



Animal Science

DAIRY MEATS GOAT MEETING

March 21

1:00-4:00 pm, Y & A

Now is the time to get started on your Dairy Meat Goat project. The 4-H Goat Committee has scheduled this informational meeting to help members with a feeding program, worming schedule and much more. Please call the Extension Office at 723-2125 by Wednesday, March 18 if you are planning to attend.

CATTLE FITTING CLINIC

WHAT: Cattle Fitting Clinic during the Pioneer Showdown

FEATURING: Bob May, LOL/Purina Show Feed Ambassador

SPONSORED BY: Premier Co-op

NASCO SUPPORTS LOCAL FAIRS

Nasco has been a supporter of agriculture related youth programs and is offering a rebate program to 4-H members. Grant County will receive a 5% rebate at the end of the fair season on all purchases made through the Nasco Farm & Ranch Catalog. You must use the coupon number below when placing your order: #9800229(x) Grant County.
www.eNasco.com/farmland_ranch 1-800-558-9595

WHEN: Saturday, April 25
10:30-11:30 am

WHERE: Grant County Fairgrounds
Livestock Pavilion

WHO: All area youth interested in showing cattle

LABELING INFORMATION FOR ALL GOAT, SHEEP, POULTRY, BEEF, SWINE PROJECT MEMBERS

Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) began September 30, 2008. This year's fairs will be the first impacted by this change. COOL is a USDA rule that provides consumers the information about where, specifically which country, their food comes from.

It is important for youth who purchase and or raise their animals to know the origin of their animals, especially if sold to large-scale processors (Tyson, etc.), buying stations (Equity, etc.) or to local meat processors who sell to major retailers. All swine brought to the Grant County Fair will be processed at a Tyson plant which requires an affidavit of Country of Origin.

Youth exhibitors may not know the final destination of their project at the time it is sold, therefore, all exhibitors should complete an affidavit of Country of Origin of their animal to be passed to the buyer of their project animal.

For more information, access the USDA COOL website for these updates at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/> and click on Country of Origin Labeling (COOL), or go to the Extension Youth Livestock Website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/animalscience/youthlivestock/index.cfm> and click on COOL.

SWINE ID DATES SET— The dates to identify your swine project for the Grant County Fair are April 18-May 3. Swine project leader and FFA advisors are being asked to help with these weigh-ins. To prevent the spread of disease, all swine must be weighed on the farm. Youth must contact their 4-H swine project leader, FFA advisor or the Grant County Extension Office prior to April 18 to set up a time for weigh-in. Members need to have their swine in a clean dry location and be on hand to help identify their swine. Members may identify up to 10 animals. This can either be done individually or under a family unit. Example: a brother or sister identifying 20 pigs under a family unit will have the option of bringing any 6 of the 20 pigs to the fair. All swine exhibitors must be MAQA certified. All swine members must have an affidavit declaring Country of Origin with their pigs when they arrive at the fair.

Weigh Date	Weight Limit
4-18	43
4-19	44
4-20	46
4-21	47
4-22	49
4-23	50
4-24	52
4-25	53
4-26	55
4-27	56
4-28	58
4-29	59
4-30	61
5-1	62
5-2	64
5-3	65

MAQA CERTIFICATION

All swine exhibitors at the Grant County Fair and Wisconsin State Fair must be MAQA Certified in order to show and sell. There will be two sessions for exhibitors to be certified: Tuesday, May 5 and Wednesday, July 29, 7:00pm at the Youth & Ag Center. Exhibitors are asked to call the Extension Office to pre-register.

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR SWINE WEIGH-IN

All junior and open show market swine exhibitors wishing to exhibit barrows during the 2009 Wisconsin State Fair, August 6-16 are required to attend one of the regionally located weigh-in sites. Grant County weigh-in date is April 18, 9:00—12:00 noon at the Grant County Fairgrounds swine barn. The DNA identification program will be conducted at the weigh-in sites and will cost \$10 per animal. The show will remain a terminal show. Barrows must weigh 60 pounds and under at initial check-ins on April 18. Lean Gain will be calculated using starting weight and scan data collected at WSF.

Swine Weigh-in Guidelines:

- All Junior and Open exhibitors interested in exhibiting market swine during the WSF MUST identify their barrow during one of the district Registration sessions.
- All swine must be castrated.
- No boars will be weighed in.
- All swine identified for the WSF will be identified by ear tags and ear notched.
- Barrows need to be identified in the exhibitor's name or immediate family member's name only.
- There is no limit to the number of swine pre-identified per exhibitor.
- Each junior exhibitor showing in the junior show will only be allowed to bring two of the identified market barrows to the Junior Market Show at the WSF.

