



2025 Market Hogs

Superintendent:

Agriculture Office: 716-649-3900
Ext. 6499 or 6480
Email: entries@ecfair.org
Website: www.ecfair.org

Judge:

TBD

Check out the Erie County Fair
Open Livestock Show for
another opportunity to show
while at the Fair!

YLE Market Hog Schedule:

DNA Submission Deadline: July 1st
Early Entry Deadline: July 14th (\$25 per head)
Late Entry Deadline: Submitted July 15th – August 1st
(\$50 per head)
Stalling: Barn 11
Arrival: August 12th – 9:00pm-11:00pm &
August 13th - 6:00am-8:00am
Check-In & Weigh-In: August 13th - 8:30am Showplex
Classification: August 13th 9:00am – Showplex Arena
Show: August 13th-7:00pm - Showplex
Contests: August 14th – 9:00am – Barn 2
Grand Drive: August 15th – 8:00pm – Showplex
Auction: August 16th – 11:30am – Showplex
Breakfast with Champions: August 17th – 9:00am –
Clubhouse
Release: August 17th - 6:00pm

Join us in celebrating 2025 4H, FFA, & Youth Livestock Expo Champions at the Breakfast with Champions Event on Sunday,
August 17th at 9:00am. \$27 tickets can be purchased at www.ecfair.org

Rules & Regulations:

1. Exhibitors are required to purchase a \$20.00 wristband. Wristbands are valid for single person admission each day of your stay. If you do not bring your livestock to the fair for any reason, you will not receive your exhibitor wristbands.
2. Exhibitors entered in the Youth Livestock Expo must be at least 4 years of age and no older than 21 years of age as of January 1st of the current year.
3. All youth exhibitors from the United States and Canada are invited to enter in the Youth Livestock Expo. Please know that all youth (including 4-H and FFA) must pay appropriate fees.
4. All New York State Veterinarian decisions are final and supported by Erie County Fair Staff inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated and can result in forfeit of premiums and removal from fair.
5. Stalling will be preassigned. Tack pens are NOT guaranteed. In divisions where entries do not exceed available space tack pens will be assigned by the superintendent.
6. All animal waste must be taken to the manure boxes and not left on the pavement to mix with run-off or storm water.
7. Initial sawdust bedding will be supplied to exhibitors. However, if the exhibitor wishes to use shavings or straw, they must bring it or buy it from a purveyor on the grounds. The Fair will not provide straw or shavings.
8. Exhibitors must provide their own waterers.
9. Rules of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Standards for the Conduct of Agriculture and Markets for Fairs and Summary of Livestock Health Requirements shall apply.
10. **Please read all Rules & Regulations, IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and the Animal Health Requirements.** Exhibitors will be required to “click to agree” when making online entries.
11. All Market Hogs must weigh between **220 and 300 pounds** at official weigh-in and must be born after December 1st of the previous year. **Animals will only be allowed to weigh one time. No re-weighs unless requested by show management.**
12. All Market Hogs will be subject to classification if not entered in the appropriate division. Final decision on division classification will be up to the show staff and classification committee.

13. All exhibitors are **required** to participate in **at least 2** contests during their stay at the Youth Livestock Expo, although we encourage exhibitors to participate in multiple contests. (See contest information for more details).
14. There is no limit to the number of animals entered per exhibitor, but each animal may compete for only one premium.
15. The exhibitor of the animal **MUST** be the owner of the animal at time of DNA submission.
16. DNA Validation Envelopes must be submitted for each animal by July 1st.
17. Once DNA has been submitted on the animal that is entered in the YLE, the animal is not to be shown anywhere in any other exhibitor's name until final show day in August.
18. Once DNA is submitted the animals entered in YLE must not have gone through a sale or changed ownership.
19. **Once an animal entry is submitted online, exhibitor is then declared and that animal can not be moved to another exhibitors name.**
20. All animals will be classified and broken into divisions based off breed characteristics livestock will be classified by the classification committee made up of three classifiers appointed by Show Management. If an animal does not meet breed classification, it will move to the appropriate division by the classification committee. **The judgment of the classification committee is final and not subject to protest.** Please keep in mind, registration paper, breeder affidavits, or other paperwork is not considered in the classification process. Eligibility for the class is determined only by visual appraisal, as evaluated by classifiers appointed by Show Management.
21. If you are planning on camping in the livestock lot, please note that payment does not guarantee a spot. You will be notified & refunded if camper lot is full.
22. In order to show showmanship or the market classes, the exhibitor **MUST** have an animal entered in the Youth Livestock Expo under their name.
23. Showmanship is mandatory to participate in the Youth Livestock Expo.
24. **If any exhibitor lives over 100 miles from the Erie County Fairgrounds, they are subject to leave after 9pm on Saturday, August 16th. MUST be pre-arranged with superintendent.**
25. **At the YLE Grand Drive each specie will be placed to 5th place, auction slots will **ONLY** be pulled from top 5 per specie.**

