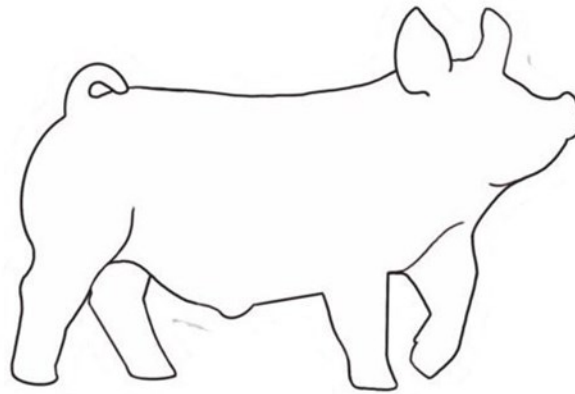


Chautauqua County

4-H Market Hog Project Rules and Guidelines 2024-2025

For complete rules and guidelines see:

www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua



Committee Members

Chairman: Louis Smith

Scott & Autumn Boardman

Chris & Dawn

Comstock Frank

Manning

Marvin Johnson

Chris Keefe

Josie Laurie

Kylie Keefe

4-H MARKET HOG PROJECT MEETING SCHEDULE AND FORM DEADLINES

www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua

All meetings take place at 6:30 PM at the JCC Carnahan Building

MEETING REQUIREMENTS – NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

****Attend 4 Meetings****

Educational Meeting

- December 18th
- January 15th
- February 12th
- March 12th
 - ◆Possible Field Trip

Tagging and Weigh In Day

Deadline for Market Hog Registration & Breeder Form

Due at the time of tagging & weighing– NO EXCEPTIONS

Fairgrounds

April 5th @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm (104 days until sale day) -

Please Note: This does NOT Count as Meeting

- May 14th
- June 11th
- TBD - Workday @ Stockton and Fairgrounds 7:30 am
- Fundraiser TBA
- July 2nd - Do's and Don'ts
- July 12th Fair Weigh In 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- 2025 FAIR WEEK - July 13th - 20th
- July 13th - Open Class Show
- July 14th - 4-H Showmanship & Market Show
- July 18th - Meat Animal Sale 12 noon

4-H MARKET HOG PROJECT

(For 4-H Year 2024-2025 Policy Takes Effect Immediately)

GENERAL RULES

1. Members may raise gilts or barrows for the 4-H Market Hog Project. Boars are not permitted. Hogs do not have to be purebred.
2. Pigs must be purchased by weigh in/tagging day in April of the current project year and cared for by members. **All** pigs must be weighed and tagged at the spring weigh in/tagging day (**April 5, 2025**) to be eligible to show at the County Fair.
3. The pigs you plan to purchase must have been born on or after December 1st 2024. It is suggested that **fair pigs are born between December 1st and February 1st of the current project year should NOT be born after February 15th of the current year.**
4. Purchase the pigs when they are 6 to 8 weeks old. Be certain they have been weaned, wormed, and male pigs castrated and preferably healed. Have the breeder sign the breeder registration form(s). **All information on the Breeder Registration form must be filled in completely and must be turned in on weigh in/tagging day to continue participating in the project year. Federal tagging requirements to be determined by the State Vet.**
5. A limit of 5 feeder pigs per 4-H'er can be tagged in. They must use tags provided by 4-H.
6. Each 4-H'er is encouraged to raise 1, 2, or more Market hogs. However, only 2 may be shown and remain at Fair and only **1** may be sold at the Market Animal Sale.
7. Members must indicate their ownership of their hogs by recording their ear tag numbers on their registration forms at Tag In day. **Suggested minimum tag-in weights should be 60-75 lbs.**
 - 7a. Prior to June 1st, See Probability of Death Losses on [page 4](#).
8. Hogs will be weighed one time on the Saturday before show day prior to 2:00 PM at the County Fair and must weigh at least 220 lb., but not more than the maximum of 300 lb. to be eligible for Market Animal Sale. **The use of any 4-H sealed and certified scale to weigh hogs prior to official weigh-in is prohibited after July 1st. It is the 4-Her's responsibility that their pig(s) is weighed in by 2:00 PM on the Saturday before show day.**
9. Under or overweight hogs will only be allowed to be used as a Showmanship Class animal if it is the only animal the 4-H'er has tagged. All other under and overweight hogs will be removed from fair grounds Saturday after weigh in.
10. Animals entered in Showmanship classes must have been weighed and tagged at the spring weigh in/tagging day to prove ownership of participating showman. If there is a health concern, showmanship class participation can be waived at the discretion of the Hog Committee.
11. Market Hog Sale Criteria:
 - A.) 4-H'er will be allowed to sell 1 market hog provided it meets with the requirements of rule **#9**.
 - B.) The Grand Champion and the Reserve Grand Champion must be sold if owned by the same 4-H member.
 - C.) 4-H'er will have option of choosing which eligible hog they wish to offer for the Market Animal Sale. **Sale pig must be declared by Tuesday @ 10:00 am.**
 - D.) Once the animal is chosen to be sold, it may NOT be swapped before, during or after the sale.

