

MARKET HOG DIVISION

JUDGE – Doug Albright (Coldwater, MI)

ENTRY DEADLINE – January 15, 2024

ENTRY FEE - \$20 per exhibitor

DELIVERY TO SHOWGROUNDS – 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 11, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024

VALIDATION CHECK/WEIGHT CARD TURN IN – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024

CORRECTIONS TO WEIGHT CARDS – 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 13, 2024

CLASSIFYING/JUDGING – 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 13, 2024

8:00 a.m., Thursday, March 14, 2024

SHOWMANSHIP – 8:00 a.m., Friday, March 15, 2024

LOAD OUT – 6:00 p.m., Saturday, March 16, 2024 (Times subject to change).

Champion Showmanship Buckle Sponsor – Hidalgo County Farm Bureau/Texas Farm Bureau Insurance

Reserve Champion Showmanship Buckle Sponsor – F&T Farms & Cattle Company

SPECIAL RULES FOR MARKET HOGS

1. Each exhibitor must be a bona fide member of a Texas 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, enrolled in elementary, secondary, or home school and reside in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, or Willacy counties.
2. 4-H and FFA exhibitors must be in the third grade or at least 9 years old, but under 20 as of January 1, 2024.
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 Agriculture Science Teacher. Failure to gain approval from the supervising Agriculture Science Teacher/County Extension Agent and the Species Specific County-Level Validation Committee will result in the disqualification of all state validated livestock.
4. Both barrows and gilts are eligible to be entered. All market hogs must have been state validated through the Texas Swine Validation Program by November 30, 2023. Ear notches and validation numbers must match those on validation paperwork. RGVLS will adhere to all state validation guidelines and decisions.
5. An exhibitor may enter only one market hog.
6. Exhibitors must remove hogs 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 exhibitors being barred from future shows.
7. Any animal that has been sold in a terminal auction at another show is ineligible for this Show. Market hogs found to have evidence of more than one validation will be ineligible to show unless the proper Change of Ownership Forms are recorded, reflecting why there is evidence of more than one validation and that the previous validation(s) have been canceled.
8. Minimum weight is 240 lbs. Maximum weight is 290 lbs. Animals will be reweighed at the discretion of the Division Chairman. Hogs that are found to have injuries or illness are subject to sift at the discretion of the show veterinarian.
9. From Monday, March 11, 2024, 12 p.m. to Saturday, March 16, 2024, 5 p.m., all alley ways are to be kept clear of show boxes, feed boxes, wagons, ice chests, chairs and other items that may cause harm to hog or people walking down the alley ways. These items may be placed on the exterior perimeter of the hog barn pens. The outside perimeter is a First come First Serve basis and no items are to be affixed to pens or bleachers. No boxes will be allowed to hang anywhere outside of the pen. Failure to follow this rule will result in disciplinary action to the school or 4H club in violation of each offense.

