EXTENSION **McLennan County Livestock** Newsletter July 2024 Edition

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Special points of interest:

Major Show Dates Major Show Judges Tag Order Dates Major Show Updates Jackpot Shows Sheep Classification Updates Amarillo Classic Show Show Pig Selection Goat Prep Air Flow Heat Stress

2025 Major Show Sheep & Goat Tag Orders

Its time once again to get your tag orders in for the 2024 major shows and MCJLS. These tags are for all market sheep, market goats, registered breeding sheep & goats, and wether dams & does.

Tags will be \$20 per tag and are due to the Extension office by August 15th.

Late tags will be \$35 if ordered after August 16th

Order Forms can be found at the following link:

Order forms will be sent out when available

If you validated breeding animals (registered or wether dams/does) in the summer and/or last year they are still good and do not require additional validation.

Also, if you validated market animals in June they do not have to be revalidated unless they change ownership.

Validation will be October 16th @ Extraco & October 28th @ Axtell

2024 Fall Heifer Tag/UIN Orders

Its time to order Heifer tags for the Spring major shows and MCJLS, if your heifer has already been validated then she is good unless she changed owner or breed. These tags will be **\$30** per tag and orders must be to the Extension office by August 15th If you ordered tags in the Summer and did not use them, they will be rolled over to this order and can be used in October and no additional tags will need to be ordered. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Order Forms can be found at the following link:

Order forms will be sent out when available

Validation will be in October 29th @ Extension office and October TBA

2024 Fall Major Show Entry Deadlines

It is time once again to start making plans for the 2023 Fall major livestock shows. If you are entering as a 4-H member at these shows the following dates are the entry deadlines you must abide by to allow us to get you entered in these shows. Please make sure to note the updated and earlier deadlines this year due to shows making their entries due sooner. This includes all livestock and contest.

- West Texas Fair- July 17th to CEO by 4pm
- State Fair of Texas- August 8th to the CEO by 4pm
- Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo- August 8th to CEO by 4pm

Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo- exhibitor enters themselves online by October 1st All entry forms can be found at the following link when they become available https://mclennan.agrilife.org/links/4-h/4-h-projects/livestock-news/









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Steers

MCJLS only Validation- September 10th at Extension office 5-6pm

Heifers

Fall Major Heifer Tag orders due- August 15th

Fall Major Heifer Validation- October 29th @ Extension office and October TBA

Sheep & Goat

Major Tag orders due- August 15th Major Validation- October 16th @ Extraco and October 28th @ Axtell FFA Barn MCJLS Validation- October 16th @ Extraco and October 28th @ Axtell FFA Barn

<u>Swine</u>

State Fair Validation- June 12th at Extension office from 5-6pm/ June 25th at West Auction Barn from 10-11am Major Tag orders due- September Major Validation- November 13th @ Extraco & November TBA in West

MCJLS Validation- November 13th @ Extraco & November TBA in West

Broilers

Major orders due- August 23rd / Pickup-MCJLS Orders due- October 1st / Pickup-State Fair Pickup- August 19-23

Turkeys

Major Pickup- November

Rabbits

January 6th at Extraco in the Glass room. Meat Pens Only

Show Entry Information

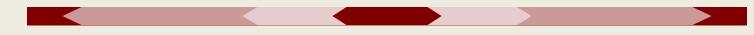
West Texas Fair- Entries due July 17th

State Fair of Texas & Heart O' Texas Fair- Entries due August 8th

Heart O' Texas Fair Calf Scramble- Entries Due August 8th

Spring Major Show Entry Day- November 6th

All tag order forms can be found at the following link: https://mclennan.agrilife.org/links/4-h/4-h-projects/livestock-news/



2024 MCJLS only Steer Validation

Exhibitors wishing to county only validate a steer must do so on September 10th at the McLennan County Extension office from 5-6pm. All steers will be tagged on the trailer and paperwork must be filled out when you arrive

If you have questions or concerns, please let us know.

2024 Heat O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Calf Scramble Entries

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo Calf Scramble Applications for 4-H Members will be due to the Extension office by August 23rd

They have 2 options for youth to participate in, the Traditional Scramble & Chute-out and then the Scramble Stampede (tournament style)

Entry Forms will be sent out as soon as they become available

2025 Major Show Broiler Orders

If you are wanting to show broilers at any of the 2025 Major livestock shows through 4-H please make sure to get those order forms submitted by August 23rd

These are for 4-H members only, if you are wanting to show FFA please check with your advisor, and these are for major only, MCJLS broiler orders are due October

Order forms will be sent out when available

2025 Major Show Swine Tag Orders

It is time to start thanking about ordering your Major show Swine tags. These will be due to the Extension office by mid September

All major show barrows, and gilts must order tags.

