



NORTHERN WISCONSIN STATE FAIR  
MEAT ANIMAL PROGRAM

## **2025-26 PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

**Northern Wisconsin State Fair Chippewa County Meat Animal Program and Auction**

[www.nwsfa.com/map](http://www.nwsfa.com/map)

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The Northern Wisconsin State Fair Meat Animal Program ('MAP') is developed to provide support, vision, educational experiences, youth leadership in livestock/animal production, and sustainability for Chippewa County youth development. This program is in addition to the Northern Wisconsin State Fair (NWSF) Junior Exhibit opportunities as referenced within the annual NWSF Exhibitor Guidebook.

**It is the responsibility of exhibitors and their families to understand the expectations and dates related to participating in and eligibility for the Meat Animal Program and Auction.**

The NWSF Chippewa County Meat Animal Program objectives are to:

- Provide members of Northern Wisconsin State Fair Junior Division Youth Organizations an inclusive opportunity to responsibly lead, manage, and celebrate quality market animal livestock projects
- Support an educational experience related to the meat animal industry and evaluation, animal husbandry, ethical care and treatment of animals, biosecurity, and showmanship skills

### **Leadership Structure**

MAP is led by a Leadership Team consisting of volunteer program supporters and is a recognized committee of the Northern Wisconsin State Fair Association. Changes to the NWSF Meat Animal Program can be presented and made through the MAP Leadership team.

**The MAP Leadership Team consists of the Chair, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Past Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, applicable Species Liaisons (3), and NWSF Liaison(s).** Chippewa County Junior & Open Fair Leadership Team members and other program supporters are welcome to attend regularly scheduled meetings, but voting rights will be that of the seven-person Leadership team, within the boundaries and direction of the Northern Wisconsin State Fair Association. Refer to the NWSF JOF Organizational Structure for the NWSFA Exhibition.

Leadership positions are volunteer roles, beginning the September (MAP) meeting date representing the program's membership. The MAP Leadership Team receives feedback from MAP participants and makes decisions and updates annually before that program year's registration date. MAP Members are encouraged to be active and communicate interest in leadership roles (committee leads and/or the MAP Leadership Team) and will be designated by the MAP Leadership Team and NWSFA Liaisons as opportunities arise.

<b>2025-26 Chair</b> Steve Mayer	<b>2025-26 Vice Chair/Chair-Elect</b> Jeremy Mahr	<b>2025-26 Past Chair</b> Amanda Goettl	<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b> Krystle Mayer
<b>NWSFA Liaison(s)</b> Cindy Boggess	<b>NWSF Junior Beef Superintendent</b> Tyler Maier	<b>NWSF Junior Sheep Superintendent</b> Tammy Knuth	<b>NWSF Junior Swine Superintendent</b> Jerrod Hilger

**MAP Member Expectations (to be eligible to sell at the NWSF MAP Auction)**

- ✓ Confirmed member of an approved Northern Wisconsin State Fair Junior Division Youth Organization ([nwsfa.com/juniorexhibition](http://nwsfa.com/juniorexhibition)) and register in NWSF MAP by midnight of November 10 ([nwsfa.com/map](http://nwsfa.com/map))
- ✓ MAP Member must be in the 3rd grade up until the year/Fair following one full year post-high school graduation
- ✓ Youth member, accompanied by parent(s)/guardian(s), to attend the two MAP Meetings (November and June)
- ✓ Participate in a minimum of two qualified in-person educational opportunities (examples include meat animal or species-related, professionally led, and open to all), two required Membership meetings, the Northern Wisconsin State Fair and Auction dates, and the Carcass Education event hosted the Monday after the Fair.
- ✓ Maintain MAP Project Expense Records that shall begin at the weigh-in date and last throughout the entire feeding period
- ✓ Register online (after April 15 via [nwsfa.com/juniorexhibition](http://nwsfa.com/juniorexhibition)), submit all necessary animal health and YQCA requirements by dates noted, and participate in applicable NWSF Market, Showmanship, and Carcass exhibition classes for each MAP species registered
- ✓ MAP Exhibitor Sign (provided at the NWSF Weigh-In) must be completed and hung above their animal’s pen for the duration of the NWSF Junior Exhibition and MAP Auction
- ✓ Submit MAP Project Expense Record and buyer Thank You letter/card in an addressed, stamped envelope before receiving their MAP auction check at the MAP Awards and Buyers Picnic
- ✓ Abide by all Northern Wisconsin State Fair and applicable State Rules and Regulations including DTCAP
  - Refer to last year’s NWSF Exhibit Registration Guide or the current Guide, after April 15
  - Specifically, these rules and regulations include but are not limited to, the expectations related to animal husbandry, fitting, showmanship, and grievance submission policies.

