

My Animal Project and what to bring to fair?

MARK ALL OF YOUR EQUIPMENT/CLOTHING WELL! THINGS TEND TO GROW LEGS AND WALK OFF AT FAIR.

Goats-

Market goats can be a great project for all traditional (ages 9-19) aged 4-H youth! Most look to acquire their market goat project in March or the beginning of April, with the perfect age range for a market goat at our county fair being January through early February. The price to acquire a market goat generally speaking is \$150 - \$220 depending on quality etc. With the average goat finishing between 5 to 7 months of age, feeding your goat can be very economical, you can expect to feed roughly 3 – 6 bags of feed (50lb bags) with each bag of feed ranging in cost from \$13 - \$20 and your total cost into feed will probably range \$100 - \$125. Your goat will weigh roughly 30-50 pounds when you pick it up in March/April and most goats weigh 40 -70 pounds at our Spring weigh in the first week of May which every market goat is required to attend our May spring weigh in. Goats gain on average about .28 - .35 of a pound daily and do have a lower rate of gain output compared to other livestock projects. Our required minimum weight for market goats at fair is 60lbs. and ideally, depending on frame size of your goat, you are aiming for a final weight at our county fair the first week of August to be 85lbs – 110lbs. By fair time, your goat should have been worked with, with a chain lead or halter. There are many videos available online explaining different show leads and I would recommend reaching out to your local market goat leaders or extension agent for further help!

- ❖ Feeding Equipment needed: ***Mark everything well
 - Feeder for hay (preferably one that hangs, it helps in keeping pen neat and clean)
 - Water Buckets
 - Tack Box (for all your supplies)
 - Containers (to keep hay and food in)
- ❖ Decorations
 - Curtains
 - Safety pins
 - Stall Cards (office supplies)
- ❖ Personal Equipment
 - Show clothes-clean and neat always when showing (dairy goats have different requirements for show attire)
 - Clothes to clean pens and wash animals in, not a good idea to clean and wash in your show clothes.
 - No open toes shoes or thongs (it's not fun being stepped on)
 - Mark everything with name, phone number and club name

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Swine-

The most popular market animal project in Clatsop County 4-H is a market hog. A market hog is another great animal project for all traditional (ages 9-19) 4-H youth. The ideal market hog for Clatsop county fair will be born in the months of January or February with most junior members getting their market hog in March/April. Each swine project animal is required to be weighed in at our May spring weigh in, with most swine weighing

between 60lbs – 125lbs. The average market hog will be finished between 6-7 months of age and generally speaking a market hog will gain on average 1.5 – 1.8 pounds per day. Our weight requirement for a market hog project at county fair is 210lbs. – 300lbs. The most common breeds we see at our fair are Yorkshire, Hampshire and Duroc. Here's some things to consider when bringing your project to county fair.

- ❖ Feeding your animal: Animals should be fed 2 times a day, morning and evening. Water is in automatic drippers so you don't need to worry about bringing something to water your pig with, although its important to always check the water to make sure it's coming out of the water nipple. A good idea to put your pigs on a water nipple at home so they do not need to learn how to use one at fair.
- ❖ General: Many people wash their pig the same day they bring them to county fair. There is a lot of stress put on the pig when hauling them that day, it is wise to wash your pig at home in the morning before you bring them in to the fair.
- ❖ Equipment needed: ***Mark everything well
 - 2 brushes (one for scrubbing, one for grooming)
 - Water based oil products only (showsheen)
 - 1 bucket for washing your pig
 - Soap (bottle of clear, non-colored)
 - Small electric shaver (used for the tail and ears and body clipping)
 - Show stick or whip
 - Rags (for cleaning and drying pig)
 - Feed and feed pans

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Sheep-

Market sheep can be a great project for all traditional (ages 9-19) age 4-H youth! Most look to acquire their market lamb project in March/April, with the perfect age range for our fair being January – February with March being acceptable if you have experience raising and feeding lambs. The price to acquire a market lamb generally speaking is \$100 - \$225 depending on quality etc. and feeding a lamb can be very economical! The average lamb will be finished between 5 to 7 months of age and you can expect to feed roughly 3 – 6 bags of feed (50lb bags) with each bag ranging in price from \$13 - \$20. Your cost into feed will probably range from \$80 - \$120. A market lamb will weigh roughly 50 – 75 pounds when you pick it up in March/April, with most lambs weighing 60 -100 pounds at our Spring weigh in the first week of May, all market lambs required to attend our May spring weigh in. Lambs gain on average about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a pound daily and typically need 2 to 5lbs of grain to gain a $\frac{3}{4}$ pound average. Our required minimum weight for fair is 100lbs. and ideally depending on frame size of your lamb, you're aiming for a final weight at our county fair the first week of August to be 135 – 150lbs. Here is some things to consider when bringing your project to county fair.