Order forms will be sent out when available

Validation will be in November

2025 MCJLS Broiler Orders

If you are wanting to show broilers at the 2025 McLennan County Junior livestock those orders will be due to Riesel FFA by October 1st

Order Forms will be sent out when available



Livestock barns vary in shapes, sizes and material, but it is always important to take airflow and circulation into consideration when creating an environment for your animals to thrive.

During hot weather, getting the air moving is one of the simplest and most effective ways to keep livestock and exhibitors cool. Livestock facilities require both ventilation and circulation of air year-round. Ventilation is the exchange of interior and exterior air, whereas circulation is the mixing of air within a space to prevent stagnant conditions.

Why is Air Circulation Important?

- Consistent circulation helps reduce temperatures, causes less stress on animals and keeps their performance levels steady
- Dry, cool environments are less likely to attract pests and will reduce the risk or spread of fungus
- Control heat & humidity and reduce odor

Ways to achieve optimal airflow:

1.Ventilation: A ventilation system ensures that the warm, dusty, humid and odiferous barn air is continually replaced by fresh outside air. A well-ventilated barn should not have issues with humidity or odors. Ventilation systems can include natural elements, such as operable windows and ridge vents, along with mechanized elements, such as exhaust fans.

2.Circulation: Within the barn, air circulation is equally important. Allowing air to become stagnant can lead to issues with ammonia and condensation, as well as it feeling stuffy, making it more difficult to breathe. Largediameter, low-speed overhead fans slowly and gently mix the air throughout a space, creating consistent temperatures from ceiling to floor. Because these fans use their large size—up to 24 feet in diameter—rather than speed to move massive amounts of air, they are an energy-efficient approach to comprehensive air movement. For smaller barns needing more budget friendly solutions, small box fans or oscillating fans placed slightly above each pen or animal is also a great way to ensure good circulation.

3.Insulation. While this is not a way to create airflow, it is certainly a way to make the most of your efforts in creating the perfect environment for your livestock. Insulating both the ceiling and walls will keep your barn warmer in the winter months and cooler in the summer heat. Depending on your barn and materials, there are multitudes of ways to achieve insulating your facilities.



McLennan County Livestock Newsletter



Summer is right around the corner, and with summer comes heat and humidity. No matter the hours of work and preparation you've put into your livestock projects, heat stress is a challenge to plan for and manage.

While we typically think about heat stress in extreme temperatures, the reality is that anytime the temperature exceeds 70 degrees livestock are adversely affected. Heat stress causes increased respiration rate, suppressed appetite, fatigue and dehydration, all signs of a lowered immune response. When we think about these traits and the way they impact production, it becomes very evident that the strenuous expectations we put on our show livestock to perform at the highest level and look exceptional while doing so clearly becomes a challenge.

As managers, it is imperative that we follow best practices and implement some simple, but important steps to ensure fewer setbacks due to heat stress and in turn, experience greater success with our show livestock projects.

First, **take a proactive approach**, and don't just react to the temperature changes. Watch the weather, and make wise decisions. It is a lot harder to bring down livestock's body temperature once they are hot than it is to manage it before it rises.

Next, **manage your facility**, and make sure it is comfortable for your animals. Be sure your animals can get out of direct sunlight into a shaded setting. Managing air flow and temperature is very important. Whether your facility at home has fans, misters, or even an elaborate cooler, controlling airflow is crucial. If you can provide an environment that minimizes exposure to the direct sunlight and allows for air to move through, even in the most extreme heat, you can drastically reduce the outside temperature. Keeping bedding down and misting water in the air will also help cool the air that fans push through your facility.

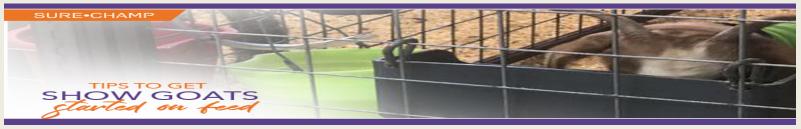
As the temperature rises, **consider modifying your feeding program to accommodate cooler periods**. Just like humans, livestock don't want to eat when it is extremely hot. Feed earlier in the mornings so they have a chance to eat and be moved into the barn before it gets hot. Also pay attention to the location of their water supply. Smaller troughs provide more water flow and result in cooler water. Make sure lines that serve as water sources are not exposed to heat resulting in the water in the lines to get extremely hot.

