SHOWMANSHIP**

Animals shown in showmanship must be owned by the exhibitor and entered by the exhibitor in an appropriate market or breeding class. Those winners who are eligible to move up to the 4-H Senior and FFA Advanced Showmanship Divisions must use the same animal they qualified with.

**Late entries for showmanship in the Beef, Boer Goat, Dairy Cattle, Sheep, and Swine classes**

**will be allowed with a \$20 late entry fee by Thursday, May 23, 2024.**

### **Premiums offered for**

#### **4-H Senior and FFA Advanced Showmanship**

<b>Only</b>							
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>\$8.00</b>	<b>\$7.00</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>	<b>\$3.00</b>	<b>\$2.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>

Award and ribbon for 1st place in each class.  
Ribbons only for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> places.

#### **Division 501 - Beef**

#### **Division 502 - Boer Goats**

#### **Division 503 - Dairy Cattle**

#### **Division 504 - Dairy Goat**

#### **Division 505 - Sheep**

#### **Division 506 - Swine**

### **Class**

- 1 **4-H Junior Showmanship** - (Ages 9 and 10 as of Dec 31)  
First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship
- 2 **4-H Intermediate Showmanship** - (Ages 11 through 13 as of Dec 31)  
First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship
- 3 **4-H Senior Showmanship** - (Ages 14 and over as of Dec 31)
- 4 **FFA Novice Showmanship**  
Exhibitor who has never shown that species before at any organized show/fair, regardless of grade level. First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship
- 5 **FFA Freshman Showmanship**  
Exhibitor may show twice in this category. May show the summer prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and the summer immediately following 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship
- 6 **FFA Advanced Showmanship**  
All FFA members who do not qualify to show as Novice or Freshman.



## LARGE ANIMAL ROUND ROBIN

### SILVER BUCKLE AND ROSETTES ONLY

Winners of Beef, Boer Goat, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Sheep, Swine, and Horse Showmanship are eligible to enter Round Robin Showmanship. All animals, *except horse*, will participate.

The highest placing person who has not previously won Round Robin is eligible to enter. If the winner of the Beef Showmanship has previously won a Round Robin, the person placing second would then be eligible to enter Round Robin. The same ruling would apply to all species. The judges will give a score of 1 through 7.

In the event of a tie, a Quiz Bowl will be held with seven questions being asked, one for each specie. Should there be another tie, the Judges continue the Quiz Bowl until they are able to declare a winner.

## PEE WEE SHOWMANSHIP

### Division 507 – PEE WEE SHOWMANSHIP

Open to Juniors 5 years to 8 years old NOT enrolled in 4-H. Entry forms can be picked up in Livestock Office during fair. Four classes will be offered one each in the following species: Dairy Heifers, Goat, Sheep, and Swine.

**Entries due by Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> by 3:00 p.m.** No late entries. Entries shall be made on livestock entry forms provided by the fair. The signature of a parent or guardian is required. Exhibitors who are enrolled in any junior organization for which classes are offered elsewhere are not eligible to enter in this division

#### Class

- 1 Dairy Heifer
- 2 Goat
- 3 Sheep
- 4 Swine



## BEEF CATTLE

### REGISTERED PUREBRED BEEF BREEDING ANIMALS

Exhibitors are to use Division 508 when entering. Feature Breed to be determined after close of entries.

#### Premiums Offered Per Class

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

**NOTE: NURSE COWS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED ON FAIRGROUNDS**

**Division 508 - 4-H & FFA Registered Feature Breed**

**Division 509 - 4-H & FFA Registered All Other Breeds**

#### Class – BULLS

- 1 Senior or Junior calf (Sept 1, 2023 thru March 16, 2024)
- 2 Junior or Summer yearlings (Jan 1 thru August 31, 2023)
- 3 Late Senior yearling (Sept 1 thru Dec 31, 2022)

#### Class - FEMALES

- 4 Junior calf (Jan 1 thru March 16, 2024)
- 5 Senior calf (Sept 1 thru Dec 31, 2023)
- 6 Summer yearling (July 1 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 7 Intermediate yearling (May 1 thru June 8, 2023)
- 8 Late Junior yearling (March 1 thru April 30, 2023)
- 9 Early Junior yearling (Jan 1 thru Feb 28, 2023)
- 10 Early or Late Senior yearling (Mar 1 thru Dec 31, 2022)
- 11 Cow-Calf\*
  - \* Calf entered in this class may be shown individually in appropriate age class. Calf information must be included on entry form. Registration papers on Calf must be checked in prior to show. Cow must have been born prior to March 1, 2022. Cow not eligible to show for champion.

## **Class - GROUPS**

All animals entered in groups must be owned by the exhibitor, be shown as individuals, and be of the same breed.

- 12 PAIR OF FEMALES
- 13 GET OF SIRE: Three animals, get of same bull

## **BEEF BRED HEIFERS**

**Entry Fee \$20.00 per entry**

### **BEEF BRED HEIFER SALE SPONSORED BY MERCED/MARIPOSA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

Only heifers pre-registered with the Beef Bred Heifer MMCA Committee are eligible to show in Division 510 Class 4. For further information regarding the Bred Heifer Sale contact Dana Souza (209) 704.0303, Johnathan White (209) 582-2490 or Dave Olsen (209) 602-4077 or send e-mail to [mmcabbhprogram@gmail.com](mailto:mmcabbhprogram@gmail.com)

#### **Division 510 – 4-H & FFA Commercial Beef Heifers Class**

- 1 Heifer calf (Sept 1, 2023 to Feb 28, 2024)
- 2 Yearling Heifers (Mar 1 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 3 Senior Yearling (Sept 1, 2022 thru Feb 28, 2023)
- 4 Beef Bred Heifer

### **CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS No Entry Fees**

No cash awards. Rosettes for first through fifth places. No more than two animals are to be owned or shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Entry to be made in the name of the club/chapter and entered at the time of judging.

#### **Division 511 - 4-H Club Groups** **Division 512 - FFA Chapter Groups**

#### **Class**

- 1 Club/Chapter Group - Breeding Animals Only – three (3) Animals
- 2 Club/Chapter Group - Market Animals Only – three (3) Animals

## **MARKET BEEF**

**Entry Fee: \$25.00 per entry**

All market beef must be individually owned by the exhibitor for 120 *consecutive* days prior to the opening day of the fair.