- ❖ Feeding your animal: Feed animals twice a day, in the morning and evening, ideally before 8 a.m. and then feed grain again before 8:00 p.m. At county fair, do not feed them more grain than they can clean up in one "feeding". (Don't feed as much as you do at home) they will consume less feed at county fair because of the stress as well as less exercise than they would normally get at home, pay close attention to their feed consumption at fair.
- ❖ Cleaning Equipment: ***Mark everything well

- Broom for isles
- Pitchfork or manure fork
- Shovel for cleaning
- Wheelbarrow
- ❖ Fitting Equipment: ***Mark everything well
 - Rope Halter (optional)
 - Shampoo/soap for washing
 - Blanket to keep sheep clean
 - Small brush for cleaning feet
 - Towels or chamees for drying sheep (leather chamee's don't work well)
- ❖ Feeding & Other Equipment: ***Mark everything well
 - Hanging nylon feeders for hay(optional)-helps keep pens clean
 - (don't use horse hay nets, Sheep get tangled in them if left unattended, need hay net with small holes)
 - Water bucket-age appropriate size-so youth can carry it
 - Boards (8" high x 1/2" thick-approx.) and wire to tie boards to the pens to contain straw/shavings from being pushed into the isles.
 - Feed pan for grain
 - Tack box
- ❖ Optional Clipping Items: ***Mark everything well
 - Sheep sheers for slick sheering (or do before you get to fair)
 - Hand clippers, blocking card, blocking stand...if you plan to block a sheep
- ❖ Decorations:
 - Curtains
 - Safety pins for hanging stall cards, ribbons, and kids numbers on
 - Wire to hang curtains

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Beef-

The beef market steer project can be the most rewarding of the market animal projects, but it is the biggest financial and time commitment of all the market animal projects. Most youth sell their market steer finished project at the county fair the first week of August and look to acquire their next beef project steer just a few months later in September – November. Most beef cattle producers sell their market steer projects by the end of November, so make sure you are making those contacts with producers and line up to get a steer before then. Look for a beef calf born in the months January – April and price range can vary on average from \$750 - \$1100, a lot of that price depends on current beef cattle prices and cost a producer has into the project animal. From that point, feed costs can vary depending on the size of the animal and feeding efficiency but in general, you can expect to invest around \$2500 total into a market steer project. Financially speaking, it can be a big cost and time-consuming project, but also it can be a very rewarding project. Market steers have a required weigh in that takes place in February, with most steers weighing between 700lbs – 1000lbs at that weigh in. Market steers usually gain on average 1.75 – 2.5 pounds a day with the ideal final weight for your market steer at county fair in August being 1250lbs. Here is some things to consider when bringing your project to county fair.

- ❖ Care of your animal:
 - Water them many times a day. In general, your calf will drink up to 2 gallons of water per 100 pounds body weight on a warm day (1200lb steer = 24 gallons of water daily)
 - Grain should be given twice per day. Good times are 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - Hay can be provided all day
- ❖ Club Supplies (the larger the club, the more you will need, these are approx. numbers) ***Mark everything well
 - (2 – 3) Wheelbarrows
 - (3) Pitch fork or Manure fork
 - (1 – 2) Brooms
 - (1) Hose with nozzle
 - Neck Ropes—one per animal
- ❖ Club Member Supplies ***Mark everything well
 - Show stick
 - Rope Halter (bring 1 extra for back up)
 - (1) water bucket
 - Liquid soap/shampoo
 - (1) rice root brush
 - Curry Comb
 - Scotch Comb
 - Baby Wipes
 - Tack box with a lock
 - Scissors
 - Grain and hay
- ❖ Decorations ***Mark everything well
 - Curtains
 - Safety pins for hanging stall cards, ribbons, and kids numbers on
 - Wire to hang curtains

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Llama-

Fresh Water—always—full and clean

Food—May have hay in front of them, or may not

Stall cards--need to be up

❖ Supplies ***Mark everything well

- Brushes-body brush and slicker brush
- Halters & Leads
- Salt-container to put salt in
- Grain-feeder and feed pan
- Hay
- Llama shampoo and conditioner
- Blower if you have one
- Nail clippers
- Shears
- Towels
- Shovel, pitch fork
- Wheel barrow
- Water bucket
- Baby wipes for touch up

❖ Decorations ***Mark everything well

- Curtains
- Safety pins for hanging stall cards, ribbons, and kids numbers on
- Wire to hang curtains

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Poultry-

Getting your poultry project ready for FAIR!!