12. Showmanship classes will be on Monday with classes to be announced based on 4-Her age.
13. Market hogs will be divided into classes based on Saturday weight and judged on Monday. All animals that weigh in on Saturday prior to fair must decide if they will participate in the 4-H Market Hog Show by the time the scales close on Saturday. No animals can be pulled from the 4-H Market show unless a veterinarian prohibits the animal from showing.
14. Because of space limitations, hogs that have been raised together will be penned together, or family members' hogs will be required to be penned together. All pen assignments at the Fair are at the discretion of the open class superintendent.
15. **Important:**
 - **April weigh in/tagging will NOT be counted as a project meeting.**
 - **In order to get credit for the meeting each youth in attendance must sign in at all meetings.**
 - **Youth who are attending an institute of higher education outside of Chautauqua County, and who have been successful in the project for three or more years, will be excused from optional activities and meetings with prior written notification to the 4-H Hog Project Committee by January 1st of the current project year.**
16. 4-H members and their parents are responsible for unloading and handling animals at weigh in/tagging day and at the Fairgrounds.
17. 4-H members are responsible for the feeding and cleaning of their animals while at the County Fair until the animal leaves the fairground. **See Housing at County Fair on page 5.**
18. See 4-H Fair Book for rule regarding showing of animals.
19. 4-H issued ear tags can't be removed except by a Chautauqua County Hog Committee member. Incidental loss of ear tags **MUST** be reported immediately to a Hog Committee member to prevent disqualifications from 4-H show.

PROBABILITY OF DEATH LOSSES

About 2 or 3 hogs out of every 100 will die from natural causes before they reach market weight. These death losses must be anticipated in any hog operation, so there is the possibility that it could happen to your hog. If your hog happens to be one of the 2 or 3 out of 100 that dies, don't feel that the project has been a complete failure. You will still have had the experience of planning the project, making the necessary preparations, and keeping the records while the hog was alive. Under extreme circumstances, if a participant's animal dies and with the approval of the 4-H Hog Committee, the 4-H member may be permitted to replace said animal **prior to June 1st** of the 4-H Year.

- Replacement pig must still meet 4-H hog requirements
- Proof of death must be confirmed by committee member and eartags surrendered to committee member.

HOUSING AT COUNTY FAIR

1. No feed dishes are to be left in the pen after the hogs finish eating, after chore time unattended. Chore times are from 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM.
2. Stall cards must be completely filled out and displayed by **Sunday at 10:00 AM.**
3. Pens **MUST** be stripped in the morning and dressed during evening chores. Soiled bedding must be removed as needed to keep smell to a minimum.
4. Ribbons must be displayed in your pen by **Tuesday at noon.**
5. Aisles should be swept as often as needed or when asked by any committee member.
6. Hogs should be washed as often as needed.
7. No milk will be fed to Hogs at the Fair.
8. Parents or adults are allowed to assist with feed, cleaning pens and/or caring for 4-H hogs in the hog barn.
9. All previous 4-H hog members must display thank you note for last year's buyer by **Sunday 10:00 AM** and first year members are asked to display a thank you to someone that has helped them in the project so far.
10. Pen and/or barn modifications must be approved in advance by the **Open Class Barn Superintendent.**

CONDUCT AT THE COUNTY FAIR

It is important to remember we are guests at the Chautauqua County Fair. Dismissal may occur to any 4-Her and animal endangering the health and welfare of any person or animal that is on the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds. Immediate dismissal from the Fairgrounds may include both the 4-H Member and their animals.