It is the intent of the Branch of Fairs and Expositions that the quality standards established for market animals be maintained. Therefore, classifications will be subject to change in the event there are changes made in Federal grading. See State Rules for Market Beef Scorecard

### **DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING (All breeds judged together)**

After weighing, market steers may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging. Those animals not meeting weight requirements will be entered in the Feeder Class.

#### **Division 513 - 4-H Market Beef**

#### **Division 514 - FFA Market Beef Class**

- 1 Steers and Heifers – 1,100 pounds and over

## **SINGLE FEEDER BEEF**

**(Do Not Pre-Enter)**

All feeder beef must be individually owned by the exhibitor for 30 *consecutive* days prior to the opening day of the fair. **Not eligible for auction.** After weighing, feeder animals may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging.

### **DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING (All breeds judged together)**

Premiums offered

GROUP 1 - Prime .....	\$10.00
GROUP 2 - Choice.....	\$7.00
GROUP 3 - Good .....	\$5.00

#### **Division 515 - 4-H Feeder Beef**

#### **Division 516- FFA Feeder Beef Class**

- 1 Steers and Heifers – 1,099 pounds and under



## BREEDING BOER GOATS

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

### Premiums offered per class

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$ 5.00

1. No goat will be admitted or remain on the fairgrounds that show any evidence of any communicable disease or any unsightly disease conditions. This shall be interpreted to apply to open or draining abscesses. Any goat showing pronounced defects or abnormalities will not be allowed to show.
2. Exhibitors limited to a maximum of 10 animals, including market and feeder entries.
3. All animals shown in group or special classes must have been shown in their regular classes.
4. All animals must be show clipped.

## BOER GOATS

Goats can be registered or grade animals. Any female over 24 months of age that has not kidded or does not have proof of current pregnancy will not be allowed to show.

### Division 517 - 4-H and FFA Breeding Goats Class

- 1 Buck Kids - 0 to under 12 months (June 6, 2023 to June 5, 2024)
- 2 Yearling Bucks - 12 to 18 months (Dec 8, 2022 to June 5, 2023)
- 3 Doe Kids & Yearling Does (0 to under 24 months (June 6, 2022 to June 5, 2024)  
**\*Class 3 entries will be weighed and split into classes after weigh-in**
- 4 Does - 24 months and over (Prior to June 6, 2022)
- 5 Pair of Females
- 6 Daughter and Dam

## CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS

**(No Entry Fees)**

No cash awards. Rosettes for first through fifth places. No more than two animals to be owned or shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Both sexes may be represented. Can be entered at time of judging.

### Division 518 - 4-H Club Groups

### Division 519 - FFA Chapter Groups

#### Class

- 1 Club/Chapter Group - Breeding Animals Only – three (3) Animals
- 2 Club/Chapter Group - Market Animals Only – three (3) Animals

## MARKET GOAT

**Entry Fee: \$25.00 per entry**

**No Premiums will be paid to Market Animals**

It is the intent of the Branch of Fairs and Expositions and of Fairs that the quality standards established for market animals be maintained. Therefore, classifications will be subject to change in the event there are changes made in Federal grading. See State Rules for Market Goat Scorecard

### DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING

- After weighing, market goats may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging. Three total division awards will be given, one in each of the follow: Lightweight, Middleweight, & Heavyweight.
- Those animals not meeting weight requirements will be entered in Feeder Class.
- Any breed or crossbred goat less than 12 months of age showing kids teeth.
- All breeds judged together.

### Division 520 - 4-H Market Goats

### Division 521 - FFA Market Goats

#### Class

- 1 Wethers and Does – 60 pounds and over



## **SINGLE FEEDER GOATS**

**(Do Not Pre-Enter)**

### **DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING**

(All breeds judged together)

#### **NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AUCTION**

Premiums offered

GROUP 1 - Fancy .....	\$3.00
GROUP 2 - Choice .....	\$2.00
GROUP 3 - Good .....	\$1.00
GROUP 4 - Medium .....	No Premium

After weighing, feeder animals may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging.

#### **Division 522 - 4-H - Feeder Goats**

#### **Division 523 - FFA - Feeder Goats**

##### **Class**

- 1 Wethers and Does – 59 pounds and under

## **BREEDING SHEEP**

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

#### **Premiums offered per class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

#### **Division 524 - 4-H & FFA Registered**

**Must check in papers at the livestock office upon arrival. Exhibitors hauling Rams must bring dividers for pens.**

##### **Class**

##### **Rams**

- 1 Yearling (Sept 1, 2022 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 2 Fall Lamb (Sept 1, 2023 thru Dec 31, 2023)
- 3 Spring Lamb (Jan 1, 2024 thru April 30, 2024)

##### **Ewes**

- 4 Yearling (Sept 1, 2022 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 5 Fall Lamb (Sept 1, 2023 thru Dec 31, 2023)
- 6 Spring Lamb (Jan 1, 2024 thru April 30, 2024)



## **Groups**

**All animals entered in groups must be owned by the exhibitor, be shown as individuals, and be of the same breed.**

### **Class**

- 7 Flock: One yearling or lamb ram, two yearling ewes and two ewe lambs.
- 8 Get of Sire: Three sheep sired by same ram.
- 9 Young Flock: One ram lamb and two ewe lambs.
- 10 Pair of Ewe Lambs
- 11 Pair of Yearling Ewes
- 12 Pair of Ram Lambs

## **WETHER TYPE BREEDING SHEEP**

Grade, crossbred, unregistered and registered purebred sheep to be judged strictly on wether type sheep basis.

#### **Premiums offered per class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

By his/her signature as the owner or agent on an entry form, the exhibitor also certifies that the sire of each animal entered in the following divisions was either registered or purebred.

**A permanent ear tag or tattoo number is required.**

#### **Division 525 - 4-H & FFA Wether Type Sheep**

##### **Class**

- 1 Yearling Ram (Sep 1, 2022 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 2 Ram Lamb (Sep 1, 2023 thru April 30, 2024)
- 3 Yearling Ewe (Sept 1, 2022 thru Aug 31, 2023)
- 4 Ewe Lamb (Sept 1, 2023 thru April 30, 2024)\*

**\*Class 4 entries will be weighed and split into classes after weigh-in**

## **GROUPS**

All owned by one exhibitor and entered as individuals

### **Class**

- 5 Pair of Ewe Lambs
- 6 Pair of Yearling Ewes
- 7 Pair of Ram Lambs
- 8 Young Flock: one ram lamb, two ewe lambs

## CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS

### No Entry Fees

No cash awards - Rosettes for 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> place. No more than two animals to be owned or shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Both sexes may be represented. More than one entry per club/chapter accepted. Can be entered at time of judging.

