

DESCRIPTION The purpose of the 4-H livestock judging contest is to teach youngsters how to evaluate livestock and how to make and defend their decisions. The contest should be a learning experience. 4-H and FFA superintendents should coordinate with one another.

SUPERINTENDENTS' TASKS

1. Arrange for qualified Judge(s)
2. Explain to the Judge that her role is to teach youth how to evaluate live-stock by through example by thoroughly explaining the differences among animals and his reasons for placement
3. Arrange for and select the livestock--a good contest will have two classes each of cattle, sheep, and swine (market, feeder, or breeding stock) and oral reasons. Consult with superintendents.
4. Line up the supplies and helpers (three for group leaders and to hear oral reasons, plus animal handlers)
5. Identify the animals individually
6. Register contestants and assign to group leaders. Explain the rules, order of classes and rotation
7. Explain how to evaluate each class of livestock and how to give oral reasons. This is especially important for inexperienced contestants
8. Allow approximately 8 minutes per

- class
9. Assist contestants, especially the inexperienced
 10. Ask the judge for his placing and reasons. Be sure he uses a PA system. Thank the judge publicly for her work.
 11. Tally and post a copy of the results. Deliver original to extension office for official records.
 12. Thank the Judge and helpers after the contest.

EXTENSION OFFICE AND AGENT'S TASKS

1. Publicize contest.
2. Furnish supplies upon request.
3. Train and (or) assist superintendent upon request.
4. Keep official record of results for determination of state fair qualifiers

SUPPLIES, HELPERS, AND MORE

1. Hormel Score Cards (one or two), or ScoreCard software
2. Placing cards:
 - a. CO735 Junior (30)
 - b. CO734 Intermediate (30)
 - c. CO736 Senior (15)
3. Written Reasons Cards (use for notes for oral reasons)
 - a. CO744 Junior (30)
 - b. CO743 Intermediate (30)

- c. CO745 Senior (15)
4. Oral Reasons Score Card CO074 (75)
5. Tabulation Chart CO117 (one each junior, intermediate, senior with carbon copy)
6. Pens and markers for leaders, pencils for contestants
7. Duct tape and marking pens for identifying hogs, masking tape or stapler for posting results
8. Portable PA system
9. Watch to time classes
10. Calculator to tally results
11. Identification cards for steer holders
12. 4 lamb or sheep stands
13. Livestock handlers: four steer holders, two lamb handlers, three hog handlers
14. Group leaders: three adults to assist registration, check cards, help contestants, hear oral reasons, and tally results

TIME COMMITMENT (8-10 hours)

- Several hours to line up helpers
- An hour or two to line up supplies
- Five hours to select livestock, run contest, and tally results