The exhibitor and or their parents/legal guardian must be in attendance to sign and verify the DNA.

DAIRY FITTING CLINIC & JUDGING CONTEST

Saturday, April 4,
Sales Pavilion, Fairgrounds, Lancaster

Registration 10:00 am
Fitting Clinic 10:30 am
Judging Noon

The dairy fitting clinic and judging contest is open to all 4-H members interested in learning more about fitting and judging dairy cattle. Darin Pagenkopf will be demonstrating dairy fitting techniques to get you ready for the show season. Dairy judging members will be split into groups and judge six classes of dairy heifers and cows. The juniors will be doing TAQ sheets while the seniors are giving their oral reasons. Anyone interested in hosting a judging workout at their farm should call Chris Moore at 822-6000. The top individuals from the workouts will be selected to represent Grant County at Area Animal Science Day in June.

If you attend both the dairy fitting clinic and dairy judging contest they will meet your requirements for the cheese sale at the Grant County Fair. Contact the Extension Office at 723-2125 by Wednesday, April 1 to pre-register. Lunch will be provided by the 4-H Dairy Committee.

UW-PLATTEVILLE BLOCK & BRIDLE STEER & HEIFER JACKPOT SHOWS

April 25, Fairgrounds, Lancaster

UWP Block & Bridle is again hosting their Pioneer Showdown Steer and Heifer Jackpot show. New this year will be a double show weekend with a show on Saturday AND Sunday.

Purina/Land O Lakes in cooperation with Premier Coop will be sponsoring a fitting & grooming clinic featuring the talents of Bob May of Mineral Point WI from 10:30-11:30 am, on Saturday.

For more information and entry information, see the website at www.pioneershowdown.com or contact Alicia Prill-Adams, UW-Platteville Block & Bridle Advisor, 608-342-1326.

SHEEP MANAGEMENT WISLINE

Thursday, March 5, 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Youth & Ag Center, Lancaster

Topic: Opportunities for Sheep Dairying in Wisconsin.

Speakers: Yves Berger, Sheep Researcher, Spooner Agricultural Research Station, Spooner

Larry Meisegeier, Vice-President, Wisconsin Sheep Dairy Cooperative and Dairy Sheep Producer, Bruce, WI

KELLY MEIER HORSE SCHOLARSHIP

The Beetown Busy Braves 4-H club offers a \$200 scholarship in memory of Kelly Meier who was a member of their club. The scholarship will go towards camp fees for 4-H Horse & Pony Camp sponsored by the Dubuque Trailblazers held June 14-20.

4-H members grade 3-13 may apply by writing a brief story on what you want to learn from 4-H Horse Camp and what are your future plans or goals in the 4-H horse or pony project. Call the Grant County Extension Office or the 4-H website at <http://grant.uwex.edu> for an application. Applications are due by Friday, April 24.

MIDWEST HORSE FAIR

The 29TH Midwest Horse Fair will be held April 17-19 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. This event is sponsored by the Wisconsin State 4-H Horse Council. You will see a variety of horse breeds, demonstrations, exhibitions and clinics as well as commercial exhibits. Don't forget to check out the Wisconsin Horse Association Tack Sale. For more information check out their website at www.midwesthorsefair.com



Animal Science

Grant County 4-H Happy Hoppers Rabbit Club—Discussing rabbit show and passing out entry forms, posters and sponsorship forms. Need everyone to help. Everyone is welcome to join the Rabbit Club. Our next meeting will be March 2 at 7:00 pm, in the South Meeting Room.

We will be hosting a spring rabbit show on March 29. The show will be held at the Grant County Fairgrounds in Lancaster. All youth ages 4-19, regardless of their enrollment in 4-H, is invited to attend. Awards will be given for the Best of Breed, Best Opposite Sex of Breed, Best of Show, Reserve Best of Show and all Showmanship class winners. Ribbons will also be given to every entry. Early registrations are accepted at a cost of \$1 per animal and must be received by March 14. Registration will be taken the day of the show at a cost of \$1 per animal. There will also be four showmanship classes and exhibitors have the option of signing up at a cost of \$1. Registration begins at 7:30 am on show day and will be taken until 8:45 am. The show begins at 9:00 am. To receive an entry form or if you have any questions, please call Cary or Emily Allen at 608-943-6164.