### Division 526 - 4-H Club Groups

### Division 527 - FFA Chapter Groups

#### Class

- 1 Club/Chapter Group - Registered Animals Only – four (4) Animals
- 2 Club/Chapter Group - Market Animals Only – five (5) Animals
- 3 Club/Chapter Group - Wether Type Breeding Sheep five (5) Animals

## LADS & LADIES LEAD LINE DIVISION

- EXHIBITORS MUST BE ENTERED IN OTHER SHEEP CLASSES
- **ENTRIES DUE May 2nd**
- The objective of this exhibition is to present sheep in an attractive manner, to give spectators a real opportunity to view and acquaint themselves with modern sheep production, and to promote beautiful sheep and wool.
- Exhibitor wears a wool outfit and leads a lamb by halter that is wearing something that coordinates with his/her outfit (scarf, blanket, hat, bow, etc.).
- Exhibitor must also provide a commentary sheet. The commentary must be typed and written in "third person". Samples of wool fabric(s) used by exhibitor must be submitted with commentary. **Commentary due to Livestock Office by 5:00 P.M. Thursday, May 23th, if not received exhibitor will be disqualified from this competition.**
- Sheep must be fitted and trained to lead by halter. NO RAMS.
- Wool outfit must be made of either 100% wool or a minimum of 70% wool and no more than 30% synthetic fiber. Outfits may be handmade or purchased.
- Highest placing individuals will be eligible for State Fair Competition.

- Silver Buckle for First place for overall winner in 4-H or FFA combined.
- Ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place.

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class.**

### Division 528 - Lads and Ladies Lead Line Class

- 1 Junior (9 through 13 years as of Jan 1)
- 2 Senior (14 through 19 years as of Jan 1)

## SCORECARD FOR JUDGING

- A. General
- Appearance.....50%
  - Coordination of Ensemble (use of wool)
  - Suitability of Style (appropriate for the occasion)
  - Presentation of Garment
  - Coordination of Outfit with Sheep
  - Eye Appeal
- B. Showmanship.....30%
- Ability to Lead (trained to show at halter)
  - Handling of Sheep (ability to move as directed)
  - Appearance of Animal (fitting, condition of fleece, cleanliness)
- C. Personal Presentation.....20%
- Poise (ability to model garment)
  - Gracefulness

## MARKET SHEEP

**Entry Fee: \$25.00 per entry**

### Division 529 - 4-H Market Lambs

### Division 530 - FFA Market Lambs

#### Class

- 1 Market Lamb – Wethers and Ewes 100 pounds and over

## SINGLE MARKET LAMBS

- It is the intent of the Branch of Fairs and Expositions and of Fairs that the quality standards established for market animals be maintained. Therefore, classifications will be subject to change in the event there are changes made in Federal grading.
- All market lambs are to be slick sheared no more than 10 days prior to the fair. Market lambs will be checked at weigh-in for 1/4" of stretched fleece. Lambs not meeting this requirement will not be weighed for showing

until this rule is complied with. Lambs must show lambs teeth.

- See State Rules for Market Lamb Scorecard
- PREMIUMS WILL NOT BE PAID ON MARKET ANIMALS

### DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING

After weighing, market lambs may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging. Those animals not meeting weight requirements will be entered in Feeder Class. After weigh in, animals will be placed into show divisions based on the breed called at the scale. Divisions will be offered for breeds/crossbreeds as numbers deem appropriate. In past years divisions offered have been Suffolk, Hampshire, All Other Breeds and Crossbred but can be adjusted based on current breeds being shown.

### SINGLE FEEDER LAMBS

**Do Not Pre-Enter**  
**DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING**

All breeds judged together  
**NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AUCTION**

#### Premiums Offered

GROUP 1 - Fancy .....	\$3.00
GROUP 2 - Choice .....	\$2.00
GROUP 3 - Good .....	\$1.00
GROUP 4 - Medium and Common .....	No Premium

After weighing, feeder animals may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging.

### Division 531 - 4-H Feeder Lambs

### Division 532 - FFA Feeder Lambs

#### Class

- 1 Feeder - Lambs Wethers and Ewes 99 pounds and under



## BREEDING SWINE

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

#### Premiums offered per class

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

### PUREBRED BREEDING SWINE

Junior yearling and July and August fall females must have raised a litter of pigs or be in pig to be eligible for entry.

Gilts entered in the market or feeder hog divisions may not be entered in the breeding divisions, or vice versa. Any violation of this rule will exclude the offending exhibitor from competition in all departments of the fair.

### Division 533 - 4-H & FFA Registered Breeding

#### BOARS

#### Class

- 1 January pig (Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2024)
- 2 February, March pig (Feb 1 - Mar 18, 2024)

#### GILTS

#### Class

- 3 Fall pig (July 1 - Dec 31, 2023)
- 4 January pig (Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2024)
- 5 February, March pig (Feb 1 – Mar 18, 2024)

### Division 534 - 4-H & FFA Commercial Gilts

#### Class

- 1 Commercial Gilts – Aug 1, 2022 to Mar 18, 2024

**\*Class 1 entries will be weighed and split into classes after weigh-in**

#### GROUPS

#### Class

- 2 Pair of females

All animals entered in groups must be owned by the exhibitor and be shown as individuals. Animals do not have to be the same breed.

### **CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS (No Entry Fees)**

No cash awards. Rosettes for first through fifth places. No more than two animals to be owned or

shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Both sexes

may be represented. Can be entered at time of judging.

**For the safety of the exhibitors, no more than ten (10) students, including a spokesperson per chapter or club will be allowed in the swine show ring when showing Chapter Group.**

**Division 535 - 4-H Club Group**

**Division 536 – FFA Chapter Group**

**Class**

- 1 Club/Chapter Group - Breeding Animals - only four (4) animals
- 2 Club/Chapter Group - Market Animals - only five (5)

## MARKET SWINE

**Entry Fee: \$25.00 per entry**

### **SINGLE MARKET SWINE**

It is the intent of the CDFA Branch of Fairs & Expositions and of Fairs that the quality standards established for market animals be maintained. Therefore, classifications will be subject to change in the event there are changes made in Federal grading.

