

MARKET LAMB DIVISION



Grand Champion Market Lamb – Lauren Rivera – Showlife 4-H

ENTRY DEADLINE – January 14, 2022

ENTRY FEE - \$20 per exhibitor

DELIVERY TO SHOWGROUNDS – 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday, March 14

WEIGHING/SIFTING/CLASSIFYING – 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Monday, March 14

JUDGING – 1 p.m., Tuesday, March 15

SHOWMANSHIP – 9 a.m., Thursday, March 17

LOAD OUT – 11 a.m., Sunday, March 20

MARKET LAMB DIVISION RULES

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS

Exhibitors must remove lambs that are sifted from the showgrounds immediately after sifting. All others must be consigned by the exhibitor and or buyer to the processing plant, individual, etc. assigned by the Show Management. Violation of this rule will result in exhibitor being barred from future shows.

Market ewes brought to the showgrounds must have a Premise ID Tag issued by the Texas Animal Health Commission. If an exhibitor has purchased a market ewe from a breeder, the breeder should supply the Premise ID Tag

1. Each exhibitor must be a bona fide member of a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, enrolled in elementary, secondary or home school and reside in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr or Willacy counties
2. Exhibitors must be in third grade or nine years old but under 20 years of age as of January 1, 2022
3. Livestock projects must be raised at the physical address of validation record. Prior approval must be granted by the "Species Specific County-Level State Validation Committee" in the event the animal will be outside the direct care of the exhibitor, immediate family/guardian, and/or the supervising County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher. Failure to gain approval from the supervising Agricultural Science Teacher/County Extension Agent and the Species-Specific County-Level State Validation Committee will result in the disqualification of all state validated livestock.
4. Lambs may be wether or ewe lambs. All lambs must have been validated by the Texas Lamb Validation Program by October 31, 2021. A copy of the validation form must be attached to the Entry Certification Form
5. An exhibitor can enter only one lamb
6. Any animal found to have been entered in another show under a different exhibitor's name other than the name entered in this Show and/or any animal which has been sold in a terminal auction at another show will be ineligible for this Show. Lambs found to have evidence of more than one validation will be ineligible to show, unless the proper Change of Ownership forms are received, reflecting why there is evidence of more than one validation and that the previous validation(s) have been canceled
7. Exhibitors must declare animal weight and breed at the time they sift and classify. The weight listed on the weight card will become that animal's official declared weight to be used for weigh back and selling purposes. Exhibitors must complete the weight card to include declared weight, state validation tag number and breed designation
8. Lambs must meet the following requirements or be sifted
 - a. All lambs must weigh at least 80 lbs. There will be no top weight
 - b. Any lamb that has had its natural musculature or weight altered by use of injections or ingested material not conducive to the continued health of lambs or marketability of lamb carcasses will be sifted

- c. All lambs must be slick shorn from knee and hock up at time of sifting. Lambs with excessive wool will be sifted
 - d. Lambs must be creditable from standpoint of types, quality, finish and breed characteristics
 - e. Lambs that have been mutilated in any way will be sifted
 - f. A lamb, which in the opinion of the sifter or classifiers, does not have predominant breed characteristics of the class in which it is entered, may be sifted from the Show or, with the approval of the Division Superintendent, moved to another class
9. The decision of the sifter and/or classifiers will be final. Protests will not be accepted on sifter's opinion. Lambs will be brought to classifiers by breed for proper classification
 10. After sifting, lambs will be divided into weight groups by breeds as nearly equal in number as possible, but all lambs of the same weight will be in the same weight group. The number of classes per breed will be determined by the Superintendent of the Lamb Division
 11. All market lambs will be sold to the person or company submitting the highest bid. Sifted lambs must be removed from the showgrounds immediately after sifting
 12. Lambs may be reweighed during judging at a time determined by the Superintendent. Any lamb weighing more than 10 lbs. above or below its initial show weight will become ineligible for any award or placing
 13. No one but exhibitors and Show Officials will be allowed in the show ring or on the Arena Director's Stand during judging
 14. No painting, powdering or artificial coloring can be used on lambs
 15. The Lamb Committee may collect hair and/or blood samples from any lamb entered in the Show for the purpose of conducting a DNA analysis. Any lamb not having a positive match from the DNA analysis of the samples compared to the DNA analysis of the hair and/or blood samples taken from it at the time of enrollment in the state validation program will be disqualified
 16. Pens will NOT be taken apart or altered in any way without approval of the Superintendents. No lights are to be strung on pens. Superintendent reserve the right to pen a minimum of three head per pen
 17. Trimming tables will not be allowed in the barn and must be placed in locations designated by the Superintendents. All trimming table will require an Identification Tag of the 4-H Club or FFA Chapter

