

2023 Lake County Fair Skill-a-thons!

The 2023 Skill-a-Thon Theme is NUTRITION AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT. Skill-a-thons will be held at the UF/IFAS Extension Lake County, allowing participants to demonstrate their knowledge through their 4-H or FFA project. All registered 4-H and FFA Members showing in the Lake County Fair are welcome to participate in the skill-a-thons. Buckles will be awarded to the top finisher (who is showing an animal in that division) in each age division. Participants may take the skill-a-thon for all animal species. The highest scores overall will be awarded a buckle in each age division.

Skill-a-thon tests will be administered at UF/IFAS Extension Lake County at 1951 Woodlea Rd. Tavares, FL 32778. Please be sure to arrive on time!

Times and place are subject to change. Please note that if a participant needs a reasonable accommodation, requests must be made in writing a week prior to March 25, 2023.

Saturday, March 25, 2023

12:00 PM – Rabbit

12:30 PM – Poultry

1:00 PM – Dairy Goat

1:30 PM – Beef Breeding

2:00 PM – Meat Goat

2:30 PM – Steer

3:00 PM – Swine

Doors will be closed, and tests will not be administered after 3:30 PM.

The Florida State Fair Skill-a-Thon Manuals are available online at [Competitions & Shows - Florida State Fair Agriculture](#). Please note that these are only guides, and our skill-a-thon stations will differ somewhat from those seen at the State Fair. Nevertheless, each manual contains excellent, concise information and is a wonderful place for you to start studying!

Of course, one of the best ways to get an edge on the competition is to attend the Skill-a-Thon Overview on **Thursday, March 9, 2023**, at 5:00 PM at the UF/IFAS Extension Lake County Office. This session will include an overview of material by Mrs. Dallas and a chance to practice. Everyone is welcome, and new members are highly encouraged to participate so they can know what to expect. This session should serve as an excellent summary of what they have been learning on their own and in their clubs.

PLEASE NOTE

*The pictures/diagrams used in the Lake County Fair Skill-a-thon may not be the exact ones used in the State Fair Skill-a-thon manual or in our office skill-a-thon kits. Please learn to identify breeds, parts etc., and not just memorize a particular diagram or photograph.

*Spelling counts! If the grader can infer what you meant, no points will be deducted. However if the answer is misspelled to the point of being unclear it may be marked incorrect. Additionally, if two tests score the same, preference will be given to the one which was spelled more correctly.

*Penmanship is also important; the grader must be able to read your handwriting to grade it.

*You are encouraged to raise your hand and ask for help if a question or diagram needs clarification.

*If you need additional assistance or time with the stations due to a handicap or learning disability, please contact Ms. Dallas at least a week in advance of the skill-a-thon to make reasonable accommodations.

*A tiebreaker question(s) will be included as part of the skill-a-thon. Attempting to answer the question will not hurt your score but could help you in the event of a perfect tie. The question(s) is designed to be of a greater difficulty level than the rest of the skill-a-thon but should be attempted if at all possible.

All Skill-a-Thons

Juniors (8-10 years of age as of 9-1-17)

- Common Breeds
- Basic digestive anatomy (location)
- Feed ID
- The 6 nutrients

Intermediates 11-13 years of age as of 9-1-17)

ALL of the Junior information PLUS

- Function of digestive organs
- Understanding feeding instructions/Reading a feed tag
- Selecting the appropriate feed
- Know common nutritional disorders (causes and symptoms)

Seniors (14-18 years of age as of 9-1-17)

ALL of the Junior and Intermediate Material PLUS

- Calculating feed efficiency and average daily gain
- Formulating rations using a Pearson's Square
- Evaluate body condition of animal (using scale if appropriate)

Rabbit Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Angora
- Belgian Hare
- Californian
- Dutch
- Dwarf Hotot
- English Lop
- Flemish Giant
- Florida White
- Havana
- Himalayan
- Holland Lop
- Mini Lop
- Netherland Dwarf
- Rex and Mini Rex
- Thrianta

Digestive Anatomy (juniors need to locate/ID, Int and Sr should know location and function)

- Mouth
- Esophagus
- Stomach
- Small Intestine (Seniors should know 3 sections)
- Cecum
- Large Intestine
- Gallbladder
- Liver
- Pancreas

Feeds to know

- Alfalfa hay
- Timothy grass hay
- Bermuda grass hay
- Alfalfa pellets
- Concentrate pellets
- Mineral/Salt lick

The Six Nutrients (know examples and what each nutrient provides)

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Mineral

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content

Common Nutritional Disorders

- Enteritis
- Enterotoxaemia
- Diarrhea
- Cecum stasis
- Trichobezoars
- Ketosis
- Anemia

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to assess if a rabbit is too lean, too heavy, or ideal in their condition based on sight and manual palpation (touch)

