

Jefferson Co Livestock Project Handbook 2024-2025



Name: _____

Grade: _____

Number of Years in Project _____

Club: _____

Species Exhibiting (list all): _____

Keep this handbook and submit in its entirety
along with the Financial Record Book by September 1st 2025

Check to make sure the following are completed before submitting:

Livestock Project Goals _____

Point Card _____

Financial Record Book Attached _____

Did you exhibit an animal you bred?

If so include:

Bred and owned Goals _____

Bred & Owned Records _____

Bred & Owned Point Card _____

Livestock Project Calendar

The dates on the following calendar only include the project-wide events. Additional countywide educational opportunities and events for individual species and the whole livestock project will be communicated as received. Communication will occur through 4honline emails. Please follow the Extension website and emails to get the most up-to-date information.

September 10, 2024	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m
Sep 18	Livestock Awards- Fair Park	6:30 p.m.
September 23	Skill-a-thon Review and Q&A	6 p.m..
October 8	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
November 2- 5	Royal Winter Fair Trip- Toronto ON	
November 5	Rabbit Kick-off	6 p.m.
November 5	Poultry Kick-off	7 p.m
November 7	Goat Project Kick-Off Meeting	6:30 p.m.
November 10	Spark Days- Meats Judging	1 pm.
November 12	Food4Ward- Cooking Poultry	6 p.m.
November 12	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
December 3	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m.
December 3	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m
December 10	Beef Project Kick-Off Meeting	6:30 p.m.
December 16	Food4Ward- Beef	6 p.m.
January 7, 2025	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m.
January 7	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m
January 14	Beginner Carcass Meeting*	6 p.m.

*(1- 3 years in project)

January 14	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
January 16-19	Denver Stock Show- Points Trip	
February 3	Livestock Marketing Practice	6 p.m
February 4	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m.
February 4	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m
February 10	Sheep Project Kick-Off Meeting	7-8 p.m.
February 11	Beginner Carcass Meeting*	6 p.m.

*(1- 3 years in project)

February 11	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
February 18	Swine Project Kick-Off Meeting	6-7 p.m.
February 18	Swine Project Kick-Off Meeting	7-8 p.m.
March 4	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m.

March 4	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m
March 11	Beef Carcass Meeting	6 p.m.
March 31	Livestock Marketing Practice	6 p.m
March 11	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
April 1	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m.
April 1	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m
April 8	Goat & Lamb Carcass Meeting	6 p.m.
April 8	Record Book Training	6 p.m.
April 8	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
April 15	All 4-H project changes MUST be made in 4honline	
May 5	Livestock Marketing Practice	6 p.m
May 6	Rabbit Meeting	6 p.m
May 6	Poultry Meeting	7 p.m.
May 13	Swine Carcass Meeting	6:30 p.m.
May 18	Livestock Learning Day (Fair Park)	
	(for Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Poultry, Rabbit Project members)	
June 9	Food4Ward- Pork	6 p.m.
June 16	Livestock Marketing Judging	6:30 p.m
July	Skillathon Contest (At Jefferson County Fair)	
July 22	Livestock Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
September 1	Livestock Financials & Point Cards due to Extension	

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Jefferson County 4-H Livestock Committee is to provide educational opportunities and support the principles for positive youth development through quality educational programs relating to the livestock industry.

DEFINITION

The Livestock Committee is made up of the following projects: beef, sheep swine, poultry, rabbits, goats, and fiber animals (sheep, goats, llama, alpaca, rabbits for fiber production). This includes breeding stock and market animals.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Livestock Committee receives educational support from the Extension Office and 4-H Educator.

Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H Educator
 Extension, Jefferson County Office, 864 Collins Road, Jefferson, WI 53549
 Phone: 920-674-7295 Email: Jerry.wilcenski@wisc.edu

The Livestock Committee will consist of adult and youth representatives for each species. Each species will have 4 votes (2 youth and 2 adult) for matters requiring a vote. Committee members present at the meeting will be eligible to vote up to a maximum species votes allowed. Your committee members for the 2023-2024 4-H Year are:

(Note: **indicates 4-H Countywide Livestock Project Leader)

Beef

- Justin Thom (Chair)
- Scott Keppen
- Ed Bielinski
- Heather Reu (Treasurer)

Sheep

- Cheryl Splinter**
- Meghan Splinter
- Libby Knoebel
- Lindsey Baneck

Swine

- Ed Bielinski
- Alyssa Jaquith
- Drew Hansen
- Katelyn Thom (Secretary)

Goat

- Kayla Kehoe
- Becki Durkee
- Jerry Wilcenski
- Karen Gefvert**
- Elliott Small

Rabbits

- Hanna Brattlie
- Joy Brattlie**
- Becki Durkee
- Jody Peter

Poultry

- Joy Brattlie**
- Hannah Brattlie
- Rylee Brattlie

Meats Judging

- Libby Knoebel
- Lindsay Baneck
- Joy Brattlie

Livestock Judging

- Ed Bielinski

Livestock Marketing

- Leah Mindemann
- Jerry Wilcenski
- Joy Brattlie

MEMBERSHIP GOALS

All Livestock Project Members shall...

1. Prepare for citizenship responsibilities.
2. Develop desirable character traits.
3. Develop pride and responsibility associated with managing animals.
4. Receive training in the care, feeding, management and costs associated with animal production.
5. Practice sound livestock feeding and management practices.
6. Develop short and long term livestock project goals.
7. Understand and use sound marketing practices.
8. Gain appreciation of outdoor living and animal care as recreation.
9. Develop skill, patience and understanding in handling animals.
10. Learn and practice safety precautions for humans and animals.
11. Develop a clear understanding and appreciation of the livestock industry.
12. Understand the importance of animal products in human nutrition and develop a basic knowledge of production standards.

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. All participants must be current members of Jefferson County 4-H.
2. All members must be enrolled in one or more of the following projects: beef, sheep, swine, poultry, rabbit, goat, llama/alpaca.
3. Project members must be a member in good standing.
4. 4-H project members must be in 3rd through 13th grades (no older than 19 by December 31st).
5. Immediate family is considered father, mother, brother, sister and/or those raising children in the immediate household.
6. All members must adhere to the code of conduct that was signed when enrolling in 4-H.

FIRST YEAR LIVESTOCK PROJECT MEMBERS

If you are a first-year livestock project member in any species, please reach out to your project representative(s) to gain valuable information about raising a livestock animal.

LIVESTOCK RECORD BOOK

1. There is one Livestock Record Book used for all species.
2. Livestock records run from September 1 through August 31 each year.
3. The Livestock Record Book must be completed manually and handed in by hard copy.
4. The Livestock Record Book must be completed by youth interested in obtaining project grants and awards.
5. The Livestock Record Book is due on September 1st
6. Please review your records before turning them in to ensure you have completed all the information.
7. Livestock Record Books will be judged by the 4-H Educator and Livestock Committee. Please refer to the last page of the Livestock Record Book for the evaluation rubric that will show how you are judged.

Livestock Marketing Competition

The Livestock Marketing Competition gives youth real world experience in marketing their livestock project to prospective buyers. Youth can chose to do a presentation in one of three areas:

- 1) Livestock Genetics- Youth choose one animal to market to potential buyers. This can include embryos and semen. The focus is on the phenotype and genotype of your animal. Pedigrees and EPDs can be utilized during the presentation. A powerpoint, projected video or still image is required to showcase your animal.
- 2) Market Animal- Youth choose one animal to market to potential buyers. The focus is the carcass and finished product of your animal. Ultrasound data can be utilized during the presentation. A powerpoint, projected video or still image is required to showcase your animal.
- 3) Livestock Products- Youth may choose to market ANY product related to the project species of their choice. The products can be made by the youth or general products. For example a presentation can be on lamb meat- either specific to the youth or marketing the lamb industry.