#### **MARKET HOG SCORECARD**

**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. No. 3, U.S. No. 4 and utility grade hogs.

#### **DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING**

**Breeds called at scale**

After weighing, market hogs may be divided into weight lots as desired by management for convenience in judging. Those animals not meeting weight requirements will not be shown. All breeds to be called at the scale. Divisions will be offered for breeds/crossbreeds as numbers deem appropriate.

**Division 537 - 4-H Market Swine**

**Division 538 - FFA Market Swine**

**Class**

- 1 Swine – Barrows and Gilts 200 to 280 pounds

## DAIRY CATTLE

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

**Premiums offered per class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

### **REGISTERED PUREBRED BREEDING DAIRY FEMALES & BULLS**

- Animals entered and shown in Registered classes are those that qualify to show as Registered animals in the various Breeds' National Shows (example: Holsteins 87% RHA to fully Registered; Jerseys "GR" to fully Registered).
- Holsteins that were originally registered through the Holstein Association "Qualified" program and carry a "Q" prefix must be entered in Registered classes.
- All yearlings that have freshened must be shown with two-year-olds in both the individual and group classes. If a yearling calves subsequent to submission of entry form and prior to judging, exhibitor must notify Livestock Office and be prepared to show with two-year-olds on show day.

#### **Division 539- 4-H and FFA Registered Holstein BULLS**

**Class**

- 1 Intermediate/Junior calf, Senior calf, or Summer yearling (May 30, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 2 Junior or Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – May 29, 2023)

#### **FEMALES**

**Class**

- 3 Intermediate/Junior calf (Dec 1, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 4 Senior calf (Sept 1 – Nov 30, 2023)
- 5 Summer yearling (May 30 – Aug 30, 2023)
- 6 Junior yearling (Mar 1, 2022 – May 29, 2023)
- 8 Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023)
- 9 Senior yearling (Sept 1, 2022 – Nov 30, 2022)
- 9 Two years, under three-Freshened (Sept 1, 2022 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 10 Two years, under three-Unfreshened (Sept 1, 2022 – Aug 31, 2022)
- 11 Three years, under four (Sept 1 2020 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 12 Four years, under five (Sept 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2020)
- 13 Five years and over (Prior - Sept 1, 2019)



**Groups**  
**Class**

- 14 Produce Of Dam: To consist of two animals, any age, either sex, the produce of one cow. The dam must be identified by registration number.
- 15 Junior Best three (3) Females: Must be senior yearling or younger.
- 16 Pair Of Females
- 17 Daughter And Dam: Consist of two females, one being the dam of the other
- 18 Young Herd: two (2) females, one (1) bull

All animals entered in groups must be owned by the exhibitor, be shown as individuals, and be of the same breed.

**Division 540 – 4-H & FFA Registered Jersey**

**BULLS**

**Class**

- 1 Intermediate/Junior calf, Senior calf, or Summer yearling (May 30, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 2 Junior or Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – May 29, 2022)

**FEMALES**

**Class**

- 3 Intermediate/Junior calf (Dec 1, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 4 Senior calf (Sept 1 – Nov 30, 2023)
- 5 Summer yearling (May 30 – Aug 30, 2023)
- 6 Junior yearling (Mar 1, 2022 – May 29, 2023)
- 7 Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023)
- 8 Senior yearling (Sept 1, 2022 – Nov 30, 2022)
- 9 Two years, under three-Freshened (Sept 1, 2022 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 10 Two years, under three-Unfreshened (Sept 1, 2022 – Aug 31, 2022)
- 11 Three years, under four (Sept 1 2020 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 12 Four years, under five (Sept 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2020)
- 13 Five years and over (Prior - Sept 1, 2019)

**Groups**

Specifications for groups same as for Holstein Divisions

**Class**

- 14 Produce Of Dam
- 15 Junior Best three (3) Females
- 16 Pair Of Females
- 17 Daughter And Dam
- 18 Young Herd: two (2) females, one (1) bull

**Division 541 – 4-H and FFA Registered All Other Breeds**

**BULLS**

**Class**

- 1 Junior or Summer yearling, Senior or Intermediate/Junior calf (Dec 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023)

**FEMALES**

**Class**

- 2 Intermediate/Junior calf (Dec 1, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 3 Senior calf (Sept 1 – Nov 30, 2023)
- 4 Summer yearling (May 30 – Aug 30, 2023)
- 5 Junior yearling (Mar 1, 2023 – May 29, 2023)
- 6 Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023)
- 7 Senior yearling (Sept 1, 2022 – Nov 30, 2022)
- 8 Two years, under three-Freshened (Sept 1, 2021 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 9 Two years, under three-Unfreshened (Sept 1, 2021 – Aug 31, 2022)
- 10 Three years, under four (Sept 1 2020 - Aug 31, 2021)
- 11 Four years, under five (Sept 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2020)
- 12 Five years and over (Prior - Sept 1, 2019)

**GROUPS**

Specifications for groups same as for Holstein Divisions

**Class**

- 13 Produce Of Dam
- 14 Junior Best 3 Females
- 15 Pair Of Females
- 16 Daughter And Dam
- 17 Young Herd: 2 females, 1 bull

**Supreme Best Udder – Registered**  
**ENTRY BY INVITATION OF THE JUDGE**

No cash awards. Best Udder will be picked from each class  
All breeds judged together



## **Division 542 – Best Udder Registered (Do Not Pre-Enter)**

### **Class**

- 1 Supreme Registered Udder

### **CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS**

#### **No Entry Fees**

No cash awards. Rosettes Only. No more than two animals to be owned or shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Animals must be registered. Both sexes may be represented. More than one entry per club/chapter accepted. Must be entered at time of judging.

### **Division 543 – 4-H Club Groups**

### **Division 544 – FFA Chapter Groups**

### **Class**

- 1 Club/Chapter Group – Registered – 4 Animals
- 2 Club/Chapter Group – Grade – 4 Animals

## **GRADE OR UNREGISTERED PUREBRED FEMALES BY REGISTERED SIRE & HEIFER REPLACEMENT**

### **Premiums offered per class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$40.00	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$20.00

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

**Open to animals that do not qualify to show in various Breeds' National Shows.**

- Grade animals participating in the identification program of a breed association or the DHIA, **but are not registered**, are eligible for entry in this Division.
- All yearlings that have freshened must be shown with two-year-olds in both the individual and group classes. If a yearling calves subsequent to submission of entry form and prior to judging, exhibitor must notify Livestock Office and be prepared to show with two-year-olds on show day.
- A permanent ear tag or tattoo number is required.