Rinsing animals with cool water multiple times a day will help drop their core temperature better than anything else you do. When rinsing, focus on cooling their underline and head as it will help cool them faster. Don't just get them wet but allow cool water to run over them a while to help drop their body temperature.

It doesn't take long for livestock to feel the impact of heat stress when they are removed from the comforts of a temperaturecontrolled environment. It is essential to think about this prior to leaving for a show. For cattle that have been kept in a cooler it is very important to raise the temperature of the cooler a week to 10 days ahead, every day slowly increasing the thermostat to help them acclimate. Taking them straight from a cooler to a hot show will cause extreme stress which will ruin your opportunity for success.

Strategically plan when you haul to shows. **During hot periods of the year hauling at night is the most ideal** to help reduce the time they will be exposed to the heat of a trailer. Make sure you have adjusted ventilation on trailer to allow for adequate air flow while traveling.

Most importantly once you arrive to the show it's critical to **maintain the same schedule of caring for your stock**. Continue to feed early and maintain body temperature by keeping animals rinsed regularly and under fans. It's easy to get excited to see your friends and lose focus on your projects, but lots of preparation and time have been put into your animals so it's critical to continue your same routine at the show that you have done at home. Heat stress can be a challenge at shows but can also be turned into an advantage for those who prepare properly. Stay positive, stay cool and prep to win!



Trends have changed over time in the competitive livestock arena. Frame size, muscling requirements, feeding and fitting techniques have evolved over the years, and perhaps one of the hottest trends to hit the show ring in the past few decades is the Boer goat. Showing market goats is relatively new, as in your grandpa probably didn't do this "back in his day." As with any livestock project, getting a new project animal adapted to a new environment, getting them and keeping them on feed and water and keeping them healthy are all first steps to a successful show project.

Justin Burns, owner of J & J Livestock, Galt, Calif., raises, shows and sells Boer goats across the country. He said the number one thing exhibitors need to do is ask questions of the breeders or sellers of their new show goat projects. Find out about their genetics. Is your new show project a faster growing, early maturing animal based on its parentage or siblings' past performances? Or, do its genetics take added time to bloom and mature? And, find out about what type of feed the animal has been on to help make that transition as smooth as possible when getting your new goat home.

"Finding out what kind of feed the goat has been on and gradually transitioning to the kind of feed the new owner/exhibitor wants to put the goat on is very important to getting it acclimated," Burns said. "If you're keeping them on the same feed, minimizing stress and keeping the goat in a quiet environment that is sustainable for the goat is best when introducing it to a new show barn."

When it comes to feed, Burns feeds an alfalfa-based, vitamin-fortified pellet that the goats can stay on from weaning through their final destination. He does not recommend using a textured feed because of the inconsistency he's seen. With textured feed, the goats will sort off the corn and eat that compared to the vitamin pellet they really need in their diet. Since he is feeding an alfalfa-based pellet, he said his goats don't require much extra forage in their diets.

"Feed quality nowadays is good enough we don't have to give them the roughage that we used to. However, when you first get young goats home, giving some forage is important just to keep their gut going. They might not readily go to their feed in the beginning, so give them some alfalfa or grass hay that they can pick from," he said.

Burns emphasizes the importance of fresh feed, especially in the younger goats. He said even if they have a little left in their feed pan when it is time for the nightly feeding, it is acceptable to add more and mix it together. However, if they still have feed in their pan by the morning feeding, empty the pan, and start fresh.

A combination of good genetics, good nutrition and keeping them healthy will help a young exhibitor have a successful project, according to Burns. There are many supplements out there, and he said the key is knowing which supplement will work for the given situation.

"Our great ones have never had a sick day in their life. We've actually tracked that, and they never have. Simply, keeping them healthy, keeping good feed in front of them, keeping their water as fresh as possible and minimizing stress is the biggest thing."

"In terms of vitamins, we encourage our customers to use <u>Vita Charge® Liquid Boost®</u>. We feel that it keeps the goats' appetites up and helps minimize stress. We drench it to them orally, so we know they get it, and there is no foreign taste in their water off the bat," Burns said.

He adds that keeping goats healthy, just like any livestock, begins with digestive health. That is where the Amaferm[®] advantage in the Liquid Boost and other supplements Burns uses and promotes to his customers comes into action. Amaferm is a precision-based prebiotic designed to enhance digestibility by amplifying the nutrient supply within for maximum performance. It is research-proven to increase intake, digestion and absorption. Amaferm is in all <u>Vita Charge</u> and <u>Sure Champ[®]</u> products.

