Dept 181 - Youth Sheep Show

PLEASE NOTE: The North Florida Fair reserves the right, at its discretion, to change, modify, add or cancel the rules, schedule of events, and the right to disqualify any exhibitor for any reason.

Check-In: *Wednesday, November 11, 2026 (9:00 AM-12:00 PM)*

Showmanship: *Thursday, November 12, 2026 (7:00 PM)*

Show: *Saturday, November 14, 2026 (2:00 PM)*

Release: *Sunday, November 15, 2026 (8:00 PM)*

All entries in the Youth Livestock Programs must be submitted via online system by the registration date

Entry Deadline- October 1, 2026

Youth Sheep Premiums

1st Place - $25 · 2nd Place - $20 · 3rd Place - $15 · 4th Place - $10 · 5th- 10th Place - $5

Youth Sheep Premiums

Division Champions - $75 & Banner
Division Reserve Champions - $50 & Banner
3rd Overall Division Champions - $25 & Banner

North Florida Fair Champion Exhibitor

A Champion Youth Exhibitor and a Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor will be selected in each age division for each Youth Livestock Show at the North Florida Fair. These exhibitors will be selected based on the highest number of points accumulated. The Champion Youth Exhibitors in each Youth Show will be eligible to receive:

The Champion and Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor Award is based on a premium point system. Each category is worth 100 points. Exhibitors are required to receive a minimum of 70% of the total points to be eligible for Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors disqualified or earning a zero from any category below will not be eligible for Champion Exhibitor.

Points are accumulated by participating in the following categories:
Record Book
Skill-a-thon
Showmanship
Poster
Ask Me Booth

CHAMPION EXHIBITOR AWARDS

Champion Exhibitor
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)
$250 & Banner

Reserve Champion Exhibitor
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)
$150 & Banner

Eligibility of Exhibitor:

- Only residents in the following counties; Bay, Calhoun, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsen, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington AND who are bona fide 4-H (8 years old or older as of Sept. 1, 2026) or FFA members will be eligible to enter. All entrants must be currently active in the 4-H Club program, or the Vocational Agricultural Program in Florida. Anyone who has graduated from high school, dropped out of High School, or currently enrolled in an Agriculture Class, but not attending class, shall be ineligible to enter the show. FFA Chapter and 4-H Club entries will be accepted. Chapters and Clubs must be valid clubs and in good standing with their local & state organizations.
- Exhibitors must be under the direct supervision of their Leader/Advisor/Parent/Guardian at all times.

- Exhibitors must designate at the time of online entry, which agricultural organization (4-H or FFA) they will conduct their project under.
- All exhibitors are required to have Ethics Training and have a valid Ethics Number in order show at the North Florida Fair.
- All exhibitors are required to submit a record book for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to take a Skill-a-thon for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in Showmanship for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in Herdsmanship for each animal project entered.
- Exhibitors must personally show his or her own animal they registered for both show and showmanship. Chapter/Club animals may be exhibited by any member of the organization who would otherwise qualify as an eligible exhibitor. FFA Chapter/4-H Club animals MUST be exhibited by the SAME exhibitor for both show and showmanship.

Chapter/Club Animals: *All chapter/club animals registered under the chapter/club name will be entered online in the following format: (First Name: Club Name & Last Name: Student's first and last name). Please note that all winnings from animals registered this way will be paid in full to the Chapter. All Chapter Animals will use the School's Tax ID Number and NOT The students Social Security Number. The only information on the entry that will belong to the student is their Date of Birth, grade, Ethics Number and parent contact information. All other information should belong to the school/ club.*

Ethics Certification: (Required)

Ethics Certification is required for all exhibitors at the North Florida Fair. The North Florida Fair believes that every youth exhibitor should receive proper training and information for raising and showing a youth project. All exhibitors that exhibit at the 2026 North Florida Fair must have completed the Ethics training in order to show at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

It is important that the exhibitors understand:

- The purpose of youth livestock projects
- The importance of ethics in youth livestock projects
- Proper animal handling and management
- The difference between animal welfare and animal rights

Be prepared to be an ambassador for animal agriculture

The Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to certify students to meet the mandatory certification requirements that will be in effect for the 2026 North Florida Fair.

