



THE CLOVER CONNECTION



The official monthly newsletter of Wyandotte County 4-H

By Casey Ling, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent



4-H Motto:
To Make the Best Better!

**Daniella W. of the Piper Club at the
K-State Jr Meat Goat Producer Day**

In this month's newsletter:

- Results from 4-H Horse Judging Contest and Regional Club Day
- Deadlines!!!
 - Project Enrollment-May 1
 - Animal ID Forms- May 1
 - YQCA Certs- June 15
- Non-Market/Breeding Livestock ID Form Information
- Small Livestock Tag in Dates- May 3rd and 8th (swine, sheep, and goats)
- 2025 4-H Fair Book release date- April 15th
- Wyandotte 4-H Horsemanship Clinic- May 10th
- Sponsors for 4-H Red Barn Exhibit Champions
- Ignite Your SPARK!
 - Horticulture and Landscape Design
 - Shopping in Style
- Upcoming Contests- Kansas Wheat Naming Contest, IPM Insect Art Contest
- Photography Boards and Sleeves available for purchase
- Resources for Beef, Meat Goat, Sheep, and Swine projects
- Discovery Days and 4-H Sumer Camp

4-H Horse Judging Contest

On March 21st, K-State held the annual 4-H Horse Judging Contest during Equifest of Kansas in Salina, KS.

Abigail S. of the Blazing Bridles club participated in the 4-H divisions of the contest. This was Abigail's second time participating in a judging contest and her first time participating as a 4-H member. Abigail earned a Top 10 placing in the Senior Individual Halter division.

Great job representing Wyandotte 4-H!



Regional Club Day

Regional County Club Day was held on March 29th in Tecumseh, KS. The regional contest included 4-H members who qualified at their respective County Club Days from Johnson, Douglas, and Shawnee counties; as well as the Frontier District (Osage, Franklin, and Anderson counties) and Marais des Cygnes District (Miami and Linn counties).

Anson G.- Piper Club
Demonstration "Magnificent Mug Cake" - Blue

Ellie G.- Piper Club
Project Talk "Holistic Horse Hoof Health"- Blue

Micheal S.- Nearman Club
Vocal Solo- Purple and Judge's Award Of Excellence

Amber and Ruby Y.- Nearman Club
Dance Team- Blue
Team Demonstration- "Diamond Bead Christmas Ornaments"- Blue

Amber Y.- Nearman Club
Piano Solo- Purple



Project Enrollment Deadline: May 1st

Can you believe it's already April? 🤖 That means May 1st is just around the corner!

May 1st is the last day to enroll 4-H members in their projects on 4-H Online for the 24-25 year. Most of the 4-H divisions at the county fair require 4-H members to be enrolled in the corresponding project area. Log on to your 4-H Online account to make sure your 4-Her is enrolled in all of their project areas by **May 1st**!

If you have questions about 4-H enrollment, projects, deadlines, or anything 4-H related, please contact the WYCO 4-H Agent Casey Ling at 913-299-9300 or csling@ksu.edu

Animal ID Forms for County Fair: Due May 1st

May 1st is also the deadline for livestock ID forms!

Livestock ID forms are due to the 4-H Agent by **May 1st** for horses, leased rabbits, and all non-market/breeding livestock (goats, sheep, swine, and cattle).

Livestock ID forms have the same role as a Kansas 4-H tag. It identifies the animal as a 4-H project and establishes your ownership of that 4-H project animal. Your animal must have an ID form or a Kansas 4-H tag in order to show in the 4-H divisions at the county fair.



Check out the next page for more detailed information about each of the livestock ID forms.

YQCA Certifications: Due June 15th

An annual YQCA certification is required for all 4-Hers showing any livestock animal in the 4-H divisions at the Wyandotte County Fair. Livestock animals include all cattle (dairy and beef), swine, goats (dairy and meat), sheep, horses, poultry, and rabbits. Cloverbuds (5-7 year olds) are exempt from the YQCA certification requirement.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species youth livestock quality assurance program that focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and character development, through age-appropriate educational curriculum for youth 8-21 years of age. This program is an annual certification that grows with a young person, so the learning modules are different every year. YQCA certification is good for one year and must be completed annually.

