



Virginia Cooperative Extension
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DATE: June 8, 2020
TO: Potential Youth Livestock Exhibitors at 2020 State Fair of Virginia
FROM: Katherine E. Carter, Assistant Youth Livestock Programming Specialist

Plans are taking shape for the state youth livestock shows at the 2020 State Fair of Virginia in Doswell this fall and we hope that you will plan to join us! We recognize that this has been a season of change and many unknowns, but we are excited to move forward and begin planning for this year's state youth livestock shows. As of right now, plans for a 2020 SFVA are in place. We recognize that this could possibly change, so we ask that everyone remain flexible and understanding of any future adjustments that may be necessary.

There are a lot of with regards to this year's shows, nomination protocol, and deadlines. Please share this information with any new exhibitors, particularly those in your club or county. All information pertaining to the fair – letters, rules, links, forms, tentative schedule - can be found on the Youth Livestock web site at www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock under the State Fair tab on our homepage.

Important Updates for 2020

- Dates: – All beef, sheep, swine and meat goats will show October 2 - 4, 2020; the second weekend of the State Fair. The ***tentative*** schedule for this year's State Fair is included. We appreciate everyone being flexible as we continue to finalize the schedule details, and promise to keep you informed of any changes.
- Nomination of Animals - This year there will be **NO In-Person Nomination Sites**. **All of the nominations will be done using an online, self-nomination process with animal pictures, and DNA collection/submission.**
 - Step 1: Order your DNA envelopes and Tags (Cattle and Hogs ONLY, if needed)
 - <https://tinyurl.com/SFVA-DNAEnvelope-Tag-Request>
 - Step 2: Complete the Online Nomination Process, uploading information and pictures
 - <https://tinyurl.com/2020-SFVA-Youth-Nominations>
- Which animals require nomination, tagging, and DNA submission?
 - Beef – Market Steers, Market Heifers, Commercial/Crossbred Heifers (NOT PROSPECTS)
 - Meat Goats – Market Goats and Commercial Does
 - Sheep – Market Lambs and Commercial Ewes
 - Swine – ALL Hogs (Market and Breeding, Gilts and Barrow, Crossbred and Purebred)
- DNA Collection/Submission – All nominated animals must have DNA (hair follicle samples) submitted at the time of nomination. DNA envelopes and any cattle or hog EID tags must be ordered using the link above. There is a “How To” sheet attached to this email that explains the step-by-step

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process for getting envelopes and tags ordered and your nominations completed. **DNA and NOMINATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 1, 2020 at 5:00 PM.**

- Tagging – You will use the following tags as Official Identification for your nominated animals:
 - Sheep and Goats:** Federally Required Scrapie Tag (needs to be a plastic visual tag, not the small metal tags)
 - Hogs:** Any USDA-compliant “840” EID Tag (these can be ordered with your DNA envelopes, if needed)
 - Cattle:** Any USDA-compliant “840” EID Tag (these can be ordered with your DNA envelopes, if needed)

Nomination Deadline is August 1, 2020 at 5:00 PM. The system will automatically close at 5:00 pm EST. **All nomination forms and DNA samples must be mailed and postmarked by August 1, 2020 to:** Katherine Carter, Assistant Youth Livestock Specialist, 175 West Campus Dr., 362 Litton Reaves Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061

Don’t Forget to Enter - **Please remember that nomination does not constitute entry. Nominated animals must also be entered using the **FairEntry** system that will go live for **2020 State Fair of VA on July 1st**. The link to the entry system is <https://fairentry.com/Fair/SignIn/14595>

Entry Fees will be \$12.00/head, payable by check to: Virginia 4-H Foundation

Entry Fees must be postmarked by August 15th and mailed to:

Katherine E. Carter
175 W. Campus Dr.
362 Litton Reaves
Blacksburg, VA 24061

It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to read the complete rules for each species you plan to enter/exhibit. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the rules. A copy of the rules can be found on the VA Youth Livestock Website www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock

2020 Show Rules/Policy Changes (please see Rules posted online for complete details):

- Schedule-** There are changes to this year’s schedule. **All animals must be in place no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, October 1st. Shows will begin at 8:00 am on Friday morning.**
- Substitute Showman-** Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class or is showing another species in another ring. **New this year: Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA members with 2020 SFVA Youth Livestock entries of any species on-site and checked-in.**
- YQCA –** The YQCA Training Requirement for all 2020 State Fair of VA Youth Livestock Exhibitors has been **WAIVED**
- Premier Exhibitor and Skillathon Rules** will be available prior to July 1st when the entry system opens

- e) **General Rules, including ticket information**, will be available prior to July 1st when the entry system opens
- f) **Beef**
- Use of Paints, paint products, colored adhesives, and other color altering products is prohibited
 - Market Steers and Market Heifers must have a minimum entry of 10 head for a separate division. If the 10 head minimum is not met, then steers and heifers will show together, by weight, in a Market Beef Division
 - Registered, percentage breeding heifers must meet the requirements to be eligible to show in their respective breed's national junior show. If they do NOT meet that requirement, then they must complete the Nomination process with DNA submission and show in the Commercial/Crossbred Division.
 - An Owned and Bred & Owned division will be offered for all registered breeds. A minimum of 10 head is required for separate divisions. If the 10 head minimum is not met, then Owned and Bred & Owned for that breed will show together in classes broken by birth date.
- g) **Swine**
- Gilt designation for breeding or market will be made at weigh-in, not nomination
 - Purebred Gilts must be born between February 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020 and will show by birthdate

Schedule – More Details to Follow

Thursday, October 1, 2020

5:00 PM – All Livestock Must Be In Place

Friday, October 2, 2020

8:00 AM – Shows will begin

Throughout the Day – Species Skillathons will be held

Saturday, October 3, 2020

8:00 AM – Shows will begin

7:00 PM – Sale of Champions

Sunday, October 4, 2020

8:00 AM – Shows will resume

2:00 PM – Youth Livestock are Released

Complete details of the show schedules, judges, policies and rules for each species will be posted at the youth livestock homepage www.ext.vt.edu/youthlivestock. Please check this site regularly for important changes and updates!

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at carterke@vt.edu or call 540-231-2257.