"The biggest game changer has been keeping them on <u>Sure Champ Spark®</u> and having a source of Amaferm to keep their gut health right. Keeping that gut healthy, keeping them going forward is what makes those goats so much better. And when we get into hot months, we give them a good dose of <u>Sure Champ Climate Control Paste</u>, three times a week. It has really helped keep our goats on feed & water during the hottest times of the year," Burns said.

Although the Boer goats are relatively "new" to the livestock show ring, the importance of a good nutrition and health plan is not. Follow these simple tips to get your show goat project acclimated and eating because if they're not eating, you're not winning.



Before you are named Grand Champion, you must first find a baby pig with the makings of a champion. Mike McCoy of <u>Real McCoy Genetics</u>, would say it all starts with being structurally and skeletally sound so the pig has endurance in the show ring. McCoy believes the goal is to be the one that can last the longest in the ring, and you can't achieve that without one that is correct in its build.

Here is what to look for:

A Good Spine

Look for looseness in the spine. A high, tight spine is an indicator of future structural problems. A barrow that is loose in its skeleton will naturally carry its head high and be flexible in its movement.

Good Hip Structure

Pay attention to the tail set on the pig to identify good hip structure. A barrow should have a high tail set and should extend long and level from its hooks to pins. This, in conjunction with a good spine, is an immediate indicator of skeletal correctness.

Good Feet

The pig's feet should be square to the ground as it comes and goes. McCoy says to make sure weight is distributed evenly on all toes, and all four feet. This is an indicator that feet and joints are in line with the skeleton.

Good Pasterns

Pasterns shouldn't be too flat, nor too upright. The hog should be comfortable on its feet with dewclaws not touching the surface.

A Good Stride

McCoy suggests both ends of a pig's skeleton should drive in line with the body when it is on the move. Feet and legs should hit the ground square with all corners of its body while distributing weight evenly between both toes on each foot.

"Endurance is so crucial, especially when showing at the elite end," McCoy said. "The best ones are generally the ones that have to drive the longest. If the entire skeleton is not working together correctly, the pig will not have the athleticism for the long drive, and a lot of times it is what gets you sorted back into the pen more quickly."

2024 Fall Major Livestock Show General Calendar

			August 20	24		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29 WTF- Open Heifer Move in	30 WTF Jr Heifer Move in 10am- 3pm Hereford, Angua, Shorthom, Red Angua Jr Heifer Check in - 3-5pm Goat Move in 10am Goat Check in 3-5pm	31 WTF Jr Heifer show- 8am Hereford, Angus, Shorthorn, Red Angus Goat Show-8am Lamb Move in- 7am Lamb Move in-7pm
		5	September 2	2024		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 WTF Lamb Show-8am	2	3	4	5	6 WTF Heifer Move in-10am Heifer Check in-3-5pm ARB, Brangus, Beefmaster,	7 WTF Heifer Show- 8am ARB, Brangus, Beefmaster Heifer Move in-10am ORB & Simmental Heifer Check in-4pm
8 WTF Heifer show-8am ORB & Simmental	9	10	11	12 WTF Steer Move in-11am	13 WTF Steer Check in- 9am Swine Move in-1pm Swine Check in-8pm Open sheep move in-10am Open sheep Check in-3- Spm	14 WTF Steer Show- 8am Open Sheep Show-8am Swine Show-8:30am
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 HOT Heifer Move in Heifer Check in Heifer showmanship	26 HOT Heifer show	27 HOT Heifer Show STF Mkt Lamb Move in Mkt Lamb Check in	28 HOT Steer Move in Steer Classifying Steer Classifying Steer Showmanship STF Wave 1 Swine move ii Wave 1 Swine Check in Mikt Lamb Show
29 HOT Steer Show STF Mkt Goat Move in- Mkt Goat Check in- Wave 1 Swine Show	30 HOT Steer Show STF Wave 2 Swine move in Wave 2 Swine Check in Mkt Goat Show					