Protest:

- a. Protests regarding any livestock competitions and events held by the Erie County Agricultural Society, during the Erie County Fair, in Hamburg, NY (Youth Livestock Expo & Open Class Livestock Shows) must be made in writing on the appropriate form (link here), plainly stating the reason for the complaint or appeal. This form along with a \$300 cash deposit must be submitted to the CEO of the Erie County Agricultural Society The deposit shall be refunded **only** if the protest is sustained by the Erie County Agricultural Society CEO. If the protest is not sustained, the \$300 will be donated to the Erie County Agricultural Society scholarship fund.
- b. Classification and Judges opinion are not eligible for protest.
- c. Protests against the exhibition of animals shall be filed at least 3 hours before the start of the show that the animal/ exhibitor is being made against will show in.
- d. The CEO of the Erie County Agricultural Society may hold a meeting regarding the protest at which time the party making the protest may present evidence or argument in support of the protest.
- e. The written decision of the CEO of the Erie County Agricultural Society shall be final and shall be served by certified mail to the party making the protest within five days of the date on which the protest was heard.
- f. Exhibitors of animals at livestock competitions shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show.

Classification:

1. Classification standards are located on the ecfair.org website.
2. No pedigrees will be required or considered in the classification process.
3. The judgement of the classification committee is final and not subject to protest.
4. If the animal and exhibitor are not present at the classification area at the assigned time for that species and breeds classification that animal will be moved to the crossbred division.
5. If there are less than three hogs that classify within a breed that breed will be moved to the AOB division. If there are three hogs that classify as the same breed within the AOB division they will receive their own breed division.

Contests:

1. Each exhibitor MUST compete in at least two contests (one speaking **and** one creative) in addition to their animal showing (market & showmanship) to participate in the Youth Livestock Expo. If you enter more than one contest and wish to withdraw from one prior to the start of the contest please email intern2@ecfair.org stating the exhibitors name and which contest they wish to withdraw from and which contest they will still participate in.
2. To avoid long wait times, each exhibitor will be required to sign up ahead of time for each contest they want to participate in.
3. If special accommodations are needed, please let show management know at earliest convenience and before the start of fair.
4. There will be Top 5 Sweepstakes Winners selected. Once all contests are complete and judges' results are in, the points will be tallied. Exhibitor's overall points will consist of their highest market points, highest showmanship points and highest single contest points. (Example: John Doe has 10 Market Goat Points, 8 Market Lamb Points, 8 Goat Showmanship Points, 10 Lamb Showmanship Points, 5 Marketing Points, and 20 Interview Points. The final sweepstakes points for John Doe will come from his market goat, lamb showmanship, and interview for a total of 40 points.)
5. Contest tie breaker will be exhibitors total points from all contest. (Those who compete in more than two contest will have a greater chance of winning the tie breaker).
6. Payouts for Sweepstakes
 - a. Grand Champion- \$100 and a Banner
 - b. Reserve Grand Champion- \$75 and a Banner
 - c. Honorable Mention- \$50 and a Banner
 - d. 4th Overall- \$25 and a Banner
 - e. 5th Overall- \$15 and a Banner



Payouts Sponsored by: Note Advisors, LLC

7. Overall Sweepstakes winners will be announced on Friday, August 15th at 8pm in the Showplex Arena.
8. Contests available: (must select at least one from each list)