North Florida Fair Workshop Dates
Saturday, July 18, 2026 @ 1:00 PM
Saturday, September 19, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

These are LIVE, ON-SITE workshops, held at the North Florida Fairgrounds
Please register online at www.floridastatefairag.com

PLEASE NOTE: FOR EXHIBITORS SHOWING AT THE 2026 NORTH FLORIDA FAIR SEPT 19th, 2026, WILL BE THE LAST ACCEPTED DATE TO TAKE YOUR ETHICS TRAINING…NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!

Eligibility of Animal:

- As of August 1, the exhibitor must show ownership of animal and be in position of the animal.
- All animals must be registered in the name of the youth exhibitor and ownership papers, or registration papers must reflect the exhibitor as the SOLE OWNER and the date of ownership, possession, and care of the exhibitor by August 1, 2026
- NO JOINT OWNERSHIP WILL BE ALLOWED.
- LEASED ANIMALS ARE NOT ALLOWED.
- ONLY EWES are allowed to enter.
- All sheep must be dehorned.
- Sheep must be 3 months old by November 4, 2026.
- A maximum of 3 animals per exhibitor will be accepted and no more than two (2) sheep per age class.
- Sheep will be shown in the following Divisions:
    - Black Face
    - AOB
    - Hair

- Sheep will be shown by age:
    - Class 1: 3-6 months
    - Class 2: 7-16 months
    - Class 3: 17-24 months
    - Class 4: 25-36 months

Official Entry Form & Entry Fees:

- A **$10.00** per animal entry fee is required at the time of online entry.
- All animals MUST be registered through the North Florida Fair website using the online ShoWorks system.
    - Completion of registration indicates you have read, understand, and agree to abide by ALL rules set forth in this premium book.
    - All entries will be subject to a non-refundable entry fee charged at the time of online registration.
    - Exhibitors will be prompted to complete a W-9 during registration, this MUST be entirely filled out to complete registration.
    - Registration will close at 11:59 pm on the date of the deadline. Exhibitors who have NOT registered through the online system by the deadline will NOT be eligible to show at the North Florida Fair, NO EXCEPTIONS will be granted.
    - ShoWorks confirmation receipt should be kept by the exhibitor for their records. Should any registration issues arise, it is the exhibitor's responsibility to provide proof of registration.
- An official entry form for EACH animal registered must be completed and accepted in order to exhibit at the North Florida Fair.
    - Entry forms must be signed by the exhibitor, exhibitor's parent or guardian, and exhibitor's FFA advisor or 4-H Leader.

- Entry forms must be presented at Fair Check-in for all animals.
- Acceptance of entry forms in no way guarantees animals will be eligible to show at the North Florida Fair.

Health Certificate and Tests:

- All Entries must be accompanied by a Health Certificate stating they are disease-free at time of fair check-in (with the exception of Poultry, Rabbits and Cavy). ***Female animals with kids, the kids must be listed on the health certificate.***
- All animals must have an official identification number from the State of Florida (rabbit, poultry and horses excluded). This ID must follow USDA office requirements.
  - EID (also referred to as RFID) is REQUIRED for all Steer and Beef Breeding entries. Animals must be tagged with this EID at time of fair check-in and MUST match a health certificate.
  - Official ID on the animal must correspond with the number on the Health Certificate at time of Fair Check-in.
- All goats/sheep must be participating in the Scrapie Eradication Program. All tattoos and ear tags must correspond with scrapie number.
- The complete scrapie tag number must be on all documents.
- All identification must match the scrapie tag number on the official fair entry form and health certificate.
- Any discrepancies on identification of the animal may be disqualified.
- Lost tags must be reported to management.

Identification:

- Sheep must meet the identification requirements mandated by the USDA.
- They must have tattoos or ear tag and be registered with the Florida USDA, APHIS or VS Office.
- Scrapie Tag: See section on sheep & goat identification requirements or chair of the sheep/goat department.
- Complete scrapie tag numbers must be included on entry forms.