Dismissals from the fairgrounds may result from any of the following actions:

1. Vandalizing and tampering with animals or equipment.
2. Destructive actions.
3. Any theft.
4. Use of abusive language (the four letter words are included) to anyone while on the fair grounds.

Dismissal for any situation **not** covered above will be at the discretion of the Chautauqua County Fairboard.

TRUCKING TO THE FAIR

It is your responsibility to get your hog to the fair. We encourage bedding to ensure safety while hauling animals to fair. It also helps keep hogs cleaner. Hogs travel best on an empty stomach. After you get to the Fair; give your hogs fresh water and a light feeding. **Please remember health papers. Hogs cannot be unloaded without them at the fair.**

*Make sure your hog doesn't get overheated when transported. Spray your pig down halfway to the fair. *

BEFORE BRINGING YOUR HOG HOME YOU NEED:

1. Clean pen with bedding.
2. Clean, fresh feed.
3. Clean, fresh water.

* All of these items must be taken care of **before** your hogs arrive at home.

PEN SIZE OR YARD SIZE

1. A pen that is 6' x 8' or provides 48 square feet of space is adequate for one hog. Of course, additional hogs require additional space.
2. Pen must be kept clean. At least 2 or 3 times a week, pen must be cleaned of all wet or damp bedding and re-bedded with dry straw, sawdust, newspaper or wood shavings.
3. Cleaning will not be difficult because the amount of manure and liquid will be small.
4. Pen must eliminate drafts and be dry. An area inside a barn or shed that is dry is ideal for nesting.

CARE AND HANDLING OF HOGS FOR FIRST WEEK AFTER ARRIVAL

1. Hogs will have been subjected to a stress condition.
2. Provide plenty of fresh water. A 40-pound hog may drink 1 to 2 gallons per day. Fresh water should be available 24/7.
3. A 40-pound hog will normally eat about 2 to 3 pounds of feed per day. Stage feed and switch types gradually, also increase amounts based on their consumption.
4. **Clean, fresh water must be available to the hog at all times - 24/7**

RECORD KEEPING

1. All members taking this project will be expected to keep accurate records of expenses, feed used, rate of gain, receipts, etc. on the record sheet or project record envelope provided. A project record book with record sheets are highly recommended.
2. An actual copy of your "thank you" note that was sent to the buyer must be included in your records.
3. Your 4-H Hog Project records must be accurately completed and handed in to the 4-H Office by **SEPTEMBER 15th**, of the project year to be eligible to receive a blue award and be considered for year end awards. Failure to turn in a record book by **SEPTEMBER 30th**, may prevent that member from participating in the project in the next project year pursuant to the 4-H Policy Manual. If, for any reason, your Hog does not go to the fair, and/or is not sold at fair, your records must still be turned in by **SEPTEMBER 15th** of the project year to receive credit for project completion. Failure to turn in records by the **SEPTEMBER 30th**, date may result in elimination from the Hog Project in the next year, pursuant to the 4-H Policy Manual.
4. Records that are found to be incomplete will not be eligible for project or county awards.

ESTIMATING WEIGHTS OF MARKET HOGS

Step #1 - With a tape measure, check the hog's length. Carefully measure the distance from a point midway between his ears to the base of his tail. Keep the tape centered on the top of the back and the hog standing squarely with the **head held in normal position**, neither high nor low. Write down the length. This is the hardest measurement to get accurately.

Step #2 - Measure the hog's girth. Place tape around hog's body just back of the front legs and pull it tight enough to depress the flesh slightly. Write down the girth.