4-H members showing a livestock animal must submit their annual YQCA certification to the 4-H Agent by June 15, 2025.



Go to yqcaprogram.org to complete the course online. The course is designed to give 60 minutes of instruction. There are also in-person certification options available through out the state.

Non-Market/Breeding Livestock ID Form Information

Non-market/breeding animals are 4-H livestock projects that are shown at the fair in the breeding classes. These animals are typically kept for breeding purposes and are not shown in the 4-H market (meat) classes or sold at auction. Animals used for breeding usually have registration papers, tattoos, USDA premise ID tags, or other forms of permanent identification. Non-Market/breeding 4-H projects are typically not tagged in every year like market animals. Kansas 4-H Policy states that 4-H members/families must own the animal that is being exhibited in the 4-H divisions. Just like the Kansas 4-H EID tags serve as "proof of ownership" for market animals, the 4-H Project ID forms serve as "proof of ownership" for 4-H livestock projects that are not tagged-in. Below is information about each ID form and which animals need to have a form submitted to the 4-H Agent. If you have any questions about whether or not you need to submit an ID form for your animal, please reach out to your club leader or 4-H Agent. All ID forms can be found [here](https://www.wyandotte.k-state.edu/program_areas/4-h/4-hfair/) or at https://www.wyandotte.k-state.edu/program_areas/4-h/4-hfair/

The Non-Market/Breeding Livestock ID forms need to be emailed to the 4-H Agent on or before May 1st.

The Kansas State Fair and KJLS may require EID tags, DNA samples, or additional paperwork to show a breeding animal. It is the 4-H family's responsibility to check the requirements for KSF and KJLS!!!

The due date for breeding/non-market ID forms for all species is May 1, annually. Livestock that are born after May 1 can still be shown by 4-H members. Please contact the 4-H Agent for an edited ID form for these animals.

For cattle, swine, sheep and goat forms- Previously the project leader was required to sign the form. Now club or project leaders can sign the updated form. Signatures from both are not needed. **A color photo of the animal is required for each ID form.**

Heifer & Cow ID Form- This ID form is for heifers and cows that are going to be shown in the 4-H breeding beef classes. This form is not for market heifers that will be shown in the market class.

Swine ID Form- This ID form is for swine that are going to be shown in the 4-H breeding swine classes. This form is not for market or prospect hogs.

Sheep ID Form- This ID form is for sheep showing in the 4-H breeding ewe classes. This form is not for market lambs. All sexually intact ewes must be identified with an official USDA premise ID tag (scrapies tag). Forms without a scrapies tag number will be rejected. 4-Hers wanting to show lambs born after the ID form deadline of May 1 should contact the 4-H Agent.

Goat ID Form- This ID form is for bucks and does that will be shown in the 4-H breeding doe or buck classes. This form is not for market/meat goats. All sexually intact does and bucks must be identified with a registered tattoo or an official USDA premise ID tag (scrapies tag). Forms without a tattoo or scrapies tag number will be rejected. 4-Hers wanting to show kids born after the ID form deadline of May 1 should contact the 4-H Agent.

Horse ID forms- This is a new K-State ID form that was updated in July 2024. All previous horse ID forms cannot be used. Photos of horses must be in color, show all four feet, and may not be wearing any tack other than a halter/bridle. 4-Hers showing their horse at the Kansas State Fair MUST have a horse ID form with the 4-H Agent's original signature at check in.

Leased Rabbit ID Form- This is a new form for this year. All leased rabbits must be approved by the Rabbit Project Leader, Renee Foster. She can be contacted at mrsrfoster7@gmail.com. Leased rabbits are not eligible to be shown at the Kansas State Fair or sold at auction.

4-H County Fair

Small Livestock Tag-In Dates

Swine, goats, and sheep

Saturday May 3rd at 8am
Thursday May 8th at 5:30pm

**At the Wyandotte County
Fair Grounds**

Tags are \$4 each.
Plan to pay with cash
or check.