Presentations : **Seniors** need to be a minimum of 4 minutes long, with a maximum of 6 minutes. **Intermediate** 3 to 5 minutes. **Juniors** 2 to four minutes. Points will be deducted at ½ point per judge for each 10 seconds over and under the allowed time span. Following the conclusion of the presentation the youth will be allowed up to 3 minutes to answer questions from the judges. Judges will not interrupt the presentation to ask questions. All questions will be asked at the conclusion of the presentation.

Points will be awarded as follows: Content - 10 points. Ability to communicate - 10 points. Organization - 10 points. Overall effect - 10 points. Knowledge & Response to Questions – 10 points

Up to five points will be deducted for dependence on notes for Seniors. Up to five bonus points will be given to Junior and Intermediates who do not depend on notes.

Livestock Project Goals & Planning

Your goal statements reflect something you aim to accomplish within your Animal Project. You may look at the whole project when considering goals; work to write goals that look at the industry and the product you are looking to produce.

Your goals should reflect something you want to accomplish or learn about. Without goals, it is almost impossible to move forward. Your goals can help measure your increased knowledge and skills about the Livestock industry.

How to Write a Goal:

Goals have four parts that can be measured or checked:

- 1) **the action:** how you are going to do it;
- 2) **the result:** what you will do;
- 3) **the timetable:** when you plan to have it done;
- 4) **The reason:** why you want to accomplish this goal or what do you want to learn.

For example, "I will train my 4-H market animal to lead before the initial weigh-in for ease of loading and to present my animal in the best condition for county fair."

- 1) "I will train" is the action portion of the goal.
- 2) The result - "my 4-H market animal to lead,"
- 3) "before weigh-in and county fair" defines the timetable.
- 4) The reason - "for the ease of loading...."

When writing goals it is also important to analyze the various resources that will be necessary to complete those goals. That is why we ask you to complete a goal table. The goal table allows you to have your goal on one side so that you can easily analyze it to see what you will need to complete that goal. Please see the below goal table for an example.

My goals for this year:	What I need to do to reach this goal:
I will train my 4-H market animal to lead before the initial weigh-in, for ease of load and to present my animal in the best condition for county fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A halter- A parent to help me catch my animal at first.- Watch videos on the best practices to halter break my animal.- Attend showmanship workshops to get techniques from professionals.

Project Goals & Planning (continued)

Please list at least two goals for your project this year. (Refer to previous page for an example of how to complete the goal table.)

My goals for this year:	What I need to accomplish these goals:

Where will you get your project (bred & owned, breeder)? What factors will you consider when selecting your project (breed, age, price, etc.)?

Please list three new skills you gained:

1.

2.

3.

Please in a few sentences describe how you learned these skills:

Project Reflection

Please respond to the following questions (additional pages can be added).

Remember a project takes place throughout an entire year, not just your county fair exhibit. Answer the questions below to tell us more about your project year.

1. What did you learn in the project this year?

2. Review your goals. Which goals did you accomplish? How?

3. How well did your timeline to complete the project work? Would you change it?

4. List one thing that went well with your project. Explain.

5. What is one challenge you faced with your project this year?

LIVESTOCK POINT CARD

*****Livestock Point Card runs from September 1 through August 31. *****

1. A livestock point card is a *required* document for all active 4-H Livestock Project members.
2. Livestock Point Cards are due to the Extension Office by August 31.
3. Refer to the Livestock Point Card for eligible opportunities and point values.
 - a. All 4-H members must earn the required points to be eligible for any awards
 - b. 4-H members can obtain points from any event, regardless of the species they exhibit.
 - c. Any event not listed on the point card that is an educational program created by a Land Grant University or 4-H program is pre-approved.
 - d. Any event not listed on the point card that is educational must be pre-approved by a committee member or the Extension office. Approval can be obtained by emailing Jerry Wilcenski, the 4-H Educator, at wilcenski@wisc.edu
4. Each completed event requires a signature or documentation.
 - a. Any Committee Member or the Extension office may sign the point card. **(A parent signature or a youth signature will not be accepted.)**
 - b. Additional acceptable forms of documentation include:
 - i. Show registration or entry forms.
 - ii. Show results.
 - iii. Photo of exhibitor identifying they were present at the event with supporting material. (schedule of events, show catalog, agenda of clinic, etc.)
 - iv. Any other form of documentation must be approved by a member of the committee or Extension office.