	<b>Beef</b>	<b>Sheep</b>	<b>Swine</b>
<b>MAP New Member and Question &amp; Answer Meeting (Optional)</b>	Monday, October 13 6:30pm NWSF Community Saferoom	Monday, October 13 6:30pm NWSF Community Saferoom	Monday, October 13 6:30pm NWSF Community Saferoom
<b>MAP Program Registration Deadline</b>	Electronically received via the shared Google link registration process by midnight, Monday, November 10	Electronically received via the shared Google link registration process by midnight, Monday, November 10	Electronically received via the shared Google link registration process by midnight, Monday, November 10
<b>MAP Program Overview Meeting (Mandatory)</b>	Monday, November 10 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons	Monday, November 10 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons	Monday, November 10 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons
<b>Initial Weigh-In Date</b>	Saturday, December 13 10am-12pm Equity Co-op, Eau Claire  Inclement Weather Date: Saturday, December 20 10am-12pm	Saturday, April 11 9am-10am NWSF, Chippewa Falls	No Initial Weigh-In  Information is due via Google Forms by Midnight, Saturday, April 11  Ear tags can be picked up at the NWSFA Office after January 1 during business hours. Must be picked up by April 1.
<b>MAP Pre-Fair Meeting (Mandatory)</b>	Tuesday, June 2, 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons	Tuesday, June 2, 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons	Tuesday, June 2, 6:30pm Bloomer H.S. Commons
<b>NWSF Exhibit Registration</b>	NWSF Exhibitor Guides will be available online by April 15 and is due by June 15.	NWSF Exhibitor Guides will be available online by April 15 and is due by June 15.	NWSF Exhibitor Guides will be available online by April 15 and is due by June 15.

<b>YQCA Requirements</b>	In-Person YQCA Tuesday, January 13 6pm-7pm Bloomer High School  YQCA training can, also, be completed online.	In-Person YQCA Tuesday, January 13 6pm-7pm Bloomer High School  YQCA training can, also, be completed online.	In-Person YQCA Tuesday, January 13 6pm-7pm Bloomer High School  YQCA training can, also, be completed online.
<b>Weigh In</b>	Monday, July 6 4pm-6pm NWSF	Monday, July 6 6pm-7pm NWSF	Monday, July 6 10am-1pm and 3pm-6pm NWSF
<b>NWSF Exhibition</b>	Wednesday, July 8, 9:00am Custer Coliseum, NWSF	Tuesday, July 7, 2:00pm Custer Coliseum, NWSF	Tuesday, July 7, 9:00am Custer Coliseum, NWSF
<b>MAP Auction</b>	Thursday, July 9, 6:00pm 4:00pm Registration Custer Coliseum, NWSF	Thursday, July 9, 6:00pm 4:00pm Registration Custer Coliseum, NWSF	Thursday, July 9, 6:00pm 4:00pm Registration Custer Coliseum, NWSF
<b>MAP Carcass Education/Show</b>	Carcass education will be on a rotation of species. The species selling first in the auction will be required to attend the carcass education/show for that year.  For 2026 – Swine exhibitors will be required to attend. Monday, July 13, Time TBA Bob’s Processing, Bloomer		
<b>MAP Awards and Buyers Picnic</b>	Wednesday, July 15 6:00 MAP Member Meeting 6:30 Guests Arrive Leinenkugel’s Pavilion, NWSF	Wednesday, July 15 6:00 MAP Member Meeting 6:30 Guests Arrive Leinenkugel’s Pavilion, NWSF	Wednesday, July 15 6:00 MAP Member Meeting 6:30 Guests Arrive Leinenkugel’s Pavilion, NWSF
<b>MAP Animal Registration Process</b>	Each family can bring and weigh-in up to three animals per species per exhibitor at the initial weigh-in or in the case of swine identify three hogs.  Each exhibitor can bring up to two animals per species to the Fair.  Each family must declare what animal is designated per exhibitor at NWSF Weigh-In.  Each exhibitor can only sell one animal total through the NWSF MAP Auction.		
<b>Species-specific/Animal Requirements</b>	All beef must be born on or after January 1 of the year previous to the exhibit year.  All males must show obvious signs of castration at the initial weigh-in.  Any breed of beef, beef crossbred, dairy beef crossbred, and dairy steer is eligible.  Steers must be dehorned. Scurs cannot be over one inch in length.	All sheep must be born on or after January 1 of the year of the Fair.  All males must show obvious signs of castration at the initial weigh-in.  Any breed is eligible.	Hogs must be born on or after December 15 of the previous year to be eligible to show and sell.  All males must show obvious signs of castration at the fair.  Any breed is eligible.  Barrows and gilts will be separated. Both will be placed into classes by weight. All gilt class winners will come back for the champion gilt drive. All