		C	October 202	4		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 STF Broiler Move in Broiler Show Wave 2 Swine Show Mkt Steer Arrival	2 STF Wave 3 Swine move in Wave 3 Swine Check in Mkt Steer Check in	3 STF Wave 3 Swine Shoiw Steer Show	4 HOT Lamb Move in - Lamb Check in- Lamb Showmanshp- STF Prospect Steer Move in Prospect Steer Check in Gilt Move in Gilt Check in	5 HOT Lamb Show STF Prospect Steer Show Gilt Show
6 HOT Livestock Judging Contest Lamb Show STF Prospect Steer Show Gilt Show	7 HOT Goat Move in Goat Check in Wether Doe Show Goat Showmanship STF Gilt Show Livestock Judging Contest Heifer Move in Brahma & Branqus	8 HOT Goat Show STF PamAM Heifer show Brangus & Brahman	9 HOT Goat Show STF Youth Heifer Show Brangus & Brahman	10 HOT Swine Move in Swine Check in Swine Showmanship STF Heifer Move in All other Americans	11 HOT Gilt Show STF Heifer Move in All other Americans Heifer Check in	12 HOT Swine Show STF PanAm Heifer show Beefmaster & Simbral
13 HOT Swine Show STF PanAm Heifer Show Gert & ARB Heifer Showmanship	14 STF Heifer show Beefmaster, Gert, Simbrah, ARB Wether Doe Move in Wether Doe Move in Wether Doe Check in Wether Doe Check in Wether Dam & Doe Showmanship	15 STF Wether Dam Show PanAm then Youth Wether Doe Show PanAm then Youth	16 STF Heifer Move in All British & Exotic	17 STF Heifer Move in All British & Exotic Heifer Check in	18 STF Reg Sheep Move in Reg Sheep Check in PanAm Heifer Show-N Angus, RAngus, Herebrd PanAm Heifer Show-S Char, Limi, Simi Shorthorn	19 STF Reg Sheep Show-PanAm Sheep Show-North Showmanship (Jr/INT) Chi, Limi, & Maine Heife Show-South Showmanship (Sr) Angus & Hereford BVF Hiefer Show Sheep Show Sheep Show Goat Show
20 STF Reg Sheep show- Youth Heifer show-North Char, Simi, ORB Heifer show-South R. Angus & Shorthorn BVF Steer Show Swine Show	21	22	23	24	25	26

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ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- 1 Show Dates/Location
 - Wednesday, December 4 Saturday, December 7; Full schedule TBD Amarillo Tri-State Fairgrounds, Amarillo, Texas Entries Open Approx. October 1 b

2. Judges - TBD

Entry Information a. Eligible Exhibitors 3

- i
- Open to the world Grades $K 12^{th}$ grade; no HS graduates; no additional "handlers" in show ring except in special needs circumstances in special needs circumstances
 iii. Fee - \$95 per head/per species; includes Welcome Dinner, Showmanship, Show
 iv. Entry limit per exhibitor - 4 per species
 v. Limited total entries per species; entries accepted first-come, first served
 vi. Showmanship Divisions by Grade
 1. Pee-Wee: K - 3rd Grade
 2. Junior: 4th - 6th Grade
 3. Intermediate: 7th - 9th Grade
 4. Senior: Grades 10th - 12th Grade
 b. Market Animals - No breeding divisions at this time
 i. Health Requirement - Must comply with TAHC requirements (CVI, ID)
 ii. Sex
- ii.
 - Sex
 - Cattle Steers only (haired) Pigs Barrows & Gilts (shown together within breed) 2.
 - 3
 - Sheep Wethers only Goats Wethers only
 - iii.
- Goats Wethers
 Goats Wethers
 Turn-In Weight Range

 Cattle #1000 No Max
 Swine #190 #300
 Swine #85 No Max
 Max

 - Sheep #85 No Max Goats #55 No Max 4.

4. Breeds/Divisions

- Classify your own; subject to judge emphasis
 Cattle Hereford (Horned/Polled), British Cross (Angus/Red Angus/Shorthorn), American Cross, Black Cross, All Other Cross
 Pigs Berkshire, Dark OPB, White OPB, Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire, Light Cross, Pigs All Other Cross
 - iii. Sheep Southdown, Dorper, Finewool, White-Faced Cross, Medium Wool
 iv. Goats 3 Weight Divisions

5. Premiums/Prizes - Minimum guaranteed

- Payment Breakdown All premiums of \$1000 or greater will be paid out on a 75%/25% a. split. 75% paid following the show; 25% paid in the form of scholarship when the exhibitor graduates. (Example: Grand Overall Steer Premium = \$15,000 paid following show; \$5,000 paid as scholarship when exhibitor graduates)
- b. Showmanship Divisions
 - i. Each showmanship division winner will receive \$1,000 premium + Buckle
 - ii. Reserve showmanship division winner will receive \$500 + Banner
 - Other showmanship prizes TBD iii.
- Overall Premiums Grand & Reserve Champion Overall (see Terminal/Non-Terminal C. below)
 - i. Cattle Grand \$20,000; Reserve \$15,000
 - Pigs Grand \$10,000; Reserve \$7,500 ii.
 - iii. Sheep - Grand - \$7,500; Reserve - \$5,000
 - Goat Grand \$7,500; Reserve \$5,000 iv
- d. Breed/Division Premiums Top 5 will be selected in each breed/division
 i. Cattle: Champion \$1,000; Res. \$500; 3rd \$300; 4th \$200; 5th \$100
 ii. Pigs: Champion \$750; Res. \$500; 3rd \$300; 4th \$200; 5th \$100
 iii. Sheep: Champion \$750; Res. \$500; 3rd \$300; 4th \$200; 5th \$100
 iii. Sheep: Champion \$750; Res. \$500; 3rd \$300; 4th \$200; 5th \$100
 - iv. Goat: Champion \$750; Res. \$500; 3rd \$300; 4th \$200; 5th \$100
 - Classes/Heats Ribbons & Other Prizes

