

April 21, 2012

Hello to all 4-H Leaders and Members,

This year at the Lincoln County Fair we need to make sure that the lambs' tails are not docked too short. The tail needs to be "liftable". I wanted to let everyone know before they bought their show lambs because I do not want to send anyone home from the fair after putting so much effort into their projects. Please make sure when you get your lamb that it is not docked too short. This is a courtesy to the buyers who lose out when the lambs they buy prolapse because of short tail docking. We are very thankful to the buyers and those who support us. Let's show our gratitude by following this guideline. If you want more information about this, follow the link below. I can't wait to see everyone at the fair this year!

Sincerely,

Gera Clemenson

Sheep Superintendent Lincoln County Fair

Tail Docking Policy

All sheep shown at 4-H Youth shows should be docked in a manner that does not compromise the animal's health and well-being. As a working guideline we recommend that lambs be docked so that at the show the tail (dock) is long enough to be lifted. Moreover, the stress caused by docking increases with age, therefore docking should be performed early in life and certainly before the lambs are two weeks of age. The tail should be healed at the time of show and any animal that has been redocked, except for a medically justified reason, should be ineligible for show.

From "[Tail Docking Policy Link](#)" on the [WSU 4-H Sheep Additional Project Information Page](#).