## **Division 545 – 4-H & FFA Grade All Breeds Judged As One**

### **FEMALES**

### **Class**

- 1 Intermediate/Junior calf (Dec 1, 2023 – Feb 28, 2024)
- 2 Senior calf (Sept 1 – Nov 30, 2023)
- 3 Summer yearling (May 30 – Aug 30, 2023)
- 4 Junior yearling (Mar 1, 2023 – May 29, 2023)
- 5 Winter yearling (Dec 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023)
- 6 Senior yearling (Sept 1, 2022 – Nov 30, 2022)
- 7 Two years, under three-Freshened (Sept 1, 2022 - Aug 31, 2022)
- 8 Two years, under three-Unfreshened (Sept 1, 2021 – Aug 31, 2022)
- 9 Three years, under four (Sept 1, 2020 - Aug 31, 2021)
- 10 Four years, under five (Sept 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2020)
- 11 Five years and over (Prior - Sept 1, 2019)

### **GROUPS**

**All owned by one exhibitor and entered as individuals.**

### **Class**

- 12 Pair Of Females

### **4-H & FFA DAIRY HEIFER REPLACEMENT**

### **Class**

- 13 4-H Bred Heifer Replacement
- 14 FFA Bred Heifer Replacement

### **Supreme Best Udder – Grade ENTRY BY INVITATION OF THE JUDGE**

No cash awards. Best Udder will be picked from each class. All breeds judged together.

## **Division 546 – Best Udder Grade (Do Not Pre Enter)**

### **Class**

- 1 Supreme Grade Udder



## DAIRY GOATS

**Entry Fee: \$20.00 per entry per class**

### Premiums offered per class

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$ 5.00

1. No goat will be admitted or remain on the fairgrounds that shows any evidence of any communicable disease or any unsightly disease conditions. This shall be interpreted to apply to open or draining abscesses. Any goat showing pronounced defects or abnormalities will not be allowed to show.
2. All animals shown in group or special classes must have been shown in their regular classes.
3. All animals must be show clipped.
4. Exhibitors must supply their own milking equipment.

## DAIRY GOATS

Goats can be registered or grade animals. Any female over 24 months of age that has not kidded or does not have proof of current pregnancy will not be allowed to show.

### Division 547 – 4-H & FFA Dairy Goats

#### Class

- 1 Junior Kid (Mar 1, 2024 – May 8, 2024)
- 2 Senior Kid (Jan 1, 2024 – Feb 29, 2024)
- 3 Yearling, not in milk (Jan 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023)
- 4 Yearling Milker (Jan 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023)
- 5 Two years, under three (Jan 1, 2022 – Dec 31, 2022)
- 6 Three Years (Jan 1, 2021 – Dec 31, 2021)
- 7 Four Years and over (Dec 31, 2020 & prior)

### GROUPS

**All owned by one exhibitor and entered as individuals.**

#### Class

- 8 Pair Of Females
- 9 Daughter & Dam

## CLUB/CHAPTER GROUPS

**(No Entry Fees)**

No cash awards. Rosettes for first through fifth places. No more than two animals to be owned or shown by one exhibitor. Quality (not uniformity) of individual animals to be considered. Can be entered at time of judging.

### Division 548 - 4-H Club Groups

### Division 549 - FFA Chapter Groups

#### Class

- 1 Club/Chapter Group – Breeding Animals Only – three (3) Animals.

## JUNIOR HORSE SHOW

- Horse show to be held **Sunday, May 19th**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. sharp at Merced Horsemen's Association Arena, 499 Nevada Street, Merced, CA 95340. Check-in to begin at 7:00 a.m. Gymkhana events are not to start before 3:00 p.m.
- Open to Junior exhibitors residing in a Merced, Madera, Mariposa & Stanislaus County School Districts. Exhibitors are to use their age as of December 31, 2023 when determining which class to enter.
- Entries due on or before Thursday MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>. Entries must be made in the online portal that can be located at [www.mercedcountyfair.com](http://www.mercedcountyfair.com).
- POST ENTRIES: There will be NO post entries allowed.
- A \$14.00 drug fee per horse is required.
- Refunds of entry fee over-payments under \$5.00 will not be made.
- See State Rules Section XI, for Ownership and Lease requirements.
- Exhibitors are responsible for knowing all rules and regulations pertaining to the horse show, including their eligibility for classes entered. Rules prescribed by the West Coast Horse Show Rule Book shall apply provided they do not conflict with any of the rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of Food and Agriculture or the Merced County Fair Horse Show Rules.
- Exhibitors will be ready to show when class is called; if the exhibitor is not inside the arena by 3<sup>rd</sup> call, they will be scratched without a refund.
- Show management reserves the right to combine or split classes as deemed necessary.
- At the discretion of Horse Show Officials, any horse that is determined to be unsafe, unruly,

or unsound, may be excused from participation. No Stallions will be permitted.

- It is mandatory for all riders, regardless of discipline, to wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet that meets ASTM/SEI approval with a secured chin harness properly fastened at all times while mounted. Safe and proper equipment needs to be used. If there is a concern the judge will make the final decision.
- Walk jog/trot exhibitors limited to entries in walk jog/trot classes only, with the exception of classes 2 & 3. Walk jog/trot exhibitor will be eligible to compete for one year only (exception: students with disabilities will be allowed to continue to show in walk jog/trot classes under discretion of the superintendent.)
- Lead line: Age requirement is 5 to 8 years old and not eligible for any other horse show event. No Entry Fees, No cash awards. Participation ribbons only. Must be able to sit on horse independently, have feet in stirrups.
- Walk Only (Special Needs): Will show with lead line contestants, eligible for placings and awards, entry fee charged, and entry is at discretion of show management
- HORSE SHOW ATTIRE: 4-H and FFA uniforms, formal or informal, are acceptable attire in all classes provided a long sleeve shirt with collar is worn. Uniforms are required for showmanship. See Local Livestock Rules for uniform requirements.
- WESTERN ATTIRE: Exhibitors must wear appropriate western attire, including long-sleeved shirt with collar and appropriate western boots. Spurs and chaps are optional.
- ENGLISH ATTIRE: Breeched or jodhpurs of conservative colors are to be worn. Boots or jodhpur or hunt style are mandatory. The top portion of the uniform can be their 4-H or FFA uniform. Long-sleeved shirt or blouse, with stock, tie or choker are to be worn. Vests, spurs, and gloves are optional. Coats of traditional Hunting Style and conservative color or Saddle Seat Style and color are optional.