**Save the
date!!!!**

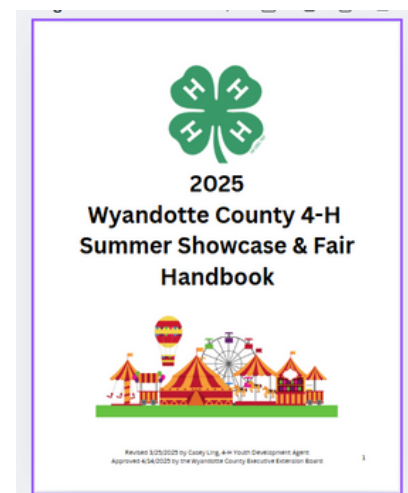


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2025 WyCo 4-H Fair Book

The 2025 WyCo 4-H Fairbook will be released on April 15th.

A digital copy of the 4-H Fairbook will be sent out to all 4-H families. Keep an eye out for that email!



Wyandotte 4-H Horsemanship Clinic



May 10, 2025 starting at 9am
Tom Bass Arena- American Royal Facilities
\$15 per 4-H horse/rider pair
Auditors welcome for free!

This clinic will help 4-H Youth Participants with:

- Strengthening their Horsemanship
- 4-H County/State Fair Preparation
- Tack and Equipment selection and usage



Clinician: Clarissa Conrad-Leirz, Atchison County Ag Agent, former K-State Horse Judging Team Coach and Texas A&M Summer Horsemanship Clinician

Proof of current Coggins AND 30 day health certificate required.
Helmets and proper riding attire required while mounted.



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To register, go to
<https://tinyurl.com/nha7sa6m>

Sponsors Needed for 4-H Red Barn Exhibit Champions!!!

Go to the 4-H Summer Showcase Registry to purchase a prize for one of the 4-H Champions!

4-H Red Barn Exhibits include:

- Art Projects**
- Educational Displays**
- Photography**
- Clothing and Textiles**
- Horticulture**
- And More!**



The Wyandotte 4-H program is in need of sponsors for the Red Barn exhibit champions. 4-H Red Barn exhibits are "static" or non-animal projects. Each year, Red Barn exhibits account for about half of the 4-H county fair entries. Project areas for the Red Barn exhibits include Visual and Fiber Arts, Photography, Horticulture (Flowers and Vegetables), Clothing & Textiles, Educational Displays, Foods & Nutrition, STEM Divisions, and more!

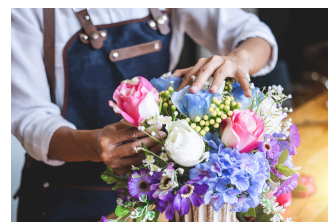
Follow the link to the [4-H Summer Showcase Registry](https://www.walmart.com/registry/TR/d73b02c6-8861-4b73-a160-c95639a1283f?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMTEAAR2iSuTNq3qpeG0YEPTsrsVTW-OgoLgJGvvrOib_kGWDQhWROfGwNU8BV4E_aem_BO4ryuygJ2oP6lk_pW97dA) and select which prizes you would like to purchase for the 4-H Red Barn champions. Each prize on the registry is selected to correspond with a particular 4-H static division. The prizes you purchase will be shipped directly to the 4-H Office to be stored until the county fair. Be sure to share with your friends and family!

4-H Summer Showcase Registry link- https://www.walmart.com/registry/TR/d73b02c6-8861-4b73-a160-c95639a1283f?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMTEAAR2iSuTNq3qpeG0YEPTsrsVTW-OgoLgJGvvrOib_kGWDQhWROfGwNU8BV4E_aem_BO4ryuygJ2oP6lk_pW97dA

Horticulture and Landscape Design

In this project, 4-H members learn when, where and what to plant. Learn the difference between cool and warm-season vegetables; learn plant parts and how they are used; learn how to use basic garden tools; study seed varieties and starting seeds indoors; study preventative pest controls; learn about specialty harvests and selling your produce; study plant pollinations; study food industry careers; and learn about biotechnology.