6. **Terminal/Non-Terminal**

- a. Exhibitors of the Grand and Reserve Overall animals will have the option to turn down the premium amount and take their animal home. However, if the exhibitor chooses to accept the Grand or Reserve Grand Overall premiums, their animal will be terminal.
- All other animals will be non-terminal. Exhibitors will take their animals home. There is no b. floor option at this time.

7. Full Fit

All species will be full-fit within outlined rules which will be announced with the release of a. the official rule book at a later date

8. **Drug Testing**

- Grand & Reserve Overall of each species will be subject to drug/residue testing a.
- b. Random placing in each species may be subject to drug/residue testing

ALL INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Market Lamb Classification Guidelines (updated January 2024)

FINEWOOL

Acceptable

- 1. Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds.
- 2. Silky, white face.
- 3. Silky ears, medium to moderate in length.
- 4. Soft pelt.
- 5. Yellow to white hooves (neutral).
- 6. Black pads on hooves and black dew claws.
- Minimal amount of black streaking in the hooves. Less than 1/8 of cumulative hoof surface.
- 8. Nose should be neutral to pink in color.
- 9. May be polled or horned. Horns must be indicative of acceptable Finewool breeds.

Discriminatory

- 1. Moderate amounts of brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool.
- 2. Moderate freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, nose, and lips.
- 3. Black eyelashes.
- 4. Excessive black streaking in hooves more than 1/8 cumulative of hoof surface.
- 5. Birthmarks.

Absolute Disqualification

- 1. Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
- 2. Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.
- 3. Excessive brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool.
- 4. Excessive freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, nose, and lips.
- 5. Brown or black spots in hairline above the hooves to the dew claw.
- 6. Solid black toe or hooves.
- 7. Black lambs.
- 8. Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
- 9. Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.
- 10. Head, ear and/or horn shape non-typical to the Finewool breeds (Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds).

Finewools classed out will be assigned to either the Finewool Cross or Medium wool breeds at the determination of the classifiers.

FINEWOOL CROSS

Acceptable

- The standard for Finewool Crosses is a Finewool Ewe (Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds) bred to a Hampshire or Suffolk Rams only.
- 2. Soft pelt which is characteristic of ½ blood wool (60's-62's spinning count).
- 3. Face and ears should be soft and silky.
- 4. Spotting and/or brown face and ears.
- 5. Moderate spotting and/or brown legs not extending above the rear flank and fore flank.
- 6. Wool must be present below the hocks on the rear legs; wool below the knees on the front legs is not necessary.
- 7. Reddish, rust colored legs are acceptable.
- 8. Birthmarks.
- 9. Scurs are acceptable.

Discriminatory

- 1. Excessive black spotting in the skin above the knees and hocks.
- 2. Moderate black or chocolate brown color on face, ears and legs (including wool).
- 3. Moderately coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
- 4. White-faced or ring-eyed crosses.
- 5. Moderately coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.
- 6. Horns are discriminatory on finewool crosses (except classed out finewools with horns indicative of acceptable finewool breeds).

Absolute Disqualification

- 1. Excessive black or dark chocolate brown color on face, ears, and legs (including wool).
- 2. Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
- 3. Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs.
- 4. Total absence of wool on rear legs.
- 5. Black lambs.
- 6. Evidence of other breeds including, but not limited to Dorset and Southdown breed types (head and ear shape of Dorset and/or Southdown).
- 7. Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
- 8. Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.

Market Lamb Classification Guidelines (updated January 2024)

SOUTHDOWN

Acceptable

- 1. Hair color on muzzle should be mouse-colored, gray to brown and match color on legs and pasterns.
- 2. Nostril pigmentation may be black to purplish-gray.
- 3. Head and muzzle should be broad and proportional to body.
- 4. Head of moderate length and in proportion to body.
- 5. Ears of moderate length, in proportion to body, and covered with short hair or wool.
- 6. Black hooves.
- 7. Slight chalk around eyes.
- 8. Slight chalk around muzzle.
- 9. Spots or speckles in the skin only when shorn.
- 10. Birthmarks.

