

AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS PROJECT SHOW

Kay Richards, Superintendent

Keith Porter, Assistant Superintendent
 Tom Farmer, Assistant Superintendent
 Kason Florence, Assistant Superintendent

Entry Fee: \$45.00 per project
 Entry Deadline: Dec. 1, 2023 (Double fees Dec. 2- 15, 2023)
 Arrival & Classifying: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 28, 2024
In Place: 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 28, 2024
Judging: 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 29
 Awards: 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 1
 Begin Release: Noon, Friday, March 1
 Must Be Out By: 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 1

1. **Entry fee:** Entries must be made on an official Ag Mechanics Entry form and signed by the AST/CEA overseeing the project. Exhibitors and projects must be listed on entry form at time of entry. Ag Mechanics entries are to be made under the Club Name, not the individual exhibitor(s).
2. **Eligible Entries:** Entries must be the work of eligible exhibitors – limited to Texas FFA and 4-H members. Please refer to the General Rules and Junior Show Rules. There is no limit to the total number of projects a 4-H club or FFA Chapter may enter. The Texas Farm Ranch Wildlife Expo reserves the right to refuse any exhibit.
3. **Substitutions:** A \$100 project substitution fee will be charged to entries that are moved from one division to another at check in. This fee does NOT include reclassification by show officials or changes within the division of original entry. Project substitutions should be made at check in. Prior to the show you may contact the livestock office to change a project at least one week before the show.
4. **Projects:** must be constructed by FFA & 4-H members. FFA projects must be constructed as a part of their agriculture mechanic instruction in agriculture science or as part of their supervised work experience program. 4-H projects must be constructed under the supervision of their County Extension Agent.
5. **Club/Chapter Entries:** Group entries must be made in the name of the FFA Chapter or 4-H club. All group entries must include all the names of the exhibitors who participated in planning and construction of the project at the time of check-in at the show.
6. **Individual/Group:** Projects may be either individually or group constructed and owned.
7. **Exhibit Space:** Projects will be displayed in the Guitar Arena and/or First Financial Pavilion by divisions and classes. Placement of projects will be at the discretion of stock show officials. Once project is placed in barn it is not allowed to be moved by anyone but a show official. Display space under shelter is not guaranteed. **Projects may be displayed at an alternate site if sufficient space is not available at the Guitar Arena or First Financial Pavilion.**

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8. **Construction Date:** A project may be exhibited only one time at the Texas Farm Ranch Wildlife Expo and construction must have been started within one calendar year of the conclusion of the previous Expo.

9. **Types of Projects:** Any project that does not fit into one of the stated classes will be disqualified. Projects may be subject to reclassification upon arrival. Projects **MUST** be classified in one of the following division and classes:

Division 1: BUMPER PULL AND GOOSENECK TRAILERS

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 100. Small bumper pull utility trailer – 10 ft. & under | 103. Bumper pull stock trailers |
| 101. Medium bumper pull utility trailer – Over 10 ft. to 16 ft. | 104. Bumper pull Towable BBQ pits |
| 102. Large bumper pull utility trailer- Over 16 ft. | 105. Other Bumper Pull Trailers |
| 106. Gooseneck stock trailers | |
| 107. Gooseneck Utility Trailers- Floats (deck above tires) | |
| 108. Gooseneck Utility Trailers- Lowboys (deck below tires) | |
| 109. Other Gooseneck Trailers | |

Division 2: AGRICULTURE MACHINERY, LIVESTOCK & WILDLIFE EQUIPMENT

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|---|------------------------------------|
| 200. Hay handling equipment | 204. Shop Tables |
| 201. Spraying equipment | 205. All other shop equipment |
| 202. Mounted or pull-type tractor equipment | 206. Pickup & truck accessories |
| 203. Hydraulic equipment | |
| 300. Gates & cattle guards – 14 ft. & under | 304. Creep and self-feeders |
| 301. Gates & cattle guards – Over 14 ft. | 305. Bits, Spurs, Knives, Etc. |
| 302. Squeeze chutes, livestock panels, restraining equip. | 306. All other livestock equipment |
| 303. Trim chutes, blocking stands, livestock crates | 307. All other wildlife equipment |

Division 3: HOME CONVENIENCE

- 400. Small Indoor Furniture/Furnishings (Less than 16 cubic ft., measured at widest point)
- 401. Individual Large Indoor Furniture (More than 16 cubic ft., measured at widest point)
- 402. Multi Piece Large Indoor Furniture (More than 16 cubic ft., measured at widest point)
- 403. Outdoor Metal Furniture.
- 404. Outdoor Wood Furniture
- 405. All Other Home Convenience (including ornamental/non-cooking fire pits, no gates)

Division 4: OUTDOOR COOKING

- 500. Traditional Enclosed Pits
- 501. Cooking Fire Pits & Grills
- 502. Other (Woks, Fish Fryers, Etc.)