Speaking

- a. AgriCareer Spotlight: Youth Exploring Agricultural Jobs - Each exhibitor will be expected to do their own research prior to contest day on a career in agriculture of their choice. Exhibitors are to come prepared by having done research on one agricultural career and be ready to give a 3–5-minute speech about the career to the panel of judges. Exhibitors will be scored on their ability to explain the career in depth, such as education requirements, work conditions, tasks and what a day typical day would look like, etc. Exhibitors are allowed to bring supporting documents, props or materials, but are not required to do so.
- b. Informative Species Speech - Each exhibitor will be required to give a 3–5-minute educational speech on a topic related to the specie they will be exhibiting at the Youth Livestock Expo (if showing multiple, take your pick) to a panel of judges. Topics could include but are not limited to bathing, clipping, feeding, digestion systems, nutrition, etc. Photos, props, and materials are encouraged.
- c. Ag Issues – Each exhibitor will choose one topic from their respective age division listed below, or may bring an age appropriate topic of their choice. Exhibitors are to come prepared by having done research on the pros and cons of that ag issue and be prepared to present both sides of the issue to a panel of judges. Exhibitors will be scored on their ability to explain and argue both sides of the ag issue. Exhibitors are allowed to bring supporting documents, props or materials, but are not required to do so.

Topics:

Peewee – Is showing livestock as important as school or sports? Why?, Show tools: pros and cons of pig whips, goat collars, sheep cable halters and beef show sticks (pick one), selling your animal, pros and cons
Junior – Animal welfare, Are technology improvements really benefiting the world?, Is organic farming taking over the traditional farming ways?
Intermediate – Consumer Awareness, Floriculture sustainability, Food Security
Senior – Soil Biologicals and carbon emissions, Government Mandates and Regulations, Cell Cultured meat

Creative

- a. Graphic Design - Each exhibitor will promote the Youth Livestock Expo through their artistic skills. This contest challenges participants to design vibrant visuals that will be used to spread the word about YLE's mission to inspire youth involvement in livestock and agricultural activities. Exhibitors will create different designs based on their respective age division listed below. Exhibitors are to submit their graphic design project by emailing the file or a scanned picture of their artwork by August 1st. (Show management will not send any reminders or notifications of due date, if artwork is not emailed by end of day August 1st exhibitor will be automatically disqualified from the contest and must sign up for another creative contest if they aren't already). They should be emailed directly to intern2@ecfair.org.

What You Can Use:

Writing Utensils & Paper:

- You may use any type of writing utensils (pens, pencils, markers, colored pencils, etc.) and paper (lined, plain, or specialized) for hand-drawn elements of your design.
- You may also use sketchbooks or loose-leaf paper for creating your artwork.

Technology & Apps:

- You are allowed to use any technology or apps for digital designs, including but not limited to:
 - Graphic design software (e.g., Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Canva, etc.)
 - Drawing apps (e.g., Procreate, Adobe Fresco, etc.)
 - Social media design tools (e.g., Canva, PicMonkey, etc.)
 - Photography and video apps to incorporate visual elements like photos or illustrations.

What You Cannot Use:

AI Tools:

- You **cannot** use AI (Artificial Intelligence) tools or platforms for generating your design. All artwork and design elements must be created by you using traditional or digital methods.
- This includes the use of any AI-driven platforms such as generative design tools or automatic image creators (e.g., MidJourney, DALL-E, etc.).

Categories:

Peewee – create the design for a tack box sticker (including both a visual/logo and message)

Junior – create the design for a tack box sticker (including both a visual/logo and message)

Intermediate – design a Facebook post advertising the YLE

Senior – create a logo, theme (overarching look and feel that will be applied across all YLE materials. It includes the visual style, color scheme, typography, and mood that represents the brand's personality.) and style guide (comprehensive document that outlines the rules and standards for how the logo, theme, and other visual elements should be used across all forms of media and materials.)

- b. Educational Poster- This poster should be related to the species you are showing (if showing multiple, take your pick). Judging for this contest will take place at Barn 2, posters **must** be there **by Wednesday, August 13th at 9:00pm-10:00pm**. Please have posters labeled with the participants name on the front. Posters will be available for pick up at the conclusion of judging.
- c. Photography - Each exhibitor should supply a creative photo that **they** have taken of their animal throughout the project. You must enter the contest at the time of entering your animal. Once entered the photos will be due by August 1st. (Show management will not send any reminders or notifications of due date, if photo is not emailed by end of day August 1st exhibitor will be automatically disqualified from the contest and must sign up for another creative contest if they aren't already). They should be emailed directly to intern2@ecfair.org.