Discriminatory

- 1. Solid white color or dark chocolate color on muzzle and/or head.
- 2. Coarse britch and/or harsh pelt.
- 3. Predominately pink nose with few black spots.
- 4. Excessive black pigmentation on ears.
- 5. No hair or wool on ears.
- 6. Scurs.
- 7. Absence of wool between scur areas.
- 8. Striped hooves.
- 9. Reddish, rust colored hair above hoof to pastern.
- 10. Black fibers in wool outside of birthmark.

Absolute Disqualification

- 1. Speckled face, ears, or legs.
- 2. Horns.
- 3. White hooves.
- 4. Intentional alteration of hair color or skin pigmentation.
- 5. Total pink pigmentation of nostrils.
- 6. Black lambs.
- 7. Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
- 8. Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge.
- 9. Excessive ear size and length not in proportion to head.
- 10. Head, ear shape non-typical to the Southdown breed.

DORPER Acceptable

- 1. Must be a Dorper or White Dorper.
- 2. Conformation: long, deep, wide body with well sprung ribs and excellent muscling.
- Color: Dorper white sheep with black limited to head, neck, and forequarters not below the knee or behind the heart girth; White Dorper – white sheep.
- 4. Must have at least 1/3 hair primarily on belly, forearm, and britch.
- 5. 100% hair below the knees and hocks.
- 6. 100% hair forward of poll.
- 7. Moderate size ear with no wool covering.
- 8. Head should be strong, bold with a deep jaw.
- 9. Polled or small horns or scurs.
- 10. Spots or speckled pigment in the skin only when shorn.
- 11. Black spots above the hoof line and below the dewclaw.

Discriminatory

- 1. Tall, leggy, shallow, and/or narrow-bodied lambs.
- 2. A limited amount of dark fibered spots on body and underline behind heart girth not to exceed a cumulative total of the size of a softball.
- 3. A white sheep with brown or red colored speckles in the covering, confined to the head and neck.
- 4. Excessive wool covering more than 2/3 of body (belly, forearm, and britch).
- 5. Wool forward of poll.
- 6. Heavy horns.

Absolute Disqualification

- 1. All wool or very little evidence of hair on belly, forearm, or britch.
- 2. Wool below the knees or hocks.
- 3. Wool on the ears.
- 4. Excessive amount of black fibered spots, on the body and underline behind heart girth exceeding a cumulative total of the size of a softball.
- 5. Black below the knee/hock to the dewclaw.
- 6. Tri-colored sheep
- 7. A white sheep with black hooves (stripes or solid) and/or black on nose.
- 8. Solid brown, red, rust colored head.
- 9. Strong breed characteristics of breeds other than Dorper or White Dorper, including but not limited to characteristics such as long pendulous ears and long narrow muzzle.
- 10. Head, ear shape non-typical of the Dorper or White Dorper breed.
- 11. Surgical alterations other than re-docking.
- 12. Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene.
- 13. Evidence of color alterations.



McLennan County Livestock Newsletter



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Major Show Judges

State Fair of Texas

- Mkt Steer- Brandon Callis
- Mkt Sheep- Scott Greiner
- Mkt Goat- Kyle Smithwick
- Mkt Barrow- Galen McCune
- Broiler- Jacob Price

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo

Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo

Sandhills Livestock Show

Ft. Worth Livestock Show

MCJLS

- Mkt Steer- Ronald Blum
- Mkt Lamb- Clay Burson
- Mkt Goat-Denton Lowe
- Mkt Swine- Jacob Edmondson
- Heifers- Harrison Smith
- Rabbit-
- Poultry-

San Angelo Livestock Show

- Mkt Steer- Brent Murphy
- Mkt Goat- Shannon Scotten
- Mkt Lamb Miles Gibbs
- Mkt Swine- Dr. Mark Hoge