- This project is great for any 4-Her wanting to learn about gardening, floriculture, flower arrangements, and growing vegetables and crops.
- 4-Hers can enter projects in the county fair by entering vegetables, cut flowers, fresh herbs, fresh or dried flower arrangements, or garden displays. There are no limit to the number of entries a 4-Her can make in this division, as long as each entry is unique. For example- A 4-Her can enter multiple times in the medium size vegetable class, but each entry must be of a different vegetable (a plate of cucumbers, a plate of tomatoes, a plate of beets, etc.)
- The Kansas State Fair offers a 4-H Horticulture and Landscape Design division.
- Kansas 4-H also offered an annual Horticulture Judging Contest each August. For more info on the Horticulture Judging Contest visit the [K-State Horticulture Judging website](#).



Shopping in Style



4-H members will learn what clothing styles look best on them while they also gain skills in building a versatile wardrobe and staying within their budget. Shopping in Style will give you that edge on knowing your wardrobe, planning a budget for an outfit, choosing between different shades of colors and analyzing clothing advertisements.

- This project is great for any 4-H member who shops for their clothing! Everyone should learn how to budget and shop for clothes that work for their lifestyle.
- 4-Hers can enter posters or displays of their project at the county fair. 4-Hers can also model their clothes at the county fair Fashion Revue!
- The Kansas State Fair offers Shopping in Style and the Fashion Revue.
- Resources for the Shopping in Style project can be found at the [K-State Shopping in Style website](#).
- Email the 4-H Agent if you are interested in a copy of the Shopping in Style 4-H curriculum.



Kansas Wheat Association Variety Naming Contest

Kansas Wheat Alliance is hosting a variety naming contest to help select names for up to three new wheat varieties on track to be released by Kansas State University this year. They would love to see strong participation from 4-Hers and 4-H clubs across the state to showcase their agricultural knowledge and creativity.

Contest Highlights

- Cash Prize – A \$500 prize will be awarded for each selected name (up to 3 winners).
- Open to Everyone – While anyone can enter, they prefer entries from 4-Hers and 4-H clubs to get involved in shaping the future of a Kansas wheat variety.
- **Entries due by April 15, 2025.**
- Submit entries to bryson@kswheatalliance.com

Full contest details & rules can be found [here](https://kswheatalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-KWA-Variety-Naming-Contest.pdf) or at <https://kswheatalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-KWA-Variety-Naming-Contest.pdf>



IPM Insect Art Contest

The K-State Research and Extension Pesticide Safety and IPM Program is hosting its annual insect-themed art contest, open to all ages and skill levels in Kansas! This year, the theme is "By the Light of the Moon: Insects at Night."

The goal is to explore why and how insects are active or inactive at night, then create artwork that fits the contest theme. Art may be a drawing or painting, digital art, or a 3-D piece such as sculpture, stained glass or other media.

There are five age categories in which 1st - 3rd place will be awarded:

- Kindergarten - 2nd grade
- 3rd grade - 5th grade
- 6th grade - 8th grade
- High school
- Adult

Entries must be received or postmarked before **April 15, 2025**.



Photography Boards and Sleeves

The white photography boards and clear plastic sleeves needed to display your 4-H photography projects at the fair are available for purchase at the Extension Office.

Each photo board and sleeve are \$1.25 for the set.



Resources for Beef, Meat Goat, Sheep, and Swine Projects

The 4-H Ag Sciences Program Specialist, Kelsey Nordyke, sent out an informational email to families that have 4-Hers enrolled in the beef, meat goat, sheep, and/or swine projects. Below are highlights of the information and links shared in her email. These are excellent resources to help your 4-Her gain more knowledge about their meat animal project. If you are currently enrolled or interested in pursuing a meat animal project, check out these 4-H websites!