Tagging Requirements for Sheep and Goats for Public and/or Private Sales and Shows/Fairs:

- Must be officially identified (ID) by a USDA-approved method (i.e. free USDA issued ear tags) for the National Scrapie Eradication Program before change in ownership. Breed registration tattoos may be used for animals if accompanied by the breed registration certificate.
- Animals received at a market or sale must be officially identified by the owner before commingling with other animals.
- Animals without official ID must be immediately returned to the farm of birth/origin.
- Sheep and goats must have scrapie tag number on the entry form.

Record Books (Required):

- All species are required to submit COMPLETED Record Books for the Fair office no later than **Friday, October 16, 2026**. Record books may be mailed to the fairgrounds. If mailing your record books, it must be received by **Friday, October 16, 2026**, OR delivered to your County Extension Agent to be accepted. Species include Beef Breeding, Prospect Steers, Dairy Goats, Breeding Sheep, Poultry, Rabbits/Cavy, Boer Goats. All record books must be completed through the animal's check-in date. The Fair is not responsible for any submission lost by the Postal Service. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to confirm that the Fair has received their record books.
- Only 2026 North Florida Fair Record Books will be accepted.
- Record Books will not be accepted without the completed Signature Pages. Record Books will be reviewed and any exhibitor submitting an incomplete record book will RECEIVE A ZERO and will be notified along with their leaders/advisor. The exhibitor along with their parent or advisor will be required to complete the record book at final check-in to be eligible for show and participation at the North Florida Fair. The exhibitor will be given a 1-hour window to complete & resubmit on final check-in day. Any record book deemed incomplete at resubmission will forfeit the exhibitor from participating & showing at the North Florida Fair.
- The project officially begins **August 1, 2026.**
- The ownership deadline goats/sheep is **August 1, 2026.**
- All Photos must be in color and from the current project year. Photos should not look like scrapbooks and should be kept in a square and rectangular shape.
- Final Record Books must be handwritten by the exhibitor in their own words. Failure to comply is considered grounds for disqualification of the exhibitor resulting in ineligibility for show & participation in the program.
- If additional pages are needed, print a duplicate page, and add them into the book. Be sure to staple in the left-hand corner & include them in your final calculations.
- Record Books not submitted by the deadline will result in exhibitor disqualification from the program.
- Parents and advisors/leaders are responsible for reviewing for completeness prior to signing.
- Disqualified exhibitors will be notified by the North Florida Fair.
- Graded Record Books will be returned at the Fair.
- Exhibitors must score 70 or better in order to receive record book recognition and/or awards.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions: junior, intermediate and senior.
- Points will be earned towards Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.
- Record Books are judged on the Modified Danish System; Blue, Red and White.
- Record Books will be available for pick up at release.

Skill-a-thon (Required):
Wednesday, November 11, 2026 (1:00 PM)

- The Skill-a-thon will be given at the North Florida Fair.
- The Skill-a-thon is designed to test the exhibitor's knowledge in areas associated with their livestock project.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in the Skill-a-thon in order to show.
- Failure to take the Skill-a-thon will result in disqualification from the program.
- There is no time limit during the multiple-choice section of the test; however, there will be time limits on the hands-on station to ensure movement.
- Exhibitors must score 70 or better to receive Skill-a-thon recognition and/or awards.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
- The 2026 Educational topic is the same as the Florida State Fair's. Please refer to the following website for study material: http://www.floridastatefairag.com.
- Exhibitors will earn points toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.

SKILL-A-THON AWARDS

Award Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!

Banners Awarded to 2nd and 3rd Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!

Exhibitors scoring 70 or above on their Skill-a-thon will receive the following award

90%-100% - $30 80%-89% - $20 70%-79% - $10

Showmanship (Required)
Thursday, November 12, 2026 @ 7:00 PM

The main objective in being a good showman is to present the animal to the judges in the best possible manner. The animal must be set up properly, clean and trained well enough to respond to the exhibitor's commands. The exhibitors must be courteous, attentive and demonstrate knowledge of their project.