10. The market hog barn will be closed to everyone, except for market hog committee members, on Saturday, March 16, 2024, starting at 4:00 p.m. and will re-open on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. No one is allowed to remove showboxes, feed boxes, water tubes or tack between these hours.
11. Animals must stay in assigned pens. Exhibitors cannot build their own pens. You should bring your own dividers.
12. Exhibitors must declare animal weight, breed, and state validation number on weight card. 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 and state validation tag number and breed. Errors made on weight cards by the exhibitor or representative will not be changed after Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Committee errors on class and weight posting will NOT be changed after Wednesday, March 15, 2024, at 12:00 noon. All exhibitors participating in showmanship must enter through the online Showworks system by January 15, 2024.
13. Scales will be allowed in the barn during sifting and judging within club/chapter assigned pens or designated areas, provided they are tagged with the club/chapter name, and they must state "Non-Official Scale". No scales will be allowed in alleyways at any time. Scales must be removed within one hour of the end of the market hog show.
14. No ear notching is permitted on the showgrounds. Any freshly notched ear discovered on the grounds will result in disqualification of the animal. Disqualified hogs are still subject to consignment contract.
15. All market hogs entering the showing are required to have validation ear tags. Exhibitors may NOT remove ear tags from their animals. If ear tags fall off, it must be turned in to the Market Hog Committee Chairperson. Exhibitors may NOT remove pen numbers from pen where their animal was stalled. Removal of ear tags and/or pen numbers may result in exhibitor's premium money and/or resale money being held by RGVLS.
16. Fitting: Pure water ONLY. If an exhibitor is caught at the gate with foreign substance on a hog, there will be immediate disqualification. Foreign material including (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited.
17. Only exhibitors and show officials will be allowed in the holding areas, judging arena, or on the arena director's stand during sifting and judging.
18. No drenching, watering/feeding, or grooming is allowed while in the "holding area" at any time.
19. Market hogs will be classified by the judge as they enter the show ring.
20. A market hog, which in the opinion of the judge, 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 and the Show Management, moved by the judge to the breed, which in his/her opinion, the animal is eligible to be exhibited.
21. Hogs may be reweighed during judging at a time determined by the Superintendent. Any hog weighing more than 10 lbs. above or 10 lbs. less than its initial official show weight will become ineligible for any award or placing. Once the market hog is on RGVLS property, it will not be permitted to leave the RGVLS Grounds without approval of the RGVLS Administration.
22. The Show may collect a hair and/or blood sample from any hog entered in the Show for the purpose of conducting a DNA analysis. Any hog not having a positive match from the DNA analysis of this hair and/or blood sampled compared to the DNA analysis of the samples taken from it at the time of enrollment in the state validation program will be disqualified.
23. All market hogs will be sold to the person or company submitting the highest bid.
24. Scholarships will be awarded as follows:
 - Scholarships will not be awarded when there are less than 5 head shown in competition in any weight division of the Market Hog Division.
 - If there are 5 to 14 entries shown, 50% of the full scholarship will be awarded to the Division Champion of each weight division.
 - 15 head and more will result in full scholarship amounts.

General Rules, Regulations and Procedures on page 23 also apply.

JUDGING

After sifting and weighing, hogs will be divided by the following breeds:

- Duroc
- Hampshire
- Yorkshire
- Light OPB
- Dark OPB
- Light Crossbreeds
- Dark/Other Crossbreeds

In the event there are as many as 75 entries of another Purebred, classes will be added for that breed. If the number of entries of any breed falls below 40, that breed class will be discontinued the following year. Hogs will be put in classes as equal in number as possible. All hogs of the same weight will be put in the lower weight group.

First place hogs in each breed class will compete for Breed Champion. Second place winner in the class which produced the Breed Champion, will compete with the remaining first place hogs of the breed for Reserve Breed Champion.

AWARDS

Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Reserve Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Breed Champions – Buckle, Banner, \$500 Scholarship & Rosette

Reserve Breed Champions – Banner & Rosette

Champion winners in each division will compete for Grand Champion Award. Reserve Champion winner in division that produced the Grand Champion will compete with the remaining Champions for the Reserve Grand Champion Award.

The Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Division Champions and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placing projects will be eligible to participate in the Sale of Champions on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. This is a premium auction only; the actual projects will not be sold to the buyers.

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS

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

MARKET HOG SHOWMANSHIP

All exhibitors of market hogs are eligible to compete. Exhibitors must show their own hog for showmanship and an exhibitor number is required. Exhibitors will be divided into three groups based on their grade as of the day of the show.

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS

- Junior – Grades 3rd -5th
- Intermediate – Grades 6th – 8th
- Seniors – Grades 9th – 12th

SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS

- Champion - \$100 & Buckle
- Reserve Champion - \$75 & Buckle
- 3rd place - \$50 & Ribbon

Swine Breed Classification Guidelines

Berkshire

IDEAL

- Predominantly black possessing Berkshire breed character with regards to skull shape and ear shape
- A Berkshire should have six white points: nose, each leg/foot and at end of tail (unless tail is docked)
- Erect ears

ACCEPTABLE

- An occasional splash of white skin/hair may appear on the body
- Three of the four legs/feet must be white
- Ear can have white on it (not full coverage)
- Red or fawn hair, if over black or white skin pigmentation
- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Gray pigmentation on the body (spotting or mottling pattern)
- Moderate amount of white skin splashes

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Solid white or solid black face from base of ear forward
- Solid black nose (white does not break rim of nose)
- Solid white ear
- Excessive white on the body
 - Full coverage of white coming up the lower 1/3 of the body (not including legs) that extends from the base of the jaw through sternum and lower body through seam of the ham
 - White splash extends from rear leg to upper hip
- White skin or hair that continuously encircles the body anywhere between the base of the ear and the base of the tail.
- Any evidence of belt formation on the body
- Lacks breed character with regards to skull and/or ear shape
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Chester White