#### HIGH POINT AWARDS:

All-Around Walk Jog/Trot Champion*	
	Tack/Equipment
Reserve All-Around Walk/Trot Champion	
	Tack/Equipment
Jr. English Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Jr. English Champion*	Award
Jr. Western Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Jr. Western Champion	Award

Sr. English Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Sr. English Champion*	Award
Sr. Western Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Sr. Western Champion*	Award
Jr. All-Around Gymkhana Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Jr. All-Around Gymkhana Champion*	Award
Sr. All-Around Gymkhana Champion*	Buckle
Reserve Sr. All-Around Gymkhana Champion* (Same horse and rider)	Award

HIGH POINT CALCULATION METHOD:  
Points awarded 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> place.

<u>Number of Horses</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup></u>	<u>4<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup></u>
1	1	0			
2	2	1	0		
3	3	2	1	0	
4	4	3	2	1	0
5	5	4	3	2	1
6	6	5	4	3	2
7	7	6	5	4	3

TIE BREAKER: Horse Show – Winner of largest class where both exhibitors are entered, or winner of Equitation. Gymkhana – Total of all times, fastest time wins.

Proper show etiquette shall be practiced by all exhibitors, parents, leaders, spectators, and show committee volunteers before, during, and after the show. Complaints must be presented to the Horse Show Superintendent within 30 days after the show and will be dealt with by the Fair Management.

For official protest, see State Rules regarding protests. Abusive or otherwise rough treatment of horses will not be permitted; Exhibitors found guilty of animal abuse will be disqualification from show and forfeit of awards. Exhibitors should prepare for this event prior to entering. This is not a schooling show. All exhibitors are encouraged to obtain a copy of the 2024 CDFA State Rules.

## 4-H & FFA HORSE SHOWMANSHIP

### Premiums offered for 4-H Senior and FFA Advanced Showmanship Only, Ribbons only for other Classes

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00

- Halter to 1<sup>st</sup> place and ribbons thru 8<sup>th</sup> place. Premiums for Senior & Advanced classes only in horse showmanship divisions
- No Entry Fees
- No post entries will be accepted.
- Animals shown in showmanship must be owned or leased by the exhibitor and entered by the exhibitor in an appropriate Junior Horse Show class.
- Madera, Mariposa, & Stanislaus 4-H members will be eligible to enter horse showmanship with only the highest placing Merced 4-H member in showmanship allowed to proceed into Round Robin.
- Entries due on or before May 2nd. Exhibitors are to use their age as of December 31, 2023 when determining which class to enter.
- Winner of Beef, Boer Goat, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Swine, Sheep, and Horse Showmanship are eligible to enter Round Robin Showmanship. Exhibitor shall be on hand and ready to exhibit at the time called for judging.
- See Local Livestock Rules for uniform requirements. Long sleeved shirts required.

### Division 550 – Horse Showmanship

Note: no horse will be used in the Round Robin Showmanship only animals will be: beef, dairy cattle, dairy goat, swine, sheep and boer goat

### Class

- 1 **Junior** (ages 9 and 10) First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship
- 2 **Intermediate** (ages 11 through 13) First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship
- 3 **Senior** (Ages 14 and over) Winners in 4-H and FFA Senior Showmanship are eligible to enter 4-H and FFA Round Robin Showmanship

4 **Novice** FFA exhibitor who has never shown a horse before at any organized show/fair, regardless of grade level. **First** two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship

5 **Freshman** FFA- Exhibitor may show twice in this category. May show the summer prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and the summer immediately following 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship

6. **Advanced** FFA members who do not qualify to show as Novice or Freshman

### Division 551 – Horse Show Classes Entry Fee: 5.00 Per Class

		Premiums Offered per class				
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
		\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00
Class		Qualifies for State Fair or 4-H Classic	Counts Toward Walk Jog/Trot High Point	Counts Toward Horse Show High Point		
1	Walk Jog/Trot Showmanship	X	X			
2	Halter, Mare**					
3	Halter, Gelding**					
4	Leadline* (ages 5-8)					
5	Walk Only*** (special needs)					
6	Walk Trot English Pleasure (open)	X	X			
7	English Pleasure (ages 13 & under)	X				X
8	English Pleasure (ages 14 & over)	X				X
9	Walk Trot English Equitation (open)	X	X			
10	English and/or Hunt Seat Equitation (ages 13 & under)	X				X
11	English and/or Hunt Seat Equitation (ages 14 & over)	X				X
12	English Horsemanship (open)	X				X
13	Hunter Hack (open)	X				X
14	Equitation Over Fences (open)	X				X
15	Walk Jog Western Pleasure (open)	X	X			
16	Western Pleasure (ages 13 and under)	X				X
17	Western Pleasure (ages 14 & over)	X				X



18	Walk Jog Western Equitation (open)	X	X	
19	Western Equitation (ages 13 and under)	X		X
20	Western Equitation (ages 14 and over)	X		X
21	Western Horsemanship (open)	X		X
22	Reining (open)	X		X
23	Lead Line Trail* (ages 5 to 8)			
24	Walk Only Trail*** (Special Needs)			
25	Walk Jog/Trot Trail (open)	X	X	
26	Trail (ages 13 and under)	X		X
29	Trail (ages 14 and over)	X		X

Trail classes will occur during regular performance classes, following lead line classes.

\*No entry fee or premiums for lead line classes

\*\*Winner of the halter class will receive a halter award

\*\*\*Will show with lead line contestants. Eligible for placings and awards. Entry is at discretion of show management. Must ride independently unless ruled by the judge.

## Gymkhana Events

### Division 552 – Gymkhana Events

**Entry Fee: 5.00 Per Class**

**Must check in by 2:00 p.m.**

**Not to begin before 3:00 p.m.**

**All Gymkhana events qualify for both State Fair and Gymkhana High Point.**

#### Class

- 1 Washington Pole Bending (ages 13 and under)
- 2 Washington Pole Bending (ages 14 and over)
- 3 Single Stake (ages 13 and under)
- 4 Single Stake (ages 14 and over)
- 5 Bi-rangle Stake Race (ages 13 and under)
- 6 Bi-rangle Stake Race (ages 14 and over)
- 7 California Speed Barrels (ages 13 and under)
- 8 California Speed Barrels (ages 14 and over)
- 9 Cloverleaf Barrels (ages 13 and under)
- 10 Cloverleaf Barrels (ages 14 and over)

## SMALL ANIMAL SHOWMANSHIP

### Premiums offered for 4-H Senior and FFA Advanced Showmanship Only

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$3	\$2	\$1

- Award and ribbon for 1<sup>st</sup> place in each class
- No cash awards for classes 1 and 2, 4 and 5, Ribbons only for 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> place
- Animal shown in Showmanship must be owned by the exhibitor and entered by the exhibitor in an appropriate market or breeding class. Only animals owned, fitted and shown by the exhibitor are eligible.
- Exhibitors in each class judged together unless classes are too large, as determined by Superintendent.
- Exhibitors are to use their age as of December 31, 2023 when determining which Class to enter.