The Kansas 4-H Animal Science Projects website is located here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/animal-science/>. This page includes the links to each Animal Science project site which hold links to helpful information, a list of things you might learn or do in the project, a list of project curricula, project leader resources, and events and activities.

Check out the **Clover Classroom** for project challenges for all of your 4-H projects. In particular, find the **Ruminant Challenge** for an activity to learn about how your specie's digestive system works. Check back later in the spring as the Animal Science Project Partnership Team is in the process of creating additional Project Challenges.

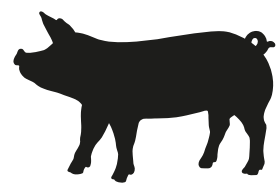
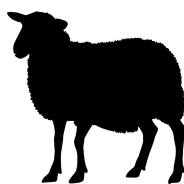
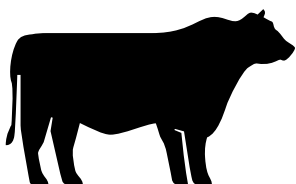
The **Kansas 4-H Animal Science Webinar series** contains recordings of previous Animal Science webinars. You will find timely topics from professionals to inform and educate you about caring for your project. Check back as this will begin to be updated this spring.

Kansas State University's Youth Livestock Program page contains information to educate as well as inform you about ownership and entering state livestock shows (Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show). KSU's Youth Livestock Program is the administrator for the livestock nomination (ownership) process for the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and the Kansas Junior Livestock Show. Guidance for the nomination process is available here (<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>).

You will also find information about KSU's annual Junior Producer Days on the KSU Youth Livestock site. Junior Producer Days is an opportunity for youth (and parents) to learn about the basics of their project, get hands-on experience and expand beyond basic daily care. Two producer days are held annually in the spring. During even years, attend Junior Beef Producer Day or Junior Sheep Producer Day. During odd years, attend Junior Meat Goat Producer Day or Junior Swine Producer Day. **Previous years' Producer Days materials** are available as well.

If you're interested in taking your livestock project to the next level and participating in a state show, your options are the **Kansas State Fair Grand Drive** and the **Kansas Junior Livestock Show**. Pay careful attention to nomination and entry deadlines. You will need to begin as early as April to order DNA kits and start the nomination process. The KSU Youth Livestock Program houses all nomination information for state shows (<https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/>).

Consider participating in Livestock Judging, Meat Judging, Quiz Bowl or Skillathon contests. Regional contests are held in various areas of the state as well as the state Livestock Sweepstakes, which is held annually on KSU's campus.



4-H Discovery Days

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days is planning to be in-person on KSU campus June 4-6th, 2025.

Youth ages 13-18 before January 1, 2025 are invited to register.
Registration link will be available soon!

Discovery Days objectives:

- Help youth learn new ideas, techniques, and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H clubs or groups and communities
- Give youth in-depth training through hands-on educational sessions from content and youth development experts
- Prepare youth to make informed decisions about their careers and college path
- Enhance personal growth by giving opportunities to develop responsibility, confidence, independence, accountability, problem-solving, decision-making, and time management skills
- Help youth meet new people and make new friends from different places and with different backgrounds from across the state
- Provide an opportunity for youth to experience the K-State campus and its wealth of resources
- Develop college and career readiness skills which prepare participants academically and socially for a successful transition to college and life as an adult



4-H Summer Camp at Rock Springs Ranch

Registration for 2025 4-H Camp at Rock Springs Ranch is now open!

4-H Camp has options for 4-Hers ages 7- 17 years old. Camp activities range from archery, swimming, horseback riding, high ropes, canoes, kayaking, ziplines, climbing wall, various shooting sports including BBs, rifles, trap shooting, and more! Many of the buildings and facilities have been recently updated to be more comfortable and modern.



Check out the [Rock Springs Ranch website](#) for more info and to register your 4-Her.

Participants do not have to be members of 4-H to attend Rock Springs Ranch Camp. Invite your friends and family!



Have a star 4-Her that deserves recognition?

Have a picture from a project meeting or 4-H event that you would like to share with the community?

Let us know! Email csling@ksu.edu



To make the best better!




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