First, you need to prepare your animals beyond working with your birds for showmanship. There are some other preparations you need to do:

- ❖ Lice dusting your animals: (All) this needs to be done at least 4 weeks before fair by dusting entire bird with a lice-dusting powder or you should do this once a week. But not right before fair!
- ❖ Bathing your animals: You need to wash your birds a day or 2 before fair as described in your Poultry project materials. This is very important to remove excess dirt and dust from feathers.
- ❖ Grooming: Clip toenails and clean legs, waddles, & comb.
- ❖ Supplies needed for fair: ***Mark everything well
 - Birds
 - Food and water cups
 - Food
 - Sturdy carrier for transport of Poultry (cardboard boxes are not good—cat carriers work great!)
 - Grooming supplies: Toenail cutters, soft toothbrush for cleaning legs, Q-tips for cleaning face and comb, etc.
 - Show stick
 - Scrub brush for cleaning cage
 - Wheelbarrow, shovel, scoop-like dustpan and small brush
 - Show clothes-long sleeved, clean-closed toe shoes.
 - Doves and Pigeons may want perches.
 - Wire and wire cutters

Once at fair, you need to add bedding to cages or below cages depending on which cages you use. Wire or zip tie in the food and water cups. Always be sure animals have plenty of fresh water. It is not necessary for birds to have food at all times. The night before the show, pull food cups from cages and don't feed until after the show. Cages need to be cleaned through out the day and wood tables need to be scooped out every morning. All cages should be spot cleaned throughout the day. Eggs should be removed from cages.

Have fun and ask question. If you need any help, there is a lot of good resource people around who are willing to help.

Fresh Water—always—(at least half full)

Food—Feed in the morning, once a day.

Stall cards--need to be up

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Horse

CLUB

wheelbarrow
pitchfork
shovel
rake
tarp (for covering hay)
curtains (dressing & feed rooms)
extension cord
staple gun
screw driver
ladder
hammer & nails
drill
hose

INDIVIDUAL

water bucket
feed pan or bucket
saddle stand
bridle hooks
bucket hooks
feed for horse
helmet
stall guard (if needed)

The following items are suggestions, but are not necessities:

mirror (for dressing room)
dry erase board
padlocks
watering can
hole punch
first air kit
chairs

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Rabbits-

Rabbits will be provided with cages. If you are a large club, it is a good idea to have more than one wheelbarrow, shovel, and broom. It is also a good idea to have a scrub brush to brush any hanging material off the bottom of the cages. Members are expected to put shavings under the cages at the beginning of fair and clean them daily. It is also a good idea to check and add shavings during the day if the animals are unusually messy. It makes a better display for the public. The club or members should bring their own carpet squares. You can get them cheap from the dollar store or local carpet stores.

Most small animals have a diet just like us. They are to be fed once a day. Some prefer in the morning while others prefer in the evening. The important thing is that there is fresh water available for them at all times.

- ❖ Grooming Supplies: ***Mark everything well
 - Toenail clippers
 - Baby wipes
 - Q-tips and alcohol
 - Baby oil (or what ever you normally use to groom your animal)

- ❖ Supplies needed for fair: ***Mark everything well
 - Water bottle, food dish, food
 - Wire and wire cutters for decorations
 - Decorations for above cages
 - Decoration for tack area (optional)
 - Carpet squares
 - 1 or more wheelbarrow, shovel, & broom
 - Scrub brush
 - Plastic cabinet and totes (optional)
 - Garbage can for food

Fresh Water—always—(at least half full)

Food—Only once a day. Morning or Evening. Food may or may not be present. Empty dish should be removed.

Stall cards--need to be up

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Cavies-

These animals only come for the day of the show. You need to supply cage, food and water bottle. It is always a good idea to use your own carpet square to prevent contamination and transmission of disease. Some clubs feel that you should have a different carpet square for your cavy than your rabbit. Cages cards need to be filled out for the day and it is a good idea to come early for health check because the cavies will not be allowed to enter until they have been checked through.

Cavies-(Herdsmanship Feeding Schedule)

Fresh Water—always

Food—Only once a day. Food may not be present

Stall cards--need to be up