Step #3 - On the tables, find the length and girth that corresponds to your hog and read the weight.

Remember - This weight is just an estimate and actual weight may vary ten pounds.

A. Maximizing Hog Growth

1. Be sure you are providing the best care possible. Feed only the proper types of feed to your hog and as much as he can eat without wasting it. Make sure that the pen is clean, dry, and draft free.
2. Provide clean, fresh water at all times.
3. Don't feed your hog any greens, fruits, bread, or moldy feed.

GETTING YOUR HOG READY FOR SHOW AND SALE

Start working with your show animal as early as possible.

1. The most important factor to remember is that the hog must be clean. Thoroughly wash the hog with soap and water before taking it to any show. Wash your hog again with water at the show if the pig gets dirty. If pressed for time, thoroughly brush the pig to remove any dirt that may have been acquired since the pig was washed. The use of cometic show products is at the 4-Hers risk.
2. The second most important factor is to work with the hog so that you can drive it where you want it to go with just the aid of a light crop or hog slap and without pushing or pulling on the hog with your hands. Remember, hogs can be very stubborn, so start working with your hog early. The washing and brushing will help to make the pig easier to handle. Also remember, the hog is bigger than you are and a lot stronger!
3. Each member should have a show implement for showmanship to help control the hog in the show ring and the barn. Please label your supplies.
4. Hogs do not have sweat glands - be careful they do not become overheated.
5. It is the 4-Her's responsibility to speak with at least 3 potential bidders for the Meat Animal Sale.

EQUIPMENT for home use - ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT NECESSARY

1. Pen or other structure enclosure to provide shelter
2. Self-waterer or pan for watering 24/7
3. Feeder or trough for dry feeding
4. Pitch fork and shovel to clean pen

It is highly recommended that Number 2 and 3 are securely anchored so that the pig can't tip them over!

Dry straw, saw dust, wood shavings or newspaper make excellent bedding for pigs and make for easier cleaning of the pen when it gets dirty.

WORMING

It is good “insurance” to worm your hogs. We recommend you give worm medicine about two weeks after weaning, with a MINIMUM of 1 follow up worming in June. The main problem is that worm medicine is sold in large quantities, and you need only a small amount for your few hogs. The following may be solutions to getting worm medicine:

- A. From the breeder when you purchase the hog. Offer and expect to pay a little extra for the medicine.
- B. From the veterinarian.
- C. Get together with other hog raisers in your area and jointly purchase some medicine.
- D. Worming medicine will be available at weighing/tagging day. (Depending on nationwide availability.)

HELPING YOUR HOG REACH IT'S PRIME IN TIME FOR FAIR WEEK

The ideal weight for most market hogs is between 250 - 270 pounds. This is the weight you should “shoot” for. If you start with a hog born around February 1st, and if you follow the directions in this handbook, you will have an excellent chance of reaching the best weights at fair time. However, sometimes it is necessary to either speed up or slow down your hog's rate of gain. Both are very hard to do. As a rule of thumb, your hogs should weigh around:

APPROXIMATE WEIGHTS

100 pounds - May 1

140-160 pounds - June 1

220 pounds - July 1

FEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Feed a minimum 16% protein hog ration during each day of the first week that you have the hog. Continue to feed your hog all it will eat of the above ration from the end of the first week until it weighs approximately 200 pounds.
2. The amount of feed your hog consumes daily will increase gradually as the hog grows. At 100 pounds in weight, the hog will eat between 4 ½ and 5 ½ pounds feed per day. At 150 pounds, the hog will eat approximately 5 ½ to 7 pounds of feed per day; and at 200 pounds, the hog will be eating approximately 7 ½ pounds per day.
3. Always have fresh, clean water available for your hog 24/7.
4. We recommend you do not slop your hog. Have dry feed and water in separate containers. (Once feed is wet, it begins to spoil (rot) in 20 minutes).
5. Do not use moldy feed or bedding.