Herdsmanship:

Three Herdsmanship awards will be given out to the swine exhibitors. Herdsmanship will be judged daily by management, but not announced until the end of the stay. Awards are 1st place: \$50, 2nd place: \$25, 3rd place: \$15.

The following criteria will be considered for Herdsmanship judging:

1. Cleanliness & neatness of aisles, pens, bedding, and animals.
2. Stall decorations will be included in the overall herdsmanhip score. Make sure to tie with the theme **“Sights, Sounds, Tastes, and Feels of the Fair”**.
3. Promptness in getting animals into the show ring and competence in show ring.
4. Courtesy to fellow breeders, spectators, and others during the exhibit.
5. Personal appearance, including neatness and cleanliness of clothing in and out of the show ring.
6. Systematic and neat arrangement of feed, feed pans, bedding, tack, etc.

Tack Vendor:

Twist of Fate Tack Shop will be on site during the duration of the Erie County Fair. Reach out to them with your supply order! Phone: 860-759-9335.

Auction:

1. There will be 3 auction slots per species. One slot is guaranteed to the highest placing NY exhibitor. The other two slots go to the highest placing animals from any state (including NY). Exhibitors have the option to opt out of the sale, if that happens sale slots open up to the next highest place through 5th place. **No sale slots will be selected beyond 5th place.**
2. If you are one of the three listed animals above, you have the option of selling your animals. The exhibitor must notify the Youth Livestock Expo staff of their decision to sell or not immediately following their participation in the Grand Drive.
3. 6% commission will be taken out of the checks on all animals sales for the Youth Livestock Expo for expenses.

Scholarships (money placed into a 529 Plan):

The Erie County Agricultural Society pledges 2 opportunities for youth to win a \$10,000 scholarship. If an exhibitor wins 3 of the 4 Champion Market Animal Titles they will be awarded a \$10,000 scholarship. Also, if an exhibitor wins 3 of the 4 Champion Showman Competitions, they will be awarded a \$10,000 scholarship.

Release Schedule:

For your safety and the safety of the public the Erie County Fair has a release schedule protocol. This program was designed to eliminate the congestion of trucks and trailers on the Fairgrounds during release times. Each exhibitor will receive a time slot for release. Release times are given in 30-minute intervals. You will only be allowed into the Fairgrounds with your truck and trailer for that increment of time. The exhibitor's that have the longest travel time will receive the earliest time slots. Multiple trips will also be considered. It is in each exhibitor's best interest to help each other load animals and tack. **If any exhibitor lives over 100 miles from the Erie County Fairgrounds they are subject to leave after 9pm on Saturday, August 16th. This departure must be pre-arranged with superintendent.**

DNA:

1. All Youth Livestock Expo Market Animals must have DNA samples submitted to the Erie County Fair Agriculture Offices by appropriate deadlines. **All DNA validation envelopes will be species specific and color-coded.**
2. All DNA must be post marked by July 1st of the current year. The YLE is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail. **Certified mail with return receipt is recommended.**
3. Hair will be used for DNA validation on all species. DNA Validation envelopes must be ordered from the Erie County Agricultural Society office. Only 2025 YLE DNA Validation envelopes will be accepted. Please follow the instructions for collecting hair samples exactly. Should the original sample not be a valid sample, the animal may be disqualified, and no monies will be paid.
4. There is no limit on the number of DNA samples that an exhibitor may submit.
5. Animals must be individually identified. The following forms of identification must be used. The identification on the animal must exactly match the identification on the DNA validation envelope.
 - a. Market Swine- must be identified by a federal 840 tag number, ear notches, and any plastic tag (not mentioned previously). Official ID's must start with 840 and must have the US shield on them.
 - b. Market Steers/Heifers- must be identified by a Federal 840 tag number, tattoo, and any plastic tag (not mentioned previously).
 - c. Lambs must be identified by a scrapie ID number* and individual tag number and any plastic tag (not mentioned previously). Entire ID number including state ID and herd/flock number** is required.
 - d. Goats must be identified by a scrapie ID number* and any plastic tag (not mentioned previously). Entire ID number including state ID and herd/flock number** is required.
6. Once DNA has been submitted on the animal that is entered in the YLE, the animal is not to be shown anywhere in any other exhibitors name until final show day in August.