IDEAL

- Solid white in color possessing Chester White breed character
- Medium sized ears are down when hog is in a relaxed position

ACCEPTABLE

- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Partially erect/level ear
- Skin pigmentation

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Erect ears
- Colored hair
- Color on the skin, cumulatively larger than a U.S. minted silver dollar
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Duroc

IDEAL

- Must be red in color, possessing Duroc breed character
- Ears are down when hog is in a relaxed position

ACCEPTABLE

- Acceptable colors range from light red to dark brown
- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Minimal amounts of black hair
- Black spots on the skin under two inches in diameter
- Partially erect/level ears

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Excessive amounts of black hair
- White Hair
- White skin on the body or legs, or that extends over the rim of the nose
- Four (4) or more black spots on the skin, any of which are larger than two (2) inches in diameter
- Evidence of a belt
- Erect ears
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Hampshire

IDEAL

- Black in color with full white belt over the shoulder encompassing both front legs/feet
- Possess Hampshire breed character with regards to skull shape and ear shape
- Erect ears

ACCEPTABLE

- Black head with a white body, with evidence of pigment and freckling down the top
- White belt starting on a front foot/leg; belt partially encircles body extending to at least the chest floor (half belt)
- Freckling in the belt
- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Large spots within the belt
- Belt is in front of or behind a solid black front leg
- If belt v's and progresses towards the poll (base of the ear)
- White tip on tail, if docked
- White on rear leg extends to the base of the ham

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Streaking or evidence of white on forehead
- White skin extends over the rim of the nose
- When mouth is closed, the white under the chin cannot exceed what a U.S. minted quarter will cover
- Black head with a white body without freckles or pigmentation
- Belt extends past the sheath (sheath must be black)
- Excessive frosting or white hair outside the belt
- Red hair
- Droopy or floppy ears
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Swine Breed Classification Guidelines

Landrace

IDEAL

- Must be solid white possessing Landrace breed character
- Large ears that droop and slant forward coming to a sharp point

ACCEPTABLE

- Ear deformity/ ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Short rounded ears
- Short snout mimicking that of a Chester White

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Erect ears
- Any hair color other than white
- More than 3 spots of skin pigmentation; each individual spot cannot be larger than a U.S. minted quarter
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Yorkshire

IDEAL

- Must be completely white in color possessing Yorkshire breed character
- Erect ears

ACCEPTABLE

- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Excessively large or wavy ears
- Color pigmentation (on body)
 - Two individual pigmentation spots of which neither can be larger than a U.S. minted dime
 - One pigmentation spot cannot be larger than a U. S. minted quarter

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Any hair color that is NOT white
- Broken/ down ears
- Combined pigmentation spots that exceed a U.S. minted silver dollar
- Any series of dots that indicate masking
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Crossbred

LIGHT CROSS

- Any pigs with white and/or blue only

DARK / OTHER CROSS

- All other colors (i.e. black, red and sandy)

Spotted

IDEAL

- Must be black and white, possessing Spotted breed character
- Ears are down when hog is in a relaxed position

ACCEPTABLE

- Predominantly black with white spots or predominantly white with black spots
- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Partially erect/ level ears
- Moderate brown spots

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Erect ears
- Solid black head from base of ears forward
- Distinct white belt pattern (hair or skin) encircling and extending down and onto each shoulder
- Red hair
- Excessive brown spots
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character

Poland China

IDEAL

- Predominantly black possessing Poland China breed character
- A Poland China should have six white points: nose, each leg/foot and at the end of the tail (unless tail is docked)
- Ears are down when hog is in a relaxed position

ACCEPTABLE

- A slight continuation or white from the legs to the body
- Ear may have white on it
- Three of the four legs must be white
- May have an occasional splash of white on the body
- Hair and skin texture can vary from coarse to thin, and color can vary from dark black to ashy/pale
- Ear deformity/ear folded in a backwards position towards hog's body (crinkled ear)

DISCRIMINATORY

- Partially erect/level ears
- A moderate continuation of white from the legs to the body
- Moderate freestanding white, not attached to a leg

ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION

- Erect ears
- Solid white or solid black face
- More than one solid black leg
- If the white on a solid white ear goes past the base of the ear
- An excessive continuation of white from the legs, encompassing the upper hip or shoulder
- Excessive freestanding white, not attached to a leg
- Evidence of belt formation
- Red or sandy hair
- Any evidence of physical tampering that would alter breed character