### Division 553 – Rabbit Showmanship

### Division 554 – Poultry Showmanship

### Division 555 – Turkey Showmanship

#### Class

- 1 **4-H Junior** (ages 9 and 10). The first two winners automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship.
- 2 **4-H Intermediate** (ages 11 through 13). First two winners automatically eligible to move up to 4-H Senior Showmanship
- 3 **4-H Senior** (ages 14 and over)
- 4 **FFA Novice** – Exhibitor who has never shown before at any organized show/fair, regardless of grade level. First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship
- 5 **FFA Freshman** – Exhibitor may show twice in this category. May show the summer prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and the summer immediately following 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. First two winners are automatically eligible to move up to FFA Advanced Showmanship
- 6 **FFA Advanced** – FFA members who do not qualify to show as Novice or Freshman





## SMALL ANIMAL ROUND ROBIN SHOWMANSHIP

### SILVER BUCKLE AND ROSETTES ONLY

Winners in Rabbit and Poultry Showmanship are eligible to enter Small Animal Round Robin Showmanship. Any exhibitor having previously won a Round Robin Showmanship at the Merced County Fair is ineligible to enter this competition. For example, if the winner of the Rabbit Showmanship has previously won a Round Robin, the person placing second would then be eligible to enter Round Robin. All contestants will compete at



the same time

## BREEDING RABBITS

Entry Fee: \$5.00 per entry per class

### Premiums Offered per Class

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00

Award and Ribbon for Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex in each Division if more than 5 entries in the Division.

Exhibitors **must** note breed and variety in comment section of online entry. Fair management will break divisions.

Rabbits must be entered, shown and judged in the proper division and class for breed, variety, age and sex.

### Division 556 – Lightweight Rabbits

**These will consist of ARBA 4 Class rabbits please use drop down menu when entering online to identify breeds.**

#### Class

- 1 Senior Buck, 6 months of age and over
- 2 Junior Buck, under 6 months of age
- 3 Senior Doe, 6 months of age and over

- 4 Junior Doe, under 6 months of age

### Division 557 – Heavyweight Rabbits

**These will consist of ARBA 6 Class rabbits please use drop-down menu when entering online to identify breeds.**

#### Class

- 1 Senior Buck, 8 months of age and over
- 2 Intermediate Buck, 6-8 months of age
- 3 Junior Buck, under 6 months of age
- 4 Senior Doe, 8 months of age and over
- 5 Intermediate Doe, 6-8 months of age
- 6 Junior Doe, under 6 months of age

This show is sanctioned by the American Rabbit Breeders' Association, Inc., Rules, definitions and judging procedures as prescribed in the latest edition of the Guide Book and Standard of the American Rabbit Breeders' Association, Inc., shall apply to all district and county fair Rabbit shows, provided they do not conflict with any of the rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of Food and Agriculture.

### BREEDING RABBIT SHOW RULES

1. **ONLINE ENTRY IS DUE BY MAY 2, 2024 at 11:59 PM.**
2. Rabbits will be entered, shown and judged in proper division and class for breed, age and sex. At the time of entry, animals not identified by sex, ear tattoo and breed will be considered deficient and ineligible to show.
3. No tattooing will be permitted on the fairgrounds. All Rabbits must be tattooed prior to arriving at the fair.
4. Rabbits found to be in ill health will be refused from the show by the show committee and **MUST** be removed from the fairgrounds.
5. Exhibitors limited to **FOUR (4)** entries per class in divisions where breed is specified. In the "All Other Breeds" divisions, Rabbits must be entered, shown and judged in the proper division and class for breed, variety, age and sex. Fair Management will break the divisions. (NOTE: Per State Rule IV (6), "no exhibitor shall receive more than two cash awards in any one class using American judging system. When an exhibitor earns more than two awards in a class, the exhibitor will receive the two highest cash awards, and the lesser cash awards will be moved down the placings to other exhibitors; ribbons will be awarded as

placed.”). One entry per exhibitor in the Meat Pen division. Limit of 15 entries per exhibitor excluding showmanship. Meat Pen counted as one entry.

6. All Rabbits must have permanent ear tattoos; ear tattoos must correspond to the entry.
7. Positively no substitutions except in same breed, sex, class and variety. A \$5.00 penalty must be paid at time of check-in for each substitution made in excess of two per exhibitor. No substitutions will be made after 5:00 p.m. the day before the show.
8. Any corrections due to Fair clerical errors must be made promptly upon arrival at the show and before judging begins.
9. This will be a One Day Carry Case show. Rabbits will remain in carry case except during judging.
10. Exhibitors are responsible for getting their animals to the judging table on time. Exhibitors shall not state ownership of any animal to the judge.
11. **ONLY RABBIT EXHIBITORS are allowed at the judging tables. Parents and viewers must remain outside of show area. This will be strictly enforced.**
12. All Rabbits are entered at the owner's risk. Judges and show personnel are not responsible in any way for loss, injury or death to entries. All reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure their safety.
13. When showing, FFA exhibitors will be required to wear the official show uniform of FFA. For 4-H exhibitors, it is required that white pants, a white **long-sleeved** dress shirt, and a tie/scarf be worn. The 4-H hat is optional. For Independent Junior exhibitors, it is required that white pants and a white **long-sleeved** dress shirt be worn.
14. All other rules applying to Junior Livestock Divisions also apply to Rabbit Divisions.
15. Rabbits must be owned by and in the care of the Exhibitor and entered and shown by the Exhibitor.
16. All exhibitors are responsible for checking in their own Rabbits. Rabbits will be released after they are done showing.

## MARKET RABBITS

**Entry Fee 10.00 per Class**

**PREMIUMS ARE NOT PAID ON MARKET RABBITS**

## MEAT PENS & SINGLE FRYERS

Meat Pen check-in and weigh-in to begin at 6:30 a.m., starting with 4-H Meat Pens, followed by FFA Meat Pens.