1. Failure to compete in showmanship will result in a zero for Champion Exhibitor Points and forfeiting all premiums.
2. Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
3. Official North Florida Fair Show Ring attire is required.
4. Exhibitors must be in the arena 15 minutes prior to the show starting for an official dress check.
5. During all shows only the judges and committee members are allowed inside the ring. All others will remain outside the closed off area.
6. Awards will be given to the top three (3) places in each age division.
7. Exhibitor earns points towards Champion Exhibitor (no monetary premium will be paid).

Showmanship Divisions

Junior (8-11 years old) Intermediate · (12-14 years old)
Senior (15-18 years old -through grade 12 in high school)

Belt Buckles Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Division Winners!

Banners Awarded to 2nd & 3rd Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Winners!

No Premium Monies will be awarded!

Show (Required)

Saturday, November 14, 2026 @ 2:00 PM

- Classes will be divided at check-in and posted by Friday, November 13, 2026.
- Animals will be judged on the American Judging System. Place ribbons will be given to each entry.
- Exhibitors must show their own animals in the show.

Youth Sheep Premiums

1st Place - $25 · 2nd Place - $20 · 3rd Place - $15 · 4th Place - $10 · 5th- 10th Place - $5

Youth Sheep Premiums

Division Champions - $75 & Banner
Division Reserve Champions - $50 & Banner
3rd Overall Division Champions - $25 & Banner

Educational Posters (Optional) **(Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)**

- Posters must be submitted at the Skill-a-thon **Wednesday, November 11, 2026.**
- Posters must be done on 20 x 30 foam board ONLY. NO trifolds or poster board will be allowed and will be disqualified.
- Posters must be done in a landscape/horizontal format. Any other orientation will be disqualified.

- Posters from other fairs will not be accepted. Clean, neat posters will no bent corners, staples, tape, holes, etc. that show signs of being previously displayed will not be accepted.
- Poster must relate to the current Skill-a-thon topic.
- Exhibitors using any resource must cite the source on the back of the Poster.
- Include a clear legible title on the front of the poster.
- On the back of the poster include:
    - Name
    - Age Division
    - Program (i.e., Poultry, Steer, Dairy Goat, etc.)
    - Sources
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions, Junior, Intermediate and Senior.
- Cloverbud posters are optional.
- Posters must be removed at check-out.
- Points will be earned toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors not submitting a poster or receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.
- Judging will be based on the following:

Topic & Educational Value	25 points
Originality and Creativity	25 points
Quality of Work	25 points
Citing Work	25 points
TOTAL POSSIBLE	**100 points**

Ask Me Booth (Optional) (Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)
Wednesday, November 11-Sunday, November 15, 2026

- Exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations.
- Exhibitors may sign up for two (2) thirty (30) minute demonstrations.
- Each Ask Me Booth demonstration is worth 50 points each towards Champion Exhibitor.
- Exhibitors who are exhibiting animals are the only ones eligible to demonstrate in the Ask Me Booths.
- All exhibitors participating in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations MUST BE IN OFFICIAL DRESS…NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Exhibitors must register for the Ask Me Booth prior to Fair.
- Exhibitors must check-in and check-out with the committee member on duty.
- Groups of friends/parents/advisors/leaders are not permitted to gather around exhibitors while they conduct their Ask Me Booth time slot. The intent of this area is for exhibitors to interact with & educate the public about sheep and their projects.

FUN CONTESTS

Fitting & Grooming
Friday, November 13, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

The main objective in a Fitting & Grooming contest is to present a well-groomed animal to the judge. A well-groomed animal displays the exhibitor ability to fit the animal to a prime finished appearance. A clean, well-trained animal is important to this process. The fitting and grooming of cattle should best display the breeding and conformation qualities of the animal.