	<p>Dairy Steers will be shown in a live class of their own. The dairy breed includes Holstein, Brown Swiss, Jersey, Ayrshire, and Guernsey only. Animals in question as to their heredity will be placed in the appropriate class by Fair and MAP Leadership.</p> <p>A MAP Dairy Steer Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be selected if there are six or more dairy steers that qualify for the auction.</p>		<p>barrow class winners will come back for the champion barrow drive. Grand and Reserve Champion gilt and Grand and Reserve Champion barrow will be brought back for an overall champion drive. Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion MAP Swine will get banners.</p> <p><b>The NWSF is a TERMINAL exhibition for all swine.</b></p>
<b>Ear Tag ID/Animal Identification</b>	Required to have a NWSF 840 RFID ear tag which will be placed during the initial weigh-in.	Required to have a scrapie ear tag placed before coming to initial weigh-in.	Required to have an 840 RFID ear tag AND be ear notched.
<b>Replacing a Lost Tag</b>	\$5.00 Replacement Fee for both Fair Tags, contact MAP Chair immediately after the loss of the tag for replacement.	Contact MAP Chair with any changes in animal identification number due to replacement of a tag.	\$5.00 Replacement Fee, contact MAP Chair immediately after the loss of the tag for replacement.
<b>Weigh In Information</b>	<p>Animals will be weighed only one time and must be weighed dry and clean.</p> <p>Beef animals must be weighed with a halter only. No additional straps, chains, etc., will be allowed.</p>	<p>Animals will be weighed only one time and must be weighed dry and clean.</p> <p>Sheep must be sheared ¼ inches or less on their wool.</p>	Animals will be weighed only one time and must be weighed dry and clean.
<b>Initial Weigh In</b>	<p>Minimum: N/A</p> <p>Beef Steer Maximum: 950 pounds</p> <p>Dairy Steer Maximum: 1000 pounds</p>	<p>Minimum: N/A</p> <p>Maximum: N/A</p>	N/A
<b>NWSF Weigh In</b>	<p>Beef Steer Minimum: 1000 pounds</p> <p>Dairy Steer Minimum: 1100 pounds</p> <p>Maximum to be eligible for sale: N/A</p> <p>If the initial weigh-in is postponed due to weather, the weigh-in will be held a week later, with a maximum</p>	<p>Minimum: 110 pounds</p> <p>Maximum to be eligible for sale: N/A</p> <p>Sheep weighing between 90 and 109 pounds will be shown in an ultra-lightweight class. Only youth participating in MAP will be allowed to exhibit in the ultra-lightweight class.</p>	<p>Minimum: 230 pounds</p> <p>Maximum to be eligible for sale: 320 pounds</p> <p>Hogs over 300 pounds may be sold and are eligible for contests, but for auction purposes will be sold at 300 pounds.</p> <p>Hogs weighing between 190 and 229 pounds will be</p>