Meat Pen judging to start at 7:00 a.m., starting with 4-H and followed by FFA. All Breeds judged together.

### Division 558 - 4-H Market Rabbits

### Division 559 - FFA Market Rabbits

#### Class

- 1 Meat Pen of three (3) Rabbits: not under 3 ½ pounds or over 5 ½ pounds each when the weight is rounded to the nearest 1/10 of a pound. Cannot be over 10 weeks old. Judged alive. Must be of the same breed and variety. Owned for a minimum of 30 consecutive days. If a meat pen Rabbit does not make weight at weigh in, the exhibitor has the option to put one Rabbit into the single fryer class. This option must be declared at the scale. **CANNOT BE ENTERED IN BREED CLASSES.**
- 2 Single Fryer: not under three 3 ½ pounds and not over five 5 ½ pounds each, or over ten (10) weeks old. Judged alive. **CANNOT BE ENTERED IN BREED CLASSES.**

## BREEDING POULTRY

**Entry Fee: \$5.00 per entry per class**

#### **Premiums Offered Per Class**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00

1. **ENTRIES DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 2ND.**
2. Check-in starts at 7 a.m. Friday, June 7th. Judging begins at 9 a.m. Birds will be released after showmanship.
3. Birds found in ill health will be refused from the show by the poultry inspector and **MUST** be removed from the fairgrounds.
4. All standard bred poultry will be judged by comparison to the latest edition of the "American Poultry Association Standard Of Perfection" and "Bantam Standard". All non-standard and utility fowl will be judged on condition and suitability to utility.

5. Exhibitors limited to four entries per class, however, State Rule 6, Section IV, regarding payment of cash awards will apply.
6. Once cleared through health inspection birds will be placed in assigned cages according to entry tags.
7. **BANDS ARE REQUIRED** on all birds upon arrival, except Geese, Ducks and Turkeys. All Geese, Ducks and Turkeys must have bands on cages. Birds must be banded before inspection.
8. Exhibitors are required to be in uniform and stay at ringside for the duration of the show. Exhibitors shall not state ownership of any birds to the judge.
9. Companion birds must be one to a cage to be judged.
10. All birds are entered at the owner's risk. The fair, employees, judges and show personnel are not responsible in any way for loss, injury or death of entries. All reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure their safety.
11. All birds must be owned by the exhibitor a minimum of 30 days.
12. Avian must be owned by and in the care of the Exhibitor and shown by the Exhibitor
13. Best in Division winners are eligible for State Fair.

**Division 560 - Bantam Breeds**  
**(Old English & Modern)**

**Class**

- 1 Cock (Male one Year and Older)
- 2 Hen (Female one Year and Older)
- 3 Cockerel (Male Under one Year)
- 4 Pullet (Female Under one Year)

**Division 561 - Bantam Breeds**  
**(All Other Breeds)**

**Class**

- 1 Cock (Male one Year and Older)
- 2 Hen (Female one Year and Older)
- 3 Cockerel (Male Under one Year)
- 4 Pullet (Female Under one Year)

**Division 562- Caged Birds**

**Class**

- 1 Cockatiels
- 2 Parakeets
- 3 Doves
- 4 Pigeons
- 5 All Other Breeds (Identify when entering)

**Division 563 - Game Birds**

**Class**

- 1 Doves
- 2 Ducks
- 3 Pigeons
- 4 Quail
- 5 Geese
- 6 Turkeys
- 7 All Other Breeds (Identify when entering)

**Division 564 - Large Standard Breeds**

**Class**

- 1 Cock (Male one Year and Older)
- 2 Hen (Female one Year and Older)
- 3 Cockerel (Male Under one Year)
- 4 Pullet (Female Under one Year)



**Division 565 - Large Non-Standard Breeds**

**Class**

- 1 Cock (Male one Year and Older)
- 2 Hen (Female one Year and Older)
- 3 Cockerel (Male Under one Year)
- 4 Pullet (Female Under one Year)

**Division 566 - Utility, Meat & Egg**

**Class**

- 1 Cock (Male one Year and Older)
- 2 Hen (Female one Year and Older)
- 3 Cockerel (Male Under one Year)
- 4 Pullet (Female Under one Year)

**Division 567 - Eggs**

**Class**

- 1 Bantam (one dozen)
- 2 Standard (one dozen)



## MARKET POULTRY

Entry Fee: 10.00 Per entry per Class

**PREMIUMS ARE NOT PAID ON MARKET CHICKENS**

### MARKET CHICKEN PENS

\*Birds are to report to Poultry Health Inspection site between 7:00-8:00 AM.

\*Meat Pen judging to start at 9:00 a.m.

\*All birds must be leg banded before arrival at fair and leg bands must correspond to band numbers listed on entries.

#### Division 568 - 4-H Market Chickens

#### Division 569 - FFA Market Chickens

##### Class

1. Pen of two market chickens: each bird minimum of 5 pounds and maximum of 8 pounds. After weigh-in will be divided into weight groups as necessary. CANNOT BE ENTERED IN BREED CLASSES.

## MARKET TURKEY

Entry Fee: 10.00 Per entry per Class

**PREMIUMS ARE NOT PAID ON MARKET TURKEYS**

Turkeys are to report to Poultry Health Inspection site between 7:00-8:00 AM.

Meat Pen judging to start at 9:00 a.m. followed by Market Turkeys.

All Turkeys must have leg bands on before arrival at fair and leg bands must correspond to band numbers listed on entries.

**This class is open to market turkeys only. Turkeys will be shown in hen classes and Tom classes. All turkeys regardless of gender will not be older than 20 weeks of age. Hen and Tom Champions will show against each other for the supreme champion.**

**Turkeys will be sold by the Head.**

#### Weights:

**Minimum Weight 15 pounds**

**Max Weight 35 pounds**

#### Division - 570 4-H Market Turkey

##### Class

01 Hen

02 Tom

#### Division - 571 FFA Market Turkey

##### Class

01 Hen

02 Tom

**DUE TO AVIAN INFLUENZA/ NEW CASTLE DISEASE, ALL MARKET POULTRY WILL BE CONSIGNED AS TERMINAL AND WILL NOT HAVE THE OPTION FOR LIVE PICK UP SHOULD CDFA /CDC REQUIRE THE FAIR TO CANCEL BREEDING SHOWS DUE TO COUNTY QUARANTINE.**

## Notes