State of California

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Promoting excellence in agriculture awareness and education.



PRESS RELEASE

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TIPS FOR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION EXHIBITORS

YREKA – The Siskiyou Golden Fair would like to share the following recommendations from 4-H for our many independent livestock exhibitors. We understand that most large animal projects have already been purchased at this time but with the COVID-19 pandemic we understand there is uncertainty about project purchases for other projects.

The following was sent out to 4-H youth and we want to share it with independent exhibitors so they can think about challenges that may affect the 2020 fair season.

Dear 4-H Families,

We are living in unprecedented and unknown times. Many of our 4-H families annually participate in raising and marketing livestock as a part of the 4-H experience. With our youth at home, we know that caring for their project animals can provide comfort and a sense of normalcy. As a part of this 4-H program each of us needs to realize our experiences are going to be impacted.

Some of the opportunities for livestock members will be eliminated or cancelled. Raising livestock is always a risk but no one wants to have a loss for their project venture. While each of our local areas tries to come up with alternatives to assist with new strategies, we as 4-Hers also need to think about our projects.

Think before you buy:

Many families have already purchased project animals. However, for those of you who have not please consider the cost of your project animal. Although communities are trying to find alternatives to support the youth in animal projects we need to understand that new marketing techniques could be used but with a much smaller return. Remember that our communities want to continue to support 4-H members, but small businesses, families and corporations are going to be financially stressed. They simply may not be able to support the program as they have done in the past.

If you happen to live in an area where you can sell more than one animal perhaps think about scaling back to one for this uncertain year.

Already own a project animal:

Perhaps you could rethink your feed plans to minimize feed costs. You could buy feed in bulk to help make less need to travel for feed. Look into pasturing heifers and other breeding projects to help cut hay and grain costs.

Have a backup plan. Develop your own backup marketing plan. Fair auctions are not the only way to market an animal.

For more information, contact the fair office at 842-2767 or info@sisqfair.com. The 2020 Siskiyou Golden Fair "Seeing is Believing", will run August 12-16 in Yreka.

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