10. **Classes with less than four entries are subject to being combined.**

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11. **Vehicles:** No trucks, non-entered tractors or trailers are allowed in the exhibition area.
12. **Projects Requiring Offloading Assistance:** Projects that need to be lifted from the topside area to be fitted with lifting eyes at balance points that accommodate 1" shackles. Projects that cannot be safely unloaded will be shown at an alternate site. Additionally, projects may be mounted on a pallet for ease of loading and unloading.
13. Safety: All safety procedures must be adhered to when displaying projects but not limited to:
 - A. Appropriate and safe display stands provided for gates, panels and other projects needing support.
 - B. Sharp edges and points (as on feeder roofs, bale movers, etc.) must be padded or covered to prevent injury.
 - C. All trailers, **BBQ pits**, and other equipment that is operated on or transported on public roads must be equipped with safety equipment as stated in the latest DOT publication. All three-point hitch and P.T.O. operated equipment is to meet ASAE standards and specifications.
 - D. **NO PAINT APPLICATION ON GROUNDS**
14. Project completeness: All projects should be complete including finish. Projects are to be clean, free of dust and debris, and in a presentable condition even though they may have been used. Any item, necessary for use of the project must be a part of it (example: hinges and latches on gates and panels, etc.). Trailers and all other equipment are to be displayed in transport position. Ramps, extensions and operation of specific features may be demonstrated as directed by the official judges and as space allows. The project display area (including the floor under and around the project) should be neat. Floor covering will be limited to the area under the project.
15. Welds: No structural welds are to be ground without penalty. Grinding is to be limited to welds that should be ground for functional reasons and/or welds that would normally be ground for cosmetic purposes. Examples: top rails on trailers, fender body outside tops, side latches, etc. may be ground, but frames, cross-members, tongues, filler pipe, etc. are not to be ground.
16. Any equipment to travel on public highways must meet Federal DOT Standards. Current **Federal DOT** inspection stickers will be honored. Anything that does not have a current Federal DOT inspection sticker will be subject to inspection by a TXDOT inspector.
17. Projects that require license plates to be DOT compliant must show in the trailer division. Trailers that are designed for off road or slow speed highway use must be equipped with slow speed tires and a SMV (Slow Moving Vehicle) triangle.
18. Exhibitor Presentation: Exhibitors should be dressed appropriately and be with their project when it is judged. Exhibitors should be courteous and helpful to those viewing their project including the public, show officials, and judges. Exhibitors should not interfere with or shield those exhibitors next to them. Exhibitors will be allowed cleaning or preparation supplies, limited to quantities that will fit in a common 5 gallon bucket, in the exhibition area.
19. Exhibitors must be present to present projects. Absence must be approved by committee.

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20. Signs: All projects are to be identified. Information should include – Exhibitor(s) Name, Club/Chapter, and Project Description. Additional signs, banners, etc. must meet the approval of the committee members and cannot extend beyond the project’s display space. **NO FOR SALE SIGNS.**

21. Cleaning of projects will be limited to the use of spray bottles and towels.

22. Loss or Damage: Every precaution will be taken to protect the projects entered; however, neither the Texas Farm Ranch Wildlife Expo nor the officials of this contest will be responsible for fire, theft, vandalism or destruction to the projects.

23. Judging System for first five divisions:

| Category: | Points Available: |
|--|--------------------------|
| a. Workmanship..... | 25 points |
| b. Students’ Knowledge of project..... | 25 points |
| c. Design and Materials | 15 points |
| d. Degree of Difficulty | 15 points |
| e. Finish | 10 points |
| f. Plans, Bill of Materials, Photographs, and if applicable, DOT standard for the project | 10 points |
| TOTAL: 100 POINTS | |

Plans, Bill of Materials, Photographs: Exhibitors should provide an original, exhibitor drawn plan photographs showing stages of production, and a complete bill of materials.

Student Knowledge: Exhibitor(s) may be asked questions concerning, but not limited to project construction, design, use, operation, etc. Exhibitors may also be asked to demonstrate all or parts of the project’s operation.

24. **Showmanship:** Awards will be presented to schools/clubs and individuals selected as having presented the best public image by an independent judge. Judging will begin at unloading and continue until awards are given. There will be two categories: group and individual. Champion and Reserve Champion will be given in each category.

Considerations will be, but not limited to:

- Appropriate display and presentation of project
- Appropriate display of project plans, bill of materials and photographs
- Housekeeping around project
- Appropriate dress
- Conduct, attitude, and participation of students

25. **Awards:** Blue, Red & White ribbons will be given for quality, Ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd will also be given for each class from the BLUE RIBBON projects ONLY.

26. The Texas Farm Ranch Wildlife Expo reserves the right to interpret the rules pertaining to the Agriculture Mechanics Projects Show.

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