



September 15, 2017

To: Youth Livestock Exhibitors at the 2017 State Fair of Virginia

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We are excited about the upcoming State Fair of Virginia in Doswell and we look forward to seeing all of you October 6 – 8, 2017. We have received your entries for the upcoming Youth Livestock Shows. Please find several items and information regarding the State Fair enclosed in this packet.

Schedule: Please find the weigh-in/check-in, show and skill-a-thon schedule enclosed in this packet. Please look over the schedule carefully, show days and orders have changed to accommodate the Sale of Champions on Saturday evening. This information can also be accessed under the State Fair of Virginia information at www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock.

NEW!

YAPP App: We have worked with the 4-H department and have an app that will provide information about the shows, as well as let everyone post pictures and news feeds. Please bear with us as this is new software and we are still getting used to all of its features. If you see something that might be of use that is not available on the app, please let me know. This app will send notifications to your phone during the show. Our intent is to keep you posted of show times and schedules, along with any other reminders that need to be sent.

- Please visit your app store on either an Android or Apple device and download the YAPP app. It will either ask for a confirmation code or link to the event you are trying to connect to. For the State Fair Youth Livestock Shows, a code will be provided at a later date. You will enter this direct link on your mobile device. Please watch for this direct link in an e-mail that will be sent out to each of you.

Sale of Champions: New this year, Grand & Reserve Grand Champion market animals will be sold in the Youth Livestock Sale of Champions on Saturday night at 6pm. Exhibitors and the general public are invited to attend the sale at 6pm in the cattle barn/show ring.

Tickets & Parking Passes: The exhibitor tickets and the parking pass that you are entitled to are enclosed. Each exhibitor should have 3 exhibitor passes and 1 parking pass enclosed. If you ordered extra exhibitor tickets, they are included in this mailing. Please make certain you bring your tickets and passes with you as they will be required for admittance into the state fairgrounds.

Map: Please make certain you look over the map and review where the livestock shows will be held and where you will be asked to park.

Unloading & Parking: Trucks and trailers will be allowed to come into the fairgrounds and unload next to the tent where their animals will be housed. We ask that you unload quickly and move your vehicle to the appropriate parking lot when you are finished unloading. There will be limited parking allowed for trailers inside the fence for easy access while you are at the Fair. This parking will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. When the parking spots are filled up inside the fence, all others will park outside the fence on the south side of the fairgrounds. Parking spots cannot be reserved for others; livestock are allowed to begin arriving at 10 AM on Thursday, October 5. **You will only be given one parking pass per family; we are not given extra passes so please coordinate the vehicles you are traveling in to utilize the parking pass you are given.**

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Stalling: Beef will be assigned a stalling location prior to your arrival on the fairgrounds. Stalling requests were due September 18th. Sheep and meat goats will be stalled primarily by county; however, due to differing pen sizes in the barns not all youth will be able to be stalled with their county. The location of where you will be stalled will be marked when you arrive. Stalling in the Hog barn will also be pre-assigned.

Bedding: Southern States Cooperative has generously donated shavings for the 2017 Youth Livestock Shows at the State Fair of Virginia. If you are a sheep, meat goat, or swine exhibitor, shavings will be available for your stalling area.

Skill-a-Thon: This year we will again be offering species specific skill-a-thon contests. All four species are including the scores from the skill-a-thon as part of their premier exhibitor program. The skill-a-thon's will be held on Friday, October 6 from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (**take note of the new time**). There will be one designated area for registration; this area will be outside of the fair office. If you are showing multiple species, then you will need to compete in each of the skill-a-thon contests for the species you will be showing. If you enjoy competing in skill-a-thon contests and would like to compete in a species other than those you are exhibiting, we will allow you to compete in ONE additional skill-a-thon contest.

Exhibitor Meetings: Please note each species will have an exhibitor's meeting prior to the start of their shows (meetings will take place in each species showring). Please see schedule for appropriate times for each species, and plan to attend to receive important information on the conduct of the show.

Health Regulations: Please see the enclosed letter from the State Veterinarian's Office.

1. All livestock must have a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI = health paper) issued within 30 days of the State Fair by an accredited veterinarian stating that the animals are free of infectious and contagious diseases. Beef, sheep and goat exhibitors must present their CVI with their animal at check-in; swine exhibitors must present their CVI and be at their pen with their animals on Friday, October 6 from 1:00-2:00 pm (**note new time**) for inspection.
2. Representatives of the State veterinarian's office will check your health papers for validity and completeness.
3. All animals will be subject to individual health inspection upon arrival (in addition to the required inspection at weigh-in/check-in) by representatives of the State Veterinarian's office working in collaboration with the State Fair of Virginia staff.
4. Any animal found to have an active case of an infectious or contagious disease or condition will be eliminated from the show and will not be permitted in animal stalling or exhibit areas, and may be required to return to the premises of origin.
5. Please review the individual species rules and regulations for additional health requirements. All livestock must have a CVI (health paper) that is current (in the last 30 days) upon arrival. The CVI will be checked at check-in/weigh-in so you must bring the paper with you. If you are exhibiting cattle, please see the special health regulations pertaining to proper identification.

Rules: Each exhibitor, parent, and volunteer should read the *Livestock Rules and Regulations for their specific species and the State Fair of Virginia General Rules* which can be accessed at www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock. By participating in the State Fair of Virginia, all parties agree to abide by these rules.

Residue Testing: The Champion and Reserve Champion market beef, lamb, goat, and hog will be tested for tissue residues again this year. These animals will be harvested at the Virginia Tech Meat Center on campus and an educational program is planned for all exhibitors on Sunday, October 15 from 2-4 PM.

Show Supply Vendors: Twisted South Show Supply (Sullivan's Supply dealer) will be set up as show vendors at the State Fair of Virginia.