2017 Virginia Youth Sheep & Goat Symposium

ALPHIN-STUART LIVESTOCK ARENA – VIRGINIA TECH
Saturday, June 24, 2017

Judge: Lukas Ziegler

SCHEDULE

7:30 – 9:30 AM  Inspection and Weighing - All Lambs/Goats*
9:30 AM  All Lambs/Goats MUST be on-site for Inspection
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM  Sheep & Goat Skill-a-thon Contest
Lunch (on your own)
11:00 AM  Showmanship followed by Sheep/Goat Show
45 Minutes after Show  Awards Ceremony

* Nominations and tagging for the Virginia State Fair will be conducted at this event. If exhibitors choose to nominate their sheep or goats at the Symposium, all of their sheep/goats to be nominated must be brought to the Symposium (exhibitors may not nominate animals at multiple locations).

Registration will be conducted online this year!!
Registration Information is on the last page of this packet. This form is due no later than Thursday, June 15th, 2017 (postmark date)!
**Please Note!!  We welcome VCE Volunteers to serve on committees. Please contact Katherine Carter if you have a volunteer that would like to serve on a committee. All volunteers should have either the “One-Time / Occasional” or the “Volunteer Long Form” on file at their respective extension office that can be verified by the 4-H agent.**

**SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA LAMB SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Co-CHAIR:** Katherine Carter  
**Co-CHAIR:** Dr. Scott Greiner

**RECORDS:**  
Cynthia Hurst  
Megan Bare  
Beth Hawse

**SPONSORS & AWARDS:**  
Joi Saville  
Natalie Blevins  
Katherine Carter

**CLASSES & WEIGHT CLASSIFICATION:**  
Joi Saville  
Kate Lawrence  
Megan Bare

**CLASS LINE-UP:**  
Amber Robinson  
Kate Lawrence

**ANNOUNCER:**  
Tyler Painter

**SKILL-A-THON CONTEST:**  
Phil Blevins  
Jeanne Layton  
Michelle Dickerson

**RINGMEN:**  
Amber Robinson  
Andrew Weaver

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**  
Michelle Dickerson  
Kelli Scott

**VIRGINIA YOUTH SHEEP/GOAT SYMPOSIUM - GENERAL RULES**

The Virginia Youth Sheep/Goat Symposium represents a comprehensive livestock educational program offered to 4-H and FFA members. The event is comprised of the following components:

**A. SHEEP & GOAT SKILL-A-THON CONTEST**  
Junior, Intermediate & Senior Divisions

**B. SHOWMANSHIP**  
Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and Novice Divisions

**C. CLASS PLACING**  
Market Lambs, Market Goats, Commercial Ewe, Commercial Doe Classes

**D. SHEPHERD AWARD**  
Points Accumulated from the Sheep or Goat Show, Sheep or Goat Showmanship, & Sheep & Goat Skill-a-thon Contest

1. **All** Participants will be charged a $10/head fee. Please make payment to “VA 4-H Foundation”. Late entries will be charged $20/exhibitor fee.
2. Entries cannot total more than **four (4)** Market Lamb singles, **three (3)** Commercial Ewe singles (not to exceed a total of 6 sheep) and **six (6)** total goats (Market Goats and/or Commercial Does) in the entire show per exhibitor.

3. Exhibitor Eligibility:
A. 4-H – Virginia youth between the ages of 9 and 19 who are officially enrolled in the 4-H program in their county. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years of age by September 30, 2017 and must not have had their 19th birthday before January 1, 2017.

B. FFA – Students who are officially enrolled as Virginia FFA members (paid local, state, and national dues and have not passed their 19th birthday).

*FFA Advisors must certify enrollment and sign the Confirmation E-mail.

4. AGE DIVISIONS (Using 4-H year, age as of September 30, 2017)
For Sheep & Goat Skill-a-thon Contest, Showmanship, and Shepherd Awards (no novice division for Shepherd Awards or Skill-a-thon), divisions are based on age of exhibitor.

A. Age 9 – 12 Junior Division
B. Age 13 – 15 Intermediate Division
C. Age 16 – 19 Senior Division
D. Age 12 and under Novice – exhibitors in their FIRST year of showing the respective species – ONLY APPLIES TO SHOWMANSHIP

5. Pens will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. You will be allowed to keep your entries on your trailer. **Trailers that are parked in the arena must be in place by 10:30 am and will not be allowed to leave until after the completion of the show. There will be NO vehicle traffic into or out of the arena after 10:30 am and until the completion of the show.**

6. Exhibitors should bring their own bedding material for their animals. Sheep and goats shall be penned on natural bedding (i.e. straw, wood shavings, wood chips, or bark- no carpet). **No bedding on the arena floor.**

7. All exhibitors are expected to leave stalls and exhibitor area clean before leaving the show. This includes the wash rack area.

8. Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class or permission is given by the show superintendent. Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA member with entries in the show.

9. Exhibitors must show their own animal in showmanship. The animal must be entered in the show in the name of the exhibitor showing said animal in showmanship.

10. **Animals are to be shown clean and dry. No additional fitting of animals is allowed and the use of adhesives or appearance altering additives is prohibited.**

11. Each animal should be properly trained to show.

12. Market lambs may be wethers or ewes. Market goats may be wethers or does. **Wethers must show no evidence of testicular tissue and be completely healed from castration.**

13. Market lambs must be exhibited shorn slick to the skin above the knee and hock joints.

14. **No shearing allowed on-site.**

15. When determined by the show inspectors, any sick or unhealthy lambs/goats on your trailer with foot rot, sore mouth or club lamb fungus, will not be allowed to show. **The decision of the Veterinary Medical Officer will be final.**
16. **All animals must have the scrapie ID tag or a flock/herd identification tattoo.**

17. Market lambs will be shown by breed type. Breed type will be determined at the time of official weighing by a classification committee. The classification committee will apply breed standards to evaluate and place lambs in the proper class. The decisions of the classification committee will be final. Market lambs will be divided into four breed-type divisions as follows:

   a) **White-Face:** Generally includes lambs of white-face breeds and crosses of those breeds (Dorset, Cheviot, Columbia, etc.). Lambs should exhibit characteristics of these breeds. Face, ears, and legs should be white. Excessive black or brown spots in the skin or wool on the body, or freckles or pigmented areas of black or brown skin are not acceptable.

   b) **Speckle-Face:** Must be a cross with evidence of a percentage white-face and percentage black-face breeding. Significant spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs below knees and stifl joint.

   c) **Southdown:** Lambs must exhibit characteristics of Southdown breed. Hair color should be mouse colored, grey to brown. Nostrils may be black to purple-grey, and ears should be moderate length, covered with short hair or wool.

   d) **Black-Face:** Generally includes lambs of Suffolk and Hampshire breeding and their crosses along with other black-faced breeds. Also includes all lambs that do not fit classification requirements for Speckle-Face, White-Face, and Southdown classes.

18. Lambs/goats exhibited in the market classes may not be shown in the commercial breeding ewe/doe classes or vice versa.

19. Commercial ewes will be shown by breed type. Breed type will be determined at the time of official weighing by a classification committee. The decisions of the classification committee will be final. Commercial ewes will be divided into the following 3 breed classes as follows:

   a) **White-Face:** Generally includes lambs of white-face breeds and crosses of those breeds (Dorset, Cheviot, Columbia, etc.). Lambs should exhibit characteristics of these breeds. Face, ears, and legs should be white. Excessive black or brown spots in the skin or wool on the body, or freckles or pigmented areas of black or brown skin are not acceptable.

   b) **Speckle-Face:** Must be a cross with evidence of a percentage white-face and percentage black-face breeding. Significant spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs below knees and stifl joint.

   c) **Black-Face:** Generally includes lambs of primarily Suffolk and Hampshire breeding, plus all lambs that do not fit Speckle-Face and/or White-Face classes.

20. Commercial ewe and market lamb breed classes will be divided according to weight. Commercial ewes and does must be born after 1/1/16 (both yearling and ewe lambs/doe kids may be shown). Market goats and commercial does will be shown by weight.

21. Breed classes in the market lamb or commercial ewe shows may be combined at the discretion of show management based on entry numbers. The market lamb show may be further designated into appropriate weight divisions for recognition purposes.
22. **All Lambs and Goats must be inspected and weighed prior to penning.**

23. Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals in an acceptable manner and adhere to quality assurance guidelines. Application of ice or iced water in any form is prohibited (sprays, packs, blankets, or towels). The use of muzzles, drenching, and use of coloring agents is prohibited.

24. All youth and adult leaders working with those youth will be expected to:

   “Show with Character.”

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**SHEEP & GOAT SKILL-A-THON CONTEST RULES**

1. The Skill-A-Thon Contest will include Sheep & Goat Information. This information could be in any component of the contest. The Skill-A-Thon will contain information similar to a Stockman’s contest but not necessarily presented in the same format or manner.

2. There will be junior, intermediate, and senior divisions for the Skill-a-thon contest. This will be an individual competition, no team awards given.

3. Contestants should bring their own pencils/pens, and free-of-notes clipboard. No contestant will be allowed to bring any books, notes, or pamphlets into the contest. No communication among contestants is allowed. Contestants will be furnished with any forms or answer sheets needed.

