

2024 Virginia Youth Lamb & Goat Symposium



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New River Valley Fairgrounds
5581 Fair Grounds Circle, Dublin, VA 24084

Saturday, June 15, 2024
Judge: Mr. Blaine French, Broadway, Virginia

*****The VA Lamb & Goat Symposium is a sanctioned show of the Virginia Showmasters Circuit**
*****Only enrolled Virginia 4-H and FFA Youth are eligible to show (No out-of-state or PeeWee)**

SCHEDULE

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM | Arrival, Check-in and Scales open |
| 9:30 AM | All Lambs/Goats <i>MUST</i> be on-site |
| 10:00 AM | Weight Cards due |
| 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM | Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest |
| | Lunch (on your own) |
| 11:00 AM | Goat Showmanship, Commercial Does, Market Goats |
| Followed by: | Lamb Showmanship, Commercial Ewes, Market Lambs |
| Conclusion of Show | Skill-a-thon Winners and Overall Shepherd Winners |
| | Announced |

Registration will be conducted online via [FairEntry](#)
Registration/Entry Information is on the last two pages of this packet.
Entries are due Wednesday, June 12th at 5:00 PM
Late Entries with additional fees will be accepted 6/13 – 6/15

VIRGINIA LAMB & GOAT SYMPOSIUM LEADERSHIP

Co-Chair: Katherine Carter

Co-Chair: Dr. Scott Greiner

Co-Chair: Hunter Liles

*****We welcome VCE Faculty and Volunteers to serve on committees. Please contact Katherine Carter if you or a volunteer would like to serve on the committee.*****

VIRGINIA YOUTH LAMB & GOAT SYMPOSIUM - GENERAL RULES

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

- A. **SKILL-A-THON** Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions
- B. **SHOWMANSHIP** Novice, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions
- C. **CLASS PLACINGS** Market Lamb, Commercial Ewe, Market Goat, and Commercial Doe Classes
- D. **SHEPHERD AWARD** Points accumulated from the Lamb or Goat Show, Lamb or Goat Showmanship, and Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest

1. **Entry Fees are \$25/head.** Please make payment via check to **“Treasurer of VT”**. **There is not an online credit card payment option for this show.** Please submit payments promptly. *Late entries will be accepted **online** Thursday, June 13th until check-in on Saturday, June 15th.* **All late entries will be charged a \$40/head fee and payment by check MUST be made in person at the show. Late entries must be entered online using the **FairEntry** System, prior to checking in, submitting payment, and picking up weight cards.**

2. Entries cannot total more than **four (4)** Market Lamb singles, **three (3)** Commercial Ewe singles (**not to exceed a total of 6 lambs**) and **six (7) total goats** (any combination of Market Goats and/or Commercial Does) in the entire show per exhibitor.

3. **ALL entries (including late entries) must be made via the online system and can be found at: <http://2024valambgoatsymposium.fairentry.com/>**

Payment (for early entries) via check, made payable to: **Treasurer of VT, should be postmarked by June 13th and mailed to:**

**Katherine Carter
VA Lamb & Goat Symposium
380 Litton Reaves Hall (0306)
175 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061**

4. Exhibitor Eligibility:

- A. 4-H: Virginia youth between the ages of 8 -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, 2024 and must not have had their 19th birthday before January 1, 2024.**
- B. FFA: Students who are officially enrolled as Virginia FFA members (paid local, state, and national dues and have not passed their 19th birthday).

5. AGE DIVISIONS (Using 4-H year, age as of September 30, 2024)

Sheep & Goat Skill-A-Thon Contest, Showmanship, and Shepherd Awards divisions are based on age of exhibitor and follow those of the State Fair of VA Youth Livestock Shows.

- A. Age 9 – 12 **Junior Division**
- B. Age 13 – 15 **Intermediate Division**
- C. Age 16 – 19 **Senior Division**
- D. Age 12 and under **Novice – FIRST year of showing the respective species**

***Novice division only applies to Showmanship**

****Youth ages 9-12 participating in the Virginia Showmasters Circuit must show in JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP to earn VSC points. NO POINTS FOR NOVICE CLASSES.**

6. Exhibitors should plan to show off their trailers. **THE PENS IN THE BARN WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR USE.** Please note- Truck and trailer parking will be outside and adjacent to the building. Please do not block any entrances or access to the arena.
7. **All exhibitors are expected to leave the event center, ring, and their individual exhibitor area clean before leaving the show. This includes the wash rack area and areas around your trailer.**
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 CHECKED-IN AND IN THE SHOW.
9. **Exhibitors must show their own animal in showmanship. The animal must also be entered in the show in the name of the exhibitor showing said animal in showmanship. Showmanship is a clean, dry show and all animals must be free of glues, adhesives, or paints.**

**All exhibitors will automatically be entered into the appropriate Showmanship Division and Class based on their birth date and age as of Sept. 30, 2024. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to scratch from showmanship by 10:30 AM on day of show.