1. The fitting contest is for fun and education. Three overall winning teams will be selected as the Fitting Contest Winners and will receive recognition in the form of a prize.
2. All participants may compete in one fitting and grooming team.
3. Animals should not be fitted and groomed prior to the contest.
4. Exhibitors will form teams of no more than 3 individual per team; max of 2 Seniors. Maximum of 2 exhibitors from the same Chapter/Club.
5. Arrive early to the contest and have your equipment ready. Once the contest starts you may not leave the area or you will be disqualified.
6. Absolutely no coaching from spectators.
7. NO adults will be allowed in the arena during the contest except for the judge and the committee.
8. You will have 30 minutes to complete your animal.
9. All fitting and grooming techniques must be within acceptable practices of the Nation Code of Show Ring Ethics.
10. Any unsafe action or techniques will result in immediate disqualification.
11. Judges scores are final.

Awards will be given to the
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Teams

Fair Arrival:
Wednesday, November 11, 2026 (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

- FDACS will be on site inspecting all animals before unloading. After animals have been inspected management will check-in animals and will assign pens.
- PLEASE HAVE YOUR HEALTH PAPERS ACCESSIBLE AND READY TO PRESENT.
- NO animal will be unloaded on the grounds until they have been inspected by the FDACS team, NO EXCEPIONS!
- Only animals that have been registered to show and exhibit are allowed on the North Florida Fairgrounds and in the barns, NO DOGS, NO EXCEPTIONS!
- All trailers will be parked at a remote location on the fairgrounds.

Herdsman Contest (Mandatory)

Proper herdsmanship will be upheld by all exhibitors of the North Florida Fair. In order to ensure a proper and safe environment for our exhibits, public guests and exhibitors, all exhibitors will participate in the Herdsman Contest during their time at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

The exhibits will be judged daily from 10:00 AM-10:00 PM on the following basis:

1. Orderliness and cleanliness of service area, cages, beds, animals and public walkways.
2. Neatness, courtesy and behavior of exhibitors.
3. Cooperation with fellow exhibitors and show officials in presenting attractive exhibits.
4. Availability of exhibitors to furnish information about their exhibits.

Awards will be given to the
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Outstanding Herdsman Teams

Show management reserves the right to withhold any or all Herdsman Awards if they are not merited by virtue of superior housekeeping.

Daily Care of Animals & Quarters:

- All animals are the responsibility of the exhibitor to be fed, watered and pens cleaned daily until the animal(s) leave the grounds.
- All feeders must be removed from pens immediately after feeding. No self-feeders allowed.
- Feed & Water: Exhibitors will supply their own feed, feed buckets, hay and hay rakes. Bring your own water buckets.
- Exhibitors are required to have proper footwear on while inside the livestock barns.
- Exhibitors are prohibited from spending the night in the livestock barns and/or pens.
- Please note: no cooking will be allowed in the barns; food and drink should not be consumed in any animal area.

Daily Pen Cleaning:

- Exhibitors are responsible for daily pen cleaning.
- Bedding: The upper layer of shaving must be removed and shavings replaced daily. Hay is not permitted.
- Any exhibitor failing to do a daily cleaning of the animal pen will be fined $25 per occurrence and will be disqualified from showing at the North Florida Fair and will be asked to remove the animal from the grounds. All premiums will be forfeited.

Animal Grooming:

- Animals must be properly groomed for shows and showmanship. Grooming chutes/grooming stands are not allowed to be set up early.
- Grooming chute/grooming stand areas must be cleaned of hair, manure and trash immediately after grooming and shearing, failure to do so will result in a $25 fine per occurrence.
- Grooming and clipping of animals is limited to the exhibitor, advisor/leader, and/or parent ONLY.

Release:
Sunday, November 15, 2026 (8:00 PM)

- Animals will be released on Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 8:00 PM.
- All pens must be left free of any materials. Bedding must be removed & water buckets must be dumped outside of the barns. Any material left in the pen will result in forfeiting all premium monies won.
- Trailers will not be allowed on the grounds without Release Pass.
- Release Passes will be distributed once all the pens/stalls are clear of debris.

END