If you are unsure of where to find educational opportunities, refer to:

- Project Handbook Calendar
- Extension 4-H Website
- Weekly 4-H Clover Connection Emails (typically sent every Monday thru 4honline)
- Monthly 4-H Newsletter
- Contact the Extension Office
- Contact a Committee Member

Carcass & Production Educational Points- One Point Required for Awards

Carcass Meeting (1 pt)

Ultrasound Carcass Evaluation (1 pt)

Sparks Day - Meat Entry (1 pt per entry)

Food4ward Events (5 pts per event)

Meat Judging

- Team Meeting (5 pt per meeting)
- Meat Judging State Competition (10 pts per event)
- Meat Judging National Competition (25 pts per event)

Any Online Video from a University Extension Office or 4-H Program (1 pt per video)

Jefferson County Livestock Committee Educational Points- One Point Required for Awards

Project Kick Off Mtg - (1pt)- **Mandatory to be eligible for In Person YQCA**

Youth Committee Member (5pts)

Committee Meeting (1 pt per meeting)

Livestock Project Learning Days (1 pt per workshop)

Leadership – Teaching, Club Project Support, Educational Event Volunteer (2 pts per hour)

County Skill-a-thon (5 pts per test taken)

Livestock Project Goals (up to 10 pts)- **Required For Awards**

Project Record Book (up to 10 pts)- **Required For Awards**

Livestock Marketing Practice (5pts per meeting)

Livestock Marketing Competition (10pts)

Livestock Judging and Evaluation Educational Points- One Point Required for Awards

Livestock Judging

- Team Meeting (5 pts per meeting)
- Livestock Judging Competition (10 pts per event)
- National Livestock Judging Competition (25 pts per event)
- Shadow Judging (2 pts per event)

Avian Quiz Bowl

- Team Practice (5 pts per meeting)
- Avian Quiz Bowl Competition (10 pts per event)

Wisconsin State Fair

- Skill-a-thon (5 pts)
- Communications Contest (5 pts)
- Quiz (5 pts)
- Premier Exhibitor (15 pts)

4-H State Livestock Quiz Bowl (5 pts)

World Beef Expo Youth Judging (10 pts)

WI State RBA Youth Royalty Contest (10 pts)

National ARBA Youth Contest (5 pts per event)(showmanship, judging, breed id, royalty, management)

Any Other Breed Association Event (5 pts)

Any Online Video from a University Extension Office or 4-H Program (1 pt per video)

Project Development and Showmanship Educational Points- One Point Required

Showmanship

- Camps and Clinics (not hosted by Jefferson County Livestock Committee)(1 pt per workshop session)

Exhibition

- State Show (WI, MN, IL, IA, etc.) (2 pts per show, per species - must provide entry sheet or show report)
- National Show (5 pts per show, per species - must provide entry sheet or show report)
- All other shows (1 pt per show, per species - must provide entry sheet or show report)
- Showmanship (1 pt per show, per species, must provide copy of score sheet, or show results to earn point)

Any Online Video from a University Extension Office or 4-H Program (1 pt per video)

Jefferson Co. Livestock Point Card

*** Indicates a requirement to be eligible for awards**

Bred and Owned Points

- Member of National or State Association (1 pt per assoc.)
- Bred and Owned Animal Records per species - see below (1 pt) - **Required for awards**
- Bred and Owned Project Goals - see below (Up to 10 pts) - **Required for awards**
- Exhibition (1 pt per class at any show)