RABBIT & POULTRY SKILL-A-THON - On Tuesday, April 7, 7:00 pm, the Rabbit & Poultry Committee will be holding a Rabbit & Poultry skill-a-thon. Members will test their knowledge on breeds and characteristics of rabbit and poultry. This is a great way to learn more about your project and have fun doing it.

POULTRY CERTIFICATION- All 4-H and FFA members must have their poultry enrolled with the Wisconsin Department of Ag as a “Wisconsin tested flock” or “Wisconsin Associate Flock” in order to exhibit at fairs this summer. All poultry over 4 months of age and turkeys over 6 months must be tested. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

CAT MEETINGS-Only one meeting attendance is required. Please mark your calendars.

March 4, Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Informational Meeting
 April 28, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Speaker
 June 20, Saturday, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Mock Cat Show

All meetings will start promptly in South Room at Youth & Ag Center. The first two meetings will last one hour, feel free to leave in one hour, though questions/answers sometimes make them longer. If you have any questions call Hillary Taylor at 994-2689 or Greg & Donna Cyborski at 763-2181.

WAGS-N-WIGGLES PRACTICE SCHEDULE- All Thursday practices start at 6:30 pm, near or in the show barns. All Sunday practices start at 6:00 pm, near or in the show barns.

Following is a list of meeting dates:

April 16 & 26	July 9, 19 & 30
May 7, 17 & 28	August 9
June 7, 18 & 28	

In case of bad weather, make sure Nicki and Gary have your phone number and e-mail address, we will contact you before that night. We also broadcast it on WGLR radio station (97.7). You can also contact us at our home phone number, 943-8869, Gary is home by 4:30 pm.

**Wags & Wiggles Meeting
 March 12, 7:30 pm, Y & A**

LIVESTOCK AUCTION SEMINARS

MAQA CERTIFIED

All swine exhibitors at the Grant County Fair and Wisconsin State Fair must be MAQA certified each year in order to show and sell.

This is a listing of Livestock Auction Seminars that have been set so far. We may be adding more later. It is important that you check this page each month for updated seminars. We also encourage you to attend a seminar related to your project and NOT TO WAIT until the last seminar. Those youth planning to sell in this year's Grant County Junior Fair Livestock Auction must attend at least one of these seminars as a condition of sale. Seminars are open to the public so anyone (youth and adults) can attend as they choose. **Call the Extension Office at 723-2125 to pre-register at least 2 days in advance. Seminars that do not have enough pre-registered participants will be cancelled.**

- ❑ **Saturday, March 21**, State Livestock Skillathon, Arlington
- ❑ **Saturday, April 4**, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, Dairy Judging and Fitting Clinic, Fairgrounds, Lancaster
- ❑ **Tuesday, April 7**, 7:00 pm, Rabbit & Poultry Skillathon, Fairgrounds, Lancaster
- ❑ **Wednesday, April 22**, 7:30 pm, Surviving the Auction and Continuing the Tradition, Y & A
- ❑ **Tuesday, May 12**, Rabbits 6:30 & Poultry 7:30 pm, Mock Rabbit & Poultry Show, Fairgrounds
- ❑ **Tuesday, May 5**, 7:30, MAQA Meeting, Y & A
- ❑ **Saturday, May 16**, 9:30 am, County Livestock Day, Fairgrounds, Lancaster
- ❑ **Thursday, June 11**, Badger Livestock Judging Camp, West Allis
- ❑ **Sunday—Tuesday June 14-16**, Badger Dairy Camp, West Allis
- ❑ **Tuesday, July 14**, Rabbits 7:00 & Poultry 6:30 pm, Rabbit & Poultry Showmanship Clinic, Y & A
- ❑ **Wednesday, July 29**, 7:30 pm, MAQA Meeting

OTHER SEMINAR OPTIONS: If you attend a beef, sheep, swine, dairy, goat, rabbit or poultry meeting or event, call the Extension Office to request approval as an educational seminar.

FFA EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The following educational seminars will be offered to FFA members in order to qualify to sell livestock or cheese at the 2009 Grant County Junior Livestock Auction. FFA members must attend at least one of these seminars or one of the educational seminars offered by the Grant County Extension Office. Vo-Ag Instructors will be required to submit a list of FFA members who have attended these seminars to the Grant County Extension Office by May 8.

1. Participate in the UW Madison Meat Evaluation Contest Practice Workout—TBA
2. Participate in a Dairy, Livestock or Meat Evaluation Contest at one of the area FFA skills contest.

March 26 - UW Platteville	TBA - Belleville
March 21 (Tentatively) - Janesville	April 24 - State FFA Competition