Poultry Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Araucana
- Brahma
- Cochin
- Dominique
- Leghorn
- Old English Game
- Plymouth Rock
- Polish
- Rhode Island Red
- Silkie
- Wyandotte

Digestive Anatomy (and be able to locate on a diagram)

- Mouth
- Esophagus
- Crop
- Gizzard
- Proventriculus
- Small Intestine (SR. should know 3 sections)
- Ceca
- Large Intestine
- Vent
- Gallbladder
- Liver
- Pancreas

Feeds to Know

- Layer mash
- Layer crumbles
- Starter
- Grower
- Cracked corn
- Grit

The Six Nutrients

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content

Common Nutritional Disorders

- Ketosis
- Goiter
- Rickets
- Anemia
- Gossypol toxicity
- Encephalomalacia

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to assess if a chicken is too lean, too heavy, or ideal in their condition based on sight and manual palpation (touch)

Cattle Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Angus
- Beef Master
- Brahman
- Brangus
- Charolais
- Chianina
- Hereford
- Limousin
- Maine Anjou
- Santa Gertrudis
- Shorthorn

Digestive Anatomy (and be able to locate on a diagram)

- Reticulum
- Abomasum
- Omasum
- Rumen
- Gallbladder
- Liver
- Pancreas
- Small Intestine
- Esophagus

Feeds to Know

- Bahia Grass/Hay
- Bermuda Grass/Hay
- Mineral/Salt Lick
- Silage
- Haylage
- Beet Pulp
- Citrus Pulp
- Cottonseed Meal
- Molasses

The Six Nutrients

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content
- Total Digestible Nutrients

Common Nutritional Disorders

- Hardware Disease
- Ketosis
- Acidosis
- Grass Tetany
- Rickets
- Anemia
- Bloat
- Calf Scours
- Polioencephalomyelitis

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to estimate body condition score based on pictures of cattle and a description of their condition

Dairy Goat Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Alpine
- Lamancha
- Nigerian Dwarf
- Nubian
- Oberhasli
- Saanen
- Toggenburg

Digestive Anatomy (and be able to locate on a diagram)

- Reticulum
- Abomasum
- Omasum
- Rumen
- Gallbladder
- Liver
- Pancreas
- Small Intestine
- Esophagus

Feeds to Know

- Bahia Grass/Hay
- Bermuda Grass/Hay
- Perennial Peanut Hay
- Alfalfa Hay
- Mineral/Salt Lick
- Molasses

The Six Nutrients

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content
- Total Digestible Nutrients

Common Nutritional Disorders

- Hardware Disease
- Ketosis
- Acidosis
- Grass Tetany
- Rickets
- Anemia
- Bloat
- Milk Fever
- Urinary Calculi

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to determine if a goat is over or under conditioned based on their visual appearance

Meat Goat Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Boer
- Kiko
- Pygmy
- Spanish
- Fainting
- Kinder

Digestive Anatomy (and be able to locate on a diagram)

- Reticulum
- Abomasum
- Omasum
- Rumen
- Gallbladder
- Liver
- Pancreas
- Small Intestine
- Esophagus

Feeds to Know

- Bahia Grass/Hay
- Bermuda Grass/Hay
- Perennial Peanut Hay
- Alfalfa Hay
- Mineral/Salt Lick
- Molasses

The Six Nutrients

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content
- Total Digestible Nutrients

Common Nutritional Disorders

- Hardware Disease
- Ketosis
- Acidosis
- Grass Tetany
- Rickets
- Anemia
- Bloat
- Milk Fever
- Urinary Calculi

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to determine if a goat is over or under conditioned based on their visual appearance

Swine Skill-a-Thon

Breeds to Know (by appearance and description)

- Berkshire
- Chester White
- Duroc
- Hampshire
- Hereford
- Landrace
- Poland China
- Spot
- Yorkshire

Digestive Anatomy (and be able to locate on a diagram)

- Esophagus
- Stomach
- Small Intestine
- Large Intestine
- Pancreas
- Liver
- Gallbladder

Feeds to Know

- Corn (cracked, ground, whole)
- Soybean meal
- Wheat Bran
- Loose Minerals
- Paylean

The Six Nutrients

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Protein
- Fat
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Reading a feed tag (know where to find and understand what each means)

- Feeding class
- Feeding instructions
- Major ingredients
- Crude Fiber
- Crude Protein
- Fat content
- Total Digestible Nutrients

Common Nutritional Disorders

- E. Coli Enterotoxemia
- Ketosis
- Milk Fever
- Parakeratosis
- Rickets
- Anemia
- Gossypol Toxicity
- Hypoglycemia

Calculations (seniors only, you will be provided with a calculator if needed)

- Calculate feed efficiency
- Calculate average daily gain
- Use a Pearson's Square to balance a diet

Body Condition (seniors only)

- Be able to determine if a goat is over or under conditioned based on their visual appearance