MARKET LAMB CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS

1. HAIRED SHEEP

a. Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- i. Bardo, St. Croix, Dorper, White Dorper, Katahdin or a cross among these breeds
- ii. No wool below knees and hocks
- iii. No wool forward of poll
- iv. No excessive wool covering
- v. Strong breed characteristics of breeds other than the five listed above
- vi. Solid black lambs

b. Absolute Disqualification

- i. No evidence of hair on britch, belly or forearm
- ii. Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene

2. FINE WOOL

a. Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- i. Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet or a cross between these three breeds
- ii. Soft pelt
- iii. Silky, white face that is narrow and clean cut
- iv. Silky, medium size ears
- v. White hooves and legs

b. Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- i. Black or brown spots in the skin or wool on the body of the lamb
- ii. Freckles or pigmented areas of black or brown skin may be permitted on the face and ears if other breed characteristics are in order
- iii. Freckles or brown or black spots above the hooves
- iv. Coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, down the back of the hind legs, and above the hooves
- v. Black pigmentation in the hooves
- vi. Black lambs should be classified as medium wool

3. FINE WOOL CROSS

a. Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- i. Must be a cross with evidence of at least 50% fine wool breeding
- ii. Soft pelt that is characteristic of ½ blood fine wool
- iii. Mottling or some spotting on face and ears
- iv. Mottling and/or spotting of legs below the knees and stifle joint
- v. Face and ears should be soft and silky

b. Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- i. Face, ears and legs should not be extremely dark or solid in color
- ii. Coarse, chalky white hair on face, ears, legs and in the flanks
- iii. Colored fiber (black or brown spots) in the wool

4. SOUTHDOWN

a. Acceptable Breed Characteristics

- i. Hair color on muzzle and nose should be gray to dark brown, not approaching black. White is acceptable around muzzle and eyes
- ii. Wool on the legs should correspond to hair color on the muzzle. A few colored spots on the body are acceptable
- iii. Ears should be of moderate length and size with a pointed end and may be approaching slick
- iv. Noses should be a colored pigment other than solid pink. A spotted nose is acceptable
- v. Muzzle should be broad with a head of medium length
- vi. Hooves should be solid black

b. Discriminatory Breed Characteristics

- i. Face, ears and legs should not be extremely dark or solid in color
- ii. Pink nose
- iii. Coarse, chalky hair around the eyes and in the flank
- iv. Completely slick ears
- v. Pink or stripped hooves
- vi. Black spots in the fleece
- vii. Open poll on the head

c. Absolute Disqualification

- i. Speckled face or legs
- ii. Horns or scars
- iii. Solid black lambs
- iv. Steep hip and a genetic tendency to be double muscled

5. MEDIUM WOOL

- a. All other breeds not mentioned in sections 1, 2, 3 or 4 above

General Rules, Regulations and Procedures on page 40 also apply

CLASSES

- Haired Sheep
- Fine Wool
- Fine Wool Cross
- Southdown
- Medium Wool

AWARDS

Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Reserve Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Breed Champions – Scholarship, Banner & Rosette

Reserve Breed Champions – Rosette

Reserve Champion of the breed that furnished the Grand Champion will compete with remaining Breed Champions for Reserve Grand Champion.

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS

- 4th place - \$26
- 5th place - \$25
- 6th place - \$24

MARKET LAMB SHOWMANSHIP

- All exhibitors of market lambs are eligible to compete. Exhibitor must show their own lamb for showmanship and exhibitor number is required. Exhibitors will be divided into three age groups based on age as of day of show

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS

- Junior – Ages 8 – 11
- Intermediate – Ages 12 – 14
- Seniors – Ages 15 and older

SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS

- 1st place - \$100 & Buckle
- 2nd place - \$75 & Ribbon
- 3rd place - \$50 & Ribbon