San Antonio Livesotck Show

- Mkt Steers- Blake Nelson
- Mkt Steer Ast.- Spencer Scotten
- Mkt Goat- Eric Zimmerman
- Mkt Lamb- Dan Willoughby
- Mkt Swine- Will Hilty & Ben Bobell
- Broilers- Micah Osburn
- Turkey Toms- Keith Staggs
- Turkey Hens- Keith Scott
- Commercial Does- Barrett Carlisle
- Commercial Ewes- Joe Hobbs
- Registered Breeding Sheep- Charles Seidensticker
- Cross Gilts- Eric Polich
- Purebred Gilts- Blane Olson & Assistant- Klye Knauth
- Wave 1 Heifers
 - Blake Bloomberg- Simbrah, R.Brangus, Brangus ARB
- Harlan Yocham- Grey & Red Brahman, Beefmaster, Gert
- Wave 2 Heifers
 - Nick Fitzsimmons- Angus, Limi, Char, R. Angus, Chi, ORB
 - Krisha Geffert- Herf, Simi, Shorthorn, P. Herf, Maine

Houston Livestock Show

- Mkt Steers- Jack Ward
- Mkt Goat- Chad Coburn
- Mkt Lamb- Jason Simpson

Rodeo Austin

- Mkt Steer- Brady Jensen
- Mkt Goat- Brandon Callis
- Mkt Lamb- Steve Sturtz
- Mkt Swine- Cody Hayes
- Breeding Heifers- Kyle Perez & Wravenna Bloomberg
- Wether Doe- Skyler Scotten
- Wether Dam- Jordan Amburgey

McLennan County Extension Office

4224 Cobbs Drive. Waco, Texas 76710

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We're on the Web! https://mclennan.agrilife.org/

Upcoming Events: Tag Order Deadlines:

Major Show Sheep & Goat Tag Orders Due- August 15th

Fall Heifer Tag Orders Due August 15th

Major Show Broilers- August 23^{rd}

> Major Show Swine-September

Validation Dates:

Show Entry Dates West Texas Fair Due July 17th

State Fair & Heart O' Texas Due August 8th

HOTFR Calf Scramble-August 23rd

Show Dates

2024 West Texas Fair September 5-14, 2024

*8/30-9/2- Heifers (Hereford, Angus, Red Angus, Shorthorn) & Market Sheep & Goats *9/7-9/8- Heifers (ARB, Brangus, Beefmaster, ORB, Simi)

* 9/12-9/14- Swine, Breeding Sheep, & Steers

2024 State Fair Livestock Show

- September 27- October 20, 2024
- Mkt Lamb- 9/27-9/28
- Mkt Goat- 9/29-9/30
- Mkt Swine
- Wave 1-9/28-9/29
- Wave 2- 9/30-10/1
- Wave 3- 10/2-10/3
- MKt Steer- 10/1-10/3
- Poultry-10/1
- Prospect Steer- 10/4-10/6
- Gilts- 10/4-10/7
- Wether Dams & Does- 10/13-10/15
- Breeding Sheep- 10/18-10/20
- Heifers
 - Brahman/Brangus- 10/7-10/9
 - Other Americans- 10/10-10/14
 - Exotic & British- 10/17-10/20

2024 Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo •

October 3-13, 2024

- Heifers- 9/25-9/27
- Steers- 9/28-9/30
- Lambs- 10/4-106
- Goats- 10/7-10/9
- Wether Does- 10/7
- Swine- 10/10-10/13
- Gilts- 10/10-10/11

- 2024 Brazos Valley Fair October 11-13 & 18-20 2024
- Lambs- 10/18-10/19
- Goats- 10/18-10/19
- Heifers- 10/18-10/19
- Swine- 10/19-10/20
- Steers- 10/19-10/20

2025 Sandhills Livestock Show

2025 Ft. Worth Livestock Show

January 17-February 8, 2025

2025 MCJLS

February 3-7, 2025

2025 San Angelo Livestock Show

February 1-16,2025

2025 San Antonio Livestock Show

February 6-23, 2025

- Gilts- 2/4-2/6
- Poultry- 2/5
- Commercial Ewe & Doe- 2/7-2/8
- Breeding Sheep & Goats- 2/7-2/8
- Mkt Goat- 2/10-2/11
- Mkt Lamb- 2/10-2/12
- Heifers- American- 2/10-2/11
- Heifers- British & Exotic- 2/13-2/14
- Mkt Swine- Dark wave= 2/14-2/16
- Mkt Swine- Light Wave= 2/18-2/20
- Mt Steers
- Wave 1-(Mine, Char, Simi, & Americans)- 2/17-2/18
- Wave 2- (British, Limi, All Crosses) 2/19-2/21

2025 Elite Gilt Showcase

2025 Houston Livestock Show March 4-23, 2025

2025 Rodeo Austin Livestock Show March 14-29. 2025

<u>Contacts</u>					
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NR Agent	AG Agent	4-H & Youth Development	Family & Community Health Agent		

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genet-ic information or veteran status

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