Must provide entry sheet or show report to have any points count toward the Limelight Award

1. Documents are due to the Extension Office by August 31st along with the livestock point card and record book.
2. Each species will have its own documentation, the following are some general guidelines
 - a. All registered animals - copy of registration papers of the dam and register offspring
 - b. Birth records - birth/hatch date, birth weight, twin or single, litter size, ect. Species specific- you won't have a birth weight for chicks, but should for a calf.
 - c. Animal Id - ear tag, ear notch, leg/ wing band, or tattoo information
 - d. Grades and crossbreds - include as much information on the sire and dam as possible
 - e. Complete the Breeding Goals and Planning and turn in with all required documents
 - f. Contact Jerry Wilcenski, the 4-H Educator, at wilcenski@wisc.edu with questions

Livestock Bred and Owned Animal Records
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Breeder Name:

Association Member Number:

Breed	Date of Birth	Ear Tattoo/Tag/ Band	Sire	Dam

Bred & Owned: Breeding Goals & Planning

4-H Club: _____

Name: _____

Grade: _____ Years in Project (including this year) _____

Species _____

Breed _____

Your goal statements reflect something you aim to accomplish within your breeding project both long term and short term. Work to write goals that look at the industry and the product you are looking to produce.

Your goals should reflect the larger vision and standard of your breed. If crossbreeding, note the advantages the cross promises. Without goals, it is almost impossible to move forward with a breeding project.

How to Write a Goal:

- 1) **the action:** your pairing selection
- 2) **The reason:** why you made this cross

For example, "I will breed my New Zealand does to buck #19826 to increase my meat pen uniformity and improve loin shape."

- 1) **"Breeding to buck #19826"** is the action portion of the goal.
- 2) The reason - **"to increase uniformity and improve loin shape"**

Evaluating Goals:

- 1) **the result:** what the offspring look like, growth rate, performance and other trait evaluations
- 2) **the reflection:** how well the cross worked, what are the next steps

For example, "I will breed my New Zealand does to buck #19826 to increase my meat pen uniformity and loin shape."

- 1) When selection for my meat pen took place, I had 8 rabbits at the same weight and the judge gave positive comments on how uniform the pen was- Is the result
- 2) The **reflection** - The loin shape was better than previous litters, I am keeping four does and will be looking for a new buck to cross. I will also be doing the same cross on my doe herd again this year to increase the number of females of uniform type and improved quality.

Breeding Goals & Planning (continued)

Please list at least two goals for your project this year. (Refer to previous page for an example of how to complete the goal table.

My goals for this year:	What was the result of these goals:

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Reflection- Evaluate your results, what will you plan for next year:

Bred and Owned Point Card

Event	Date	Signature	Points
Animal Records			
Project Goals			
Event	Date	Signature	Points

The following awards are for eligible 4-H Livestock Project members. Awards will be given at the 4-H Livestock Awards Banquet held in the Fall of each year.

To be eligible and considered for the below awards, youth must complete all required points listed. In the case of a tie, there will be an in-person interview with the individual project member regarding their specific project.