HINTS ON SHOWING YOUR HOG

1. Listen to the introduction when judge gives hints and suggestions for showmanship prior to start of show.
2. Keep one eye on the judge and the other on your hog.
3. Avoid being covered up by the mob of hogs; keep in the open and in a position where the judge can easily see your animal. (About 15 feet from the judge.)
4. Do your best job at all times. Your hog may be under the observation of the judge when you least expect it.
5. Show your hog in such a manner as to bring out the strong points of body conformation.
6. Maneuver so that the judge can see your hog walking toward him, directly away from him, and a side view.
7. **BE A GOOD SPORT, WIN WITHOUT BRAGGING AND LOSE WITHOUT COMPLAINING!**

CONGRATULATE THE WINNERS.

SWINE SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

Showmen will be judged with respect to the following:

- **Fitting and General Appearance of the animal**

- Proper condition of hog with respect to weight

- Cleanliness of skin and hair and overall bloom

- Clipping of ears and tails

- **General Appearance of Exhibitor**

- Neat, clean and professional appearance

- Performance of Animal and Showman in Ring

- Control of Animal

- Showing animal to best advantage

- Attitude of Showman, including calm, confident manner, and the ability to work in partnership with their animal, and their courtesy to other showmen



2024-2025 4-H Hog Overall Project Champion

Attendance at meetings (beyond the 4 required)	25 Points per meeting
Demonstration/Presentation (Project Related)	50 points
Market Placing (Sale Hog ONLY)	30 Points Blue Ribbon 20 Points Red Ribbon
Final Drive Market Hog ONLY	10 Points First Place 9 Points Second Place 8 Points Third Place 7 Points Fourth Place 6 Points Fifth Place 5 Points Sixth Place 4 Points Seventh Place 3 Points Eighth Place 2 Points Ninth Place 1 Point Tenth Place
Project Records	30 Points Purple Ribbon 20 Points Blue Ribbon 10 Points Red Ribbon 5 Points White Ribbon
County Fair Chores	10 Points done on time twice a day
Stall Cards COMPLETELY filled out by Sunday at 11:00 am	20 Points
Thank you notes posted by Sunday @10 :00 am (Thank you notes make 4-H Successful. Previous participants thank you note for last year's buyer is MANDATORY. First year 4-Her's thank someone that has helped you to this point in your project)	20 Points
Ribbons displayed next to stall cards by Tuesday @ 12:00 PM	10 Points

2024-2025 4-H Hog Overall Project Champion (cont.)

Participation in Fundraiser	20 Points for selling tickets 30 Points for working Fundraiser 25 Extra Points for doing both
Helping Set Up Hog Barn	45 Points
Helping Take Down Hog Barn	45 Points
Snack Bar (HOG day only)	25 Points for 2 hours 15 Points extra for anything over 3 or more hours

Both a Junior and Senior will be chosen for Project Champion.

Popular Swine Breeders

Corey Schauman	Washington St Panama, NY		716-782-3913
Isler Show Pig	Prospect Ohio	Bill Scott	740-815-2910 740-262-2850
Don Anderson Facebook Page	Munger Rd Stockton Anderson's York and Show Crosses		716-499-7479
Brian Becker	2293 E Middle St Silver Creek NY		716-673-5771
Matt Harper	Route 60 Jamestown, NY		716-484-0592
Rodney Spinier	www.spinlershowpiq.com		716-338-6073
Shaffer's Auction	Indiana		888-690-2022
Eric Vanvalkenburg	Warsaw, NY		585-721-6873
John Studley	Kennedy, NY		716-474-6183
Shawn Georgie	Collins Center, NY		716-860-1117
Phil Crossley	Kennedy, NY		716-267-7202
Shorty Show Pigs	Panama, NY		716-450-9371
Yager's Happy Valley Farm	Frewsburg, NY		716-720-9858

Committee Members

Please feel free to contact any Committee Member for help or questions.

Committee Members	Address	Phone #	Email
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Frank Manning	P.O. Box 65 Irving, NY 14081	716-785-0101 (Frank) 716-785-2582 (Maria)	rea6960@yahoo.com
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