***Since scrapie tags can occasionally be lost, it is recommended that you also tattoo the lamb or goat and record the tattoo number on the front of the DNA envelope.**

****Scrapie tag numbers vary greatly, however each tag will include a state identified, herd number and animal number. The scrapie tag number on the DNA envelope must include the entire ID number as listed about and must EXACTLY match the number on the scrapie tag at check-in.**

7. Any discrepancies at check-in will be the responsibility of the exhibitor and the animal may be disqualified from the show. Should additional DNA testing be allowed (only if approved by show officials and determined on an individual bases), the cost to the exhibitor will be \$150 payable immediately by cash or credit card only. After testing is completed, any exhibitor showing an animal without a matching DNA sample will be subject to consequences determined by YLE management, including but not limited to, disqualification of animal, forfeiture of all monies, and suspension from showing at the Youth Livestock Expo.
8. Family Nominations: Siblings (two or more individuals have one common parent) may submit DNA samples on the same animal if all siblings are involved in the care and management of the animal. Names and signatures of each sibling must appear on the DNA Validation Envelope when it is submitted. Siblings may submit DNA samples on the same animal but may not enter the same animal in the show. All DNA Validation Envelopes from the same family should be sent in the same envelope.
9. **Once an animal is entered, exhibitor is then declared and that animal can not be moved to another exhibitors name.**
10. DNA provides proof of ownership. Except for the sibling rule above, market animals can only have DNA submitted by one exhibitor. If multiple DNA samples are received for the same animal by multiple exhibitors, the animal and the exhibitors may be disqualified from the show.
11. DNA validation does not constitute an entry in the 2025 Youth Livestock Expo. Regular entry procedures must be followed; early entry deadline is July 14th. Visit www.ecfair.org for more details on entering.
12. Should there be any missing information on your 2025 YLE Validation Envelope for any reason, there will be a \$10.00 reprocessing fee.

Note: DNA Validation Envelopes/ hair samples submitted to the Youth Livestock Expo on all junior market animals become property of the Youth Livestock Expo. Exhibitors relinquish any claim to said envelopes and samples when submitted as proof of ownership. Validation envelopes/samples are stored in a secured environment and are destroyed in due time following the show.

Divisions:

\$25 Early Entry Fee / \$50 Late Entry Fee (per head)

Market Hogs- Classification (see rule # 20)

Class Payouts: \$50/\$40/\$30/\$20/\$10

Division Payouts: \$100/\$75

- Grand Champion Market Hog- \$1000
- Reserve Grand Champion Market Hog- \$750
- Honorable Mention Market Hog- \$500
- Fourth Overall Market Hog- \$300
- Fifth Overall Market Hog- \$200

Market Hog Showmanship- \$10 Entry Fee

Pee-Wee Showman (Ages 4-8)

Junior Showman (Ages 9-12)

Intermediate Showman (Ages 13-16)

Senior Showman (Ages 17-21)

Class Payouts: \$50/\$40/\$30/\$20/\$10

Division Payouts: \$100/\$75

- Grand Champion Hog Showman- \$1000
- Reserve Grand Champion Market Hog Showman- \$750

Youth Livestock Expo Junior Market Hog Entry Checklist:

- Read ALL Youth Livestock Expo Rules and Regulations
- Order DNA Validation envelopes from the Youth Livestock Expo
- Read DNA Validation Rules & Guidelines
- Collect hair sample(s) following detailed instructions enclosed with DNA Validation Envelopes.
- Review each DNA Validation Envelope to ensure all information is completed:
 - Animal ID
 - Exhibitor(s) Name
 - Email and Phone Number
 - Exhibitor(s) Signature- all siblings named must sign
 - Parent/Guardian Signature- required for all junior exhibitors
- Include all DNA Validation Envelopes from the same family in one envelope and mail to:
Youth Livestock Expo
Attn: Agriculture Office
5600 McKinley Parkway
Hamburg, NY 14075
- Post-marked no later than July 1st of the current year
- Find link to make official entries at www.ecfair.org. Show early entry deadline is July 14th.
- Submit and pay for all entries online no later than August 1st (late entry deadline).

Note: DNA Sample submission does not constitute entry into the 2025 Youth Livestock Expo Show. Regular Entry procedures must be followed.