4. The contest will be available for exhibitors from 9 – 10:30 am and will be set up in stations for completion at each exhibitors own pace (contest will be proctored but not timed). Different contests or portions of contest may be designated for Juniors/Intermediates vs. Seniors.

5. The quiz questions will be limited to the following areas of focus (including both goats and sheep); breeds, reproduction, nutrition, animal health, and current events. (Some suggested resource materials – VCE publications, Ensminger *The Stockman’s Handbook*, Ensminger *Sheep and Goat Science*, Ensminger *Feeds and Nutrition*. Extension offices should have access to these resources. Material may come from other sources as well.)

6. The Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest may consist of the following components.
   1. Written Quiz
   2. Sheep and Goat Nutrition
   3. Sheep and Goat Genetics and Reproduction
   4. Sheep and Goat Products
   5. Sheep and Goat General Management
   6. Judging sheep and/or goat class(es) with questions

7. The Skill-A-Thon may include traditional stockman’s components such as breed/meats/feed identification, hay/meats judging, etc. to assess exhibitor knowledge in the above listed areas. However, knowledge-based activities unique to the Skill-A-Thon may also be utilized.

8. First level tie breaker is the quiz, judging class questions will be used next.

9. Please note – Any exhibitor’s lamb or goat may be selected for use in a judging class.
**CONTEST PREMIUMS FOR INDIVIDUALS:**

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**SHEPHERD AWARDS**

The Shepherd Award will be based on an overall points system. Points will accumulate from Lamb / Goat Show Placings, Lamb / Goat Showmanship, and the Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest. Youth must participate in all three contest areas to be eligible for the Shepherd Award. In the event of a tie, the tie breaker will be the Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest Individual Score.

**HOME-RAISED CLASS**

Exhibitors can enter one of their lamb/goat in the Home-Raised Class. Home raised entries are animals that were born on the exhibitor’s farm and raised, shown by the exhibitor. This class will be a market lamb/goat class. Awards will include ribbons and/or a plaque. Premiums will not be awarded in this class.

**YMQA TRAINING**

Please answer the question in the entry process regarding YMQA training and whether or not you still need that certification to participate in the 2017 State Fair of VA. A determination as to whether or not a training opportunity will be offered during the Lamb & Goat Symposium will be made based on the needs assessed through this survey question. A final decision will be made after entries have been received.

For questions or more information on the VA Lamb & Goat Symposium please contact: Katherine Carter, VCE-Botetourt, carterke@vt.edu or 540-473-8260  
Joi Saville, VT Animal and Poultry Sciences, jdyer@vt.edu or 540-231-2257
The entries for the 2017 Virginia Lamb/Goat Symposium will be accepted on-line only (entry deadline is June 15). Please visit:

valambgoatsymposium.fairentry.com

to enter the on-line entry system.

We are utilizing FairEntry to capture entries in 2017. This system is tied to 4-HOnline. Please see the tips below for more information on how to best utilize the system. A help sheet with screenshots can be found at:

ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/youth-livestock/other-contests.html

If you are a 4-H Member:

1. Sign-in using your 4-HOnline Family information.
   a. If you forgot your password, there is a link to reset it.
   b. If you reset your password, please remember to reset it in 4HOnline. Please contact Katherine Carter or Joi Saville, with any questions.
2. Please choose your family member (exhibitor). Only one child can be entered at a time.
3. Please verify your contact information, including mailing address. **This step is very important, as premium checks will be mailed to this address.**
4. Be sure to enter ALL EXHIBITORS within the family prior to clicking submit.
   a. Once you click submit, your entries are locked until they are approved.
   Additional family member entries cannot be accepted until they have been approved.
5. Once all family members and exhibitors have been entered, make sure you click submit to finalize your entries. Entries are not final until you have clicked submit.

If you are a FFA member:

1. You will need to create a new account under FairEntry.
   a. Please use a valid email account, as you will be receiving confirmation messages about your entries.
2. Once you have completed the entry process, make sure you click submit to finalize your entries. Entries are not final until you have clicked submit.
You will receive a confirmation email with your entries and invoice. Please make sure that you complete the following to finalize your entry into the Symposium:

1. **Print a copy** of the email from FairEntry.
2. **IF YOU ARE AN FFA member, have FFA advisor sign the top of the email.**
3. Enclose a $10/head registration fee (**check payable to VA 4-H Foundation**)
4. Mail printed entry form and **payment payable to VA 4-H Foundation** to the following address:
   - ATTN: Joi Saville
   - VA Sheep/Goat Symposium
   - 362 Litton Reaves Hall (MC 0306)
   - Blacksburg, VA 24061-0306

**LATE REGISTRATIONS** will be charged a $20 late fee per exhibitor.

**On-line registration, printed form, and registration fee due by Thursday, June 15, 2017 (postmark date.)**