10. When determined by the show management, any sick or unhealthy lamb/goat (foot rot, sore mouth, club lamb fungus, other diseases) will not be allowed to show and may be asked to be removed from the premises. **The decision of the show management will be final. No Health Papers or CVIs are required.**
11. **All animals must have the scrapie ID tag or a flock/herd identification tattoo.**
12. Market lambs may be wethers or ewes. Market goats may be wethers or does. Wethers must show no evidence of testicular tissue and should be healed from castration.
13. Market lambs must be exhibited shorn slick to the skin above the knee and hock joints (**flank/belly wool prohibited**) **Exhibitors are responsible for removing all wool or debris if they do any shearing or trimming at the show.**
14. Market lambs will be shown by breed type. Breed type will be determined by a classification committee. The classification committee will apply standards described below to evaluate and place lambs in the proper class. The decisions of the classification committee will be final. Classification will take place when weight cards are turned in. Market lambs will be divided into breed-type divisions as follows:
 - a) **White-Face:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of straightbred or purebred white-face breeds and crosses of those white-face breeds (Dorset, Cheviot, Montadale, Rambouillet, Texel, etc.). Lambs should exhibit characteristics of these breeds as found in the respective breed association breed standards. For example, Dorset lambs should be all white, with pink nose, mouth lining and lips. Wool and hair should be free of dark fiber and brown spots

(exception: a black spot on the nose, septum, mouth or an ear equal to or smaller than the size of an eraser head is acceptable). Excessive dark colored spots in the wool or hair anywhere on the animal; dark/black nose, septum, or mouth; and black hooves or hooves with excessive black striping are not acceptable.

- b) **White-Face Cross:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of a percentage white-face and percentage any other non-whiteface breeding. Evidence of significant white speckling/spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs. This class may also contain any lambs which are predominantly white which do not meet the criteria for White-Face classification (i.e. excessive dark coloration for white-face breeds). Also includes piebald-colored lambs.
- c) **Southdown:** Lambs must exhibit purebred 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) **Hair Sheep:** Lambs must exhibit purebred characteristics of hair sheep breeds (Katahdin, Dorper, etc.). Lambs must be of straight hair sheep breeding; crossbred hair x wool breeding is not acceptable.
- e) **Black-Face or Crossbred:** 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 any other breed type classes.

15. **Lambs/goats exhibited in the market classes may not be shown in the commercial ewe/doe classes and vice versa.**

16. ALL lambs/goats must possess lamb/kid teeth to be eligible (ie: must be less than a year of age and not possess yearling teeth)

17. Commercial ewes will be shown by breed type. Breed type will be determined by a classification committee. The classification committee will apply standards described below to evaluate and place lambs in the proper class. The decisions of the classification committee will be final. Classification will take place when weight cards are turned in. Commercial ewes will be divided into breed-type divisions as follows:

- a) **White-Face:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of straightbred or purebred white-face breeds and crosses of those white-face breeds (Dorset, Cheviot, Montadale, Rambouillet, Texel, etc.). Lambs should exhibit characteristics of these breeds as found in the respective breed association breed standards. For example, Dorset lambs should be all white, with pink nose, mouth lining and lips. Wool and hair should be free of dark fiber and brown spots (exception: a black spot on the nose, septum, mouth or an ear equal to or smaller than the size of an eraser head is acceptable). Excessive dark colored spots in the wool or hair anywhere on the animal; dark/black nose, septum, or mouth; and black hooves or hooves with excessive black striping are not acceptable.
- b) **White-Face Cross:** Includes lambs exhibiting characteristics of a percentage white-face and percentage any other non-whiteface breeding. Evidence of significant white speckling/spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs. This class may also contain any lambs which are predominantly white which do not meet the criteria for White-Face classification (i.e. excessive dark coloration for white-face breeds). Also includes piebald-colored lambs.
- c) **Hair Sheep:** Lambs must exhibit purebred characteristics of hair sheep breeds (Katahdin, Dorper, etc.). Lambs must be of straight hair sheep breeding; crossbred hair x wool breeding is not acceptable.

- d) **Black-Face or Crossbred:** 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 any other breed type classes.
18. Commercial Ewe and Market Lamb breed classes will be divided according to weight. Market Goats and Commercial Does will be shown by weight. 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, Commercial Ewe, Market Goat and/or Commercial Doe shows may be further designated into appropriate weight divisions for recognition purposes.
 19. A declared weight and weigh-back system will be used for all entries. Exhibitors will receive an official weight/entry card at check-in. Scales will be made available, and exhibitors will fill out and turn in the weight card with a called/declared weight. Weight cards will be due at 10 AM. This will become the animal's official show weight. The top 2-3 placing animals in each class may be weighed back during the show. Both lambs and goats will be allowed a 5-pound weight tolerance. All animals heavier than the prescribed weight tolerance will be disqualified from the show. Disqualified animals are not eligible for any other classes. No reweighs will be allowed. Animals placing lower than the disqualified animal will be moved up as applicable.
 20. Use of irritants including alcohols, sprays, and other irritants is prohibited. The use of external or internal tail stimulants is prohibited.
 21. The use of adhesives and glues for purpose of fitting hair is allowed, however the addition of twine and hair (such as to "build" legs) is prohibited. Fitting is allowed for weight classes ONLY. Showmanship is a clean, dry show and all animals must be free of glues, adhesives, or paints.
 22. Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals in an acceptable manner and adhere to quality assurance guidelines.
 23. All youth and adult leaders working with those youth will be expected to:

"Show with Character"

HOME-RAISED CLASSES

Exhibitors can enter one (1) lamb in the Home-Raised Market Lamb Class and one (1) goat in the Home-Raised Market Goat Class. **Home raised entries are animals that were born on the exhibitor's farm, raised and shown by the exhibitor.** There will be NO PRE-ENTRY of Home-Raised Goats or Lambs. Each exhibitor may bring ONE eligible animal ringside prior to the Home-Raised Class for each species. Market animals and commercial breeding females that qualify for the Home-Raised Class will show together in one class, by species.

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. The exhibitor's highest placing in Showmanship, Highest Placing Single Animal, and Overall Score in the Sheep & Goat Skillathon Contest will be used in the calculation. 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.

SHEEP & GOAT SKILL-A-THON CONTEST RULES

1. The Skill-A-Thon Contest will include sheep and 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 presented in the same format as the SFVA Skill-A-Thon Contest.
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 and clipboards (free-of-notes). 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 AM – 10:30 AM and will be set up in stations for completion at each exhibitor's own pace (contest will be proctored but not timed). Different contests or portions of contest may be designated for Senior vs. Juniors/Intermediates.
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 lamb 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.

For questions or more information on the VA Lamb & Goat Symposium please contact:

Katherine Carter - Extension Youth Animal Science Specialist

carterke@vt.edu 540-231-2257

Hunter Liles - Extension Youth Animal Science Program Associate

Huntl97@vt.edu 540-231-6345



2023 Virginia Lamb & Goat Symposium Registration Information



Virginia Lamb & Goat Symposium entries will be accepted online only and are due June 12 (late entries, with higher entry fee, will be accepted June 13-15). To enter please visit: <http://2024valambgoatsymposium.fairentry.com/> We are utilizing FairEntry to capture entries. 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:

If you are a 4-H Member:

1. **CLICK THE GREEN “Sign in with 4HONLINE” button FIRST!**
2. 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 with any questions.
3. Choose your family member/exhibitor. Only one child can be entered at a time.
4. Please verify your contact information, including mailing address.
5. 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.
 - b. Additional family member entries cannot be accepted until they have been approved.
6. Once all family members/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 an FFA member:

1. You will need to either:
 - a. Enter your credentials, if you have created an account at the State Fair of Virginia, Junior Beef Roundup or other local fair that uses FairEntry; or
 - b. Create a new account under FairEntry.
 - c. CLICK THE BLUE “SIGN In with FairEntry” button**
2. Please use a valid email account, as you will be receiving confirmation messages about your entries.
3. 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.*

Tips for Exhibitors making Online Entries:

- Recommended browsers: Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. Older versions of Internet Explorer may cause unexpected results.
- Register all entries for each exhibitor in the family before proceeding to the Payment section.
- Be sure to click the "Submit" button when you have completed your entries. Entries are not final until they have been submitted.
- Check your email inbox for a confirmation email with a list of your entries and any related fees.
- You will receive a second email when your entries have been approved by your fair.

ENTRY PROCESS

We will not be asking for individual lamb/goat information. Please pay particular attention to the Class selections. You will enter the TOTAL number of lambs/goats that you plan to enter within that class.

Department / Division Sheep / Commercial Ewe Change

Make your Club, Animal, and Class selections to continue. Continue

Club Change

Montgomery County Livestock 4-H Club 4-H
(Primary Club)

When entering into an Open Class, your club selection will be treated as No Club (Open).

Class or Classes

501: White-Face Commercial Ewe Quantity: 1

502: Speckle-Face Commercial Ewe

503: Black-Face Commercial Ewe Quantity: 1

Animal(s) Add Animal

Allowed Animal Types:

- Commercial Female

Enter a single animal

Enter a pen of animals

I will specify animal(s) later

Animal information will be added at the show.

Enter the total number of lambs that you plan to enter in this class.

FairEntry © 2018 RegistrationMax LLC

You will receive a confirmation email with your entries and invoice. Please make sure that you complete the following steps to finalize your entry into the Symposium:

1. **Print a copy** of the email from FairEntry.
2. Enclose the total amount due noted on your invoice (\$25/head) in the form of a **check payable to Treasurer of VT**
3. Mail printed entry form and payment to:
Katherine Carter
VA Lamb & Goat Symposium
380 Litton Reaves Hall (0306)
175 West Campus Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Early online registration, printed receipt, and fees are due by Wednesday, June 12th (postmark date) \$25/head

Late registration can be processed online June 13-15 and payment by check of \$40/head paid in person at show