1. **Outstanding Project Record Award:** The top three record books for each species will receive an award. First Place - \$100; Second Place - \$50; Third Place will receive \$20
2. **Young Breeder of the Year:** This award will be given to the top youth in the bred and owned livestock project in each species that earns the highest point total. Must submit the required documents and point card. A youth from each species will be awarded a prize valued up to \$75
3. **4-H Greenhorn Award:** A youth participating in a livestock project for the first time ever. Awarded to the first-year project member with the best record book and top point cards.
4. **4-H Limelight Award (Point Card):** There is no cap on the number of points a youth may earn. They must have fulfilled all required points. Youth will be rewarded for the effort that they put into their project(s).
 - a. The top five members in grades 8-12 will be eligible for a special trip to a major exhibition. We want to reward hard work and create self-motivation.
 - b. The top five members in grades 3-7 will be eligible for a special trip to a major exhibition if a parent or guardian accompanies them OR will be eligible for a fun day trip.
 - c. The overall top earning point members will receive a testimonial written by the 4-H youth educator about their achievements within the project that the youth may utilize when recruiting buyers for their animals or animal products. Request must be emailed to wilcenski@wisc.edu by June 1st
5. **Skill-a-Thon Award:** Youth will take a written evaluation in one or more species of their choice. Tests will include industry standards, breed identification, equipment identification and meat cut identification. Tests will be available to take in-person at the Jefferson County Fair. Specific information and dates and times will be communicated at a later time. The top score for each species in grades 3-5; 6-8 and 9-13 will receive a cash award of \$50.
6. **Livestock Marketing Awards:** The Livestock Marketing Competition gives youth real world experience in marketing their livestock project to prospective buyers as well as develop effective communication skills. The top score for each youth (regardless of species) grades 3-5; 6-8 and 9-13 will receive a cash award of \$100.
7. **4-H Exhibitor of the Year:** An award will be presented to one project member of each species.
 - a. Members must meet all exhibitor and animal project requirements to be eligible.
 - b. Members must participate in showmanship and complete the species Skill-A-Thon to be eligible.
 - c. Members must complete a species specific record book.
 - d. The 4-H Educator will obtain live class rankings and carcass rankings from the County Fair. No documentation needs to be submitted to be eligible.
 - e. Total evaluation for Beef, Sheep, Swine and Meat Goats includes:
 - i. Live Class Ranking at Jefferson County Fair (20%)

- ii. Carcass Ultrasound or Livestock Marketing Results (20%)
 - iii. Live Showmanship Ranking at Jefferson County Fair (20%)
 - iv. Individual Placing from Skill-A-Thon (20%)
 - v. Record book placing (20%)
 - vi. In the case of a tie, the tie will be broken in the following order: highest record book ranking, highest Skill-A-Thon ranking, highest carcass ranking, highest showmanship ranking, highest live show ranking.
- f. Total evaluation for Rabbits, Poultry and Dairy Goats includes:
- vii. Live Class Ranking at Jefferson County Fair (20%)
 - viii. Live Showmanship Ranking at Jefferson County Fair (20%)
 - ix. Livestock Marketing Results (20%)
 - x. Individual Placing from Skill-A-Thon (20%)
 - xi. Record book placing (20%)
 - xii. In the case of a tie, the tie will be broken in the following order: highest record book ranking, highest Skill-A-Thon ranking, highest carcass ranking, highest showmanship ranking, highest live show ranking.

PREMISE IDENTIFICATION

Do You Have Animals? Have you registered your premises?

What is a Premise ID?

A premises identification number (PIN) or location identifier (LID) is a unique code that is permanently assigned to a single physical location.

What must be Registered?

Any location in Wisconsin where livestock are kept or congregated must be registered. Livestock includes:

- Cattle and other bovine animals
- Swine
- Poultry
- Sheep
- Goats
- Horses and other equine animals
- Farm-raised deer and other cervids
- Gamebirds including pheasants, quail, wild turkeys, migrating waterfowl, pigeons,
- and exotic birds raised in captivity
- Bison
- Llamas and other camelids
- Ratites such as emus and ostriches
- Fish

Premises includes:

- Farms and hobby farms
- Veterinary clinics with large animal hospital facilities
- Stables
- Animal markets
- Livestock feedlots, animal trucker and dealer premises where animals are kept
- Slaughter, rendering and dead animal plants
- Livestock exhibitions
- Any other location where livestock is kept or congregated

The premises registration number stays with the location; that is, a change in property ownership will not change the premises identification number.

If you have any of the above animals and you haven't registered your premises (location) within the past three years, registering your premises is free and fast, and it's mandatory in Wisconsin.

For more information about Premises Registration, please visit the Premises Registration website.
https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/PremisesRegistration.aspx