	weight increasing 20 pounds per week of delay. Steers must grade "select plus" or higher and weigh a minimum of 1,000 pounds at the fair. Exception: Dairy steers must weigh a minimum of 1,100 pounds at the fair.		shown in an ultra-lightweight class. Only youth participating in MAP will be allowed to exhibit in the ultra-lightweight class.  Hogs weighing in 189 or lower will not be eligible for exhibition or any premiums but will still need to be processed at the expense of the exhibitor.
<b>Auction Requirements</b>	<p>It is the responsibility of the exhibitor and family to ensure that all MAP expectations, including education, meetings, committee engagement, and NWSF registration and exhibition are met.</p> <p>All carcass competitions must be that of the sale animal of the registered and NWSF exhibitor and all sale animals are required to participate in the carcass competition.</p> <p>The number of animals sold through the auction may be limited to the amount of available space in the MAP Carcass Contest. The total number of animals allowed will be determined by a committee comprised of locker plant representatives and MAP Leadership Team members. All carcass competitions must be those of the registered and NWSF show exhibitor.</p> <p>If the exhibitor receives both Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion in the live show, he/she can only sell one of them, selected by the exhibitor. Grand and Reserve Champions of each species will be sold unless the exhibitor has a Grand and/or Reserve Champion under multiple species. There may be circumstances where one or no Grand Champion is sold at the MAP Auction between the three species.</p>		
<b>Live Grading Requirements for Auction</b>	<p>Must grade Select Plus or higher</p> <p>This decision will be made by the Judge and shared with the exhibitor during the scheduled exhibition.</p>	<p>Must grade Select Plus or higher</p> <p>This decision will be made by the Judge and shared with the exhibitor during the scheduled exhibition.</p>	<p>Must grade US No. 1 or 2</p> <p>This decision will be made by the Judge and shared with the exhibitor during the scheduled exhibition.</p>
<b>Post Auction Expectations</b>	<p>Beef exhibitors must leave a rope halter on their steer and tie it securely after it is sold.</p> <p>Exhibitors and their families are responsible for cleaning stalls and/or pens after their animals leave. Cleanliness is to be determined by the Project/Species Superintendent or by their designee.</p>		
<b>Auction Commission Checks</b>	<p>A 3% commission will be kept from the sale of the animal to cover committee and programming needs</p> <p>Transportation costs will be deducted from the exhibitor's checks.</p>	<p>A 3% commission will be kept from the sale of the animal to cover committee and programming needs</p> <p>Transportation costs will be deducted from the exhibitor's checks.</p>	<p>A 3% commission will be kept from the sale of the animal to committee and programming needs</p> <p>Transportation costs will be deducted from the exhibitor's checks.</p>

	A deduction of \$1.00 will be deducted from the seller for compliance with the mandatory National Beef Promotion and Research Check-Off.	A deduction of \$1.00 will be deducted from the seller for compliance with the mandatory Sheep Production and Research Check-Off.	A deduction of \$1.00 will be deducted from the seller for compliance with the mandatory Pork Production and Research Check-Off.
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**\*\*All dates subject to change\*\***

**EDUCATION**

Education is an integral part of the youth member’s MAP experience and NWSF exhibition story. Each exhibitor is required to participate in two approved in-person educational events open to the public related to the meat animal industry and evaluation, animal husbandry, ethical care and treatment of animals, biosecurity, and/or showmanship skills. These include but are not limited to, educational offerings hosted by the MAP, breed associations, partnering fair/county programs, or applicable educational exhibits/area shows or workshops. Visit [nwsfa.com/map](http://nwsfa.com/map) or the Northern Wisconsin State Fair Facebook page for a sample of approved educational offerings, including those hosted by the NWSF Meat Animal Program.

**RECOGNITION**

NWSF and MAP will provide recognition to the MAP Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champions in four categories for each Meat Animal Program species: Live Show, Rate of Gain, Carcass, and Total Performance. Additional cash incentives (premiums) to the top five placements in each species are provided by the NWSF Meat Animal Program. Three Bred & Owned traveling trophies will also be awarded.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

MAP will retain 3% of MAP Auction Sale proceeds for committee and programming needs and will reimburse NWSF \$4,000 per year over the next three years (beginning in 2023, extended through 2028) for shared use of facilities, administrative services, marketing, printing, property & liability insurance, and storage.

Information will be posted on the Northern Wisconsin State Fair website, shared with approved NWSF Youth Organization leaders, and/or emailed to members using the e-mail addresses provided by the members upon the program and/or exhibit registration. It is your responsibility to ensure that the contact information is correct, and that the communication sent is reviewed.

All MAP Members and Families will be engaged within a minimum of one sub-committee. Each sub-committee will have a Chair, serving as the main point of contact for communication and responsibilities.

- Auction Welcome and Bidder Registration
- Pre-Auction Facility Set Up
- Post-Auction Facility Takedown
- NWSF Livestock Load Out
- MAP Awards & Buyers Picnic – Set Up and Takedown/Clean Up
- MAP Awards & Buyers Picnic – Meal Coordination

**The NWSF Chippewa County Meat Animal Program, Auction, educational offerings, and program requirements are independent, but support, that of the Northern Wisconsin State Fair Exhibition experience.**

**It is the responsibility of exhibitors and their families to understand the expectations and dates related to participating in and eligibility for the Meat Animal Program and Auction. If you have questions, you are encouraged to review the NWSF MAP Program Overview, NWSF and/or NWSF MAP website, NWSF Exhibitor Guide, or speak with a member of the NWSF MAP Leadership Team, NWSFA Executive Director and/or MAP Liaison.**