University of Idaho Extension

2012 4-H MARKET ANIMAL INFORMATION

Valley County

The 4-H market animal projects are designed to teach the 4-H member the business of finishing an animal in order to provide meat for human consumption. The tables below give information on the desired weight range for animals at the fair. The weigh-in date, length of feeding period, and average gain per day are listed to help calculate what the animal should weigh at the beginning. The actual performance will depend upon the genetic potential of the animal, the nutritional value of the feeds, and the care and husbandry you give your animal. Animals should be selected that can perform at their potential.

Weigh-In	Dates	Feed Period	Species Ownership (Minimum)
Beef	**Saturday, March 10th (12 p.m.)**	**148 days**	**150 days**
Swine	**Saturday, April 28th (10 a.m.)**	**99 days**	**100 days**
Lambs and Goats	**Friday, June 1st (4 p.m.)**	**66 days**	**70 days**
Final Weigh-in date August 5th, 2012			

Target Weights for Fair

	Beef	Swine	Lamb	Goat
Desired Weight Range	1250-1350 lbs	230-260 lbs	115-140 lbs	80-120 lbs
Desired Average weight	1300 lbs	240 lbs	120 lbs	75lbs
Target Average Daily Gain	2.8 lbs	1.75 lbs	.6 lb	
Suggested Beginning Weight	750-850 lbs	60-80 lbs	75-85 lbs	45-60lbs.
Minimum Fair Weight	1050 lbs	220 lbs	110 lbs	70 lbs
Maximum Fair Weight	1500 lbs	280 lbs	160 lbs	120 lbs

Goats must not be over one (1) year of age and must still be showing milk teeth.

Should an animal not meet the suggested weight requirements at the beginning weigh-in, the 4-H member will have the option to obtain and weigh-in another animal within seven days of the initial weigh-in. However, there will be no adjustments for the feeding period. Target Average Daily Gain is recommended to achieve the best practice standards for a 4-H project. Please refer to the 4-H resource handbooks for youth livestock education, health, and ethics.

All 4-Hers must sign an Idaho Youth Livestock Program Commitment to Excellence contract (on the back of 2011- 2012 member enrollment form). Enrollment forms and fees are due to the Extension Office prior to weigh-in order to participate in the 2012 fair.

Animals which weigh-in at fair over the maximum weight limits will sell only at the maximum weight allowed.

FAIR DATES

Monday, August 6th	Final weigh- in
Tues.-Sat. August 7th – 11th	Fair begins/4-H Shows and Competitions
Saturday, August 11th	Market Animal Sale
Recognition Night	Carcass Contest

4-H members participating in 4-H market animal projects must have proof of ownership (brand inspection for beef, bill of sale on goats, sheep and swine). Ownership of the project animal includes personal possession and responsibility as primary caretaker of the animal. The minimum period of time for ownership and length of feeding periods for animals fed and exhibited at a 4-H sanctioned event are noted in the *Idaho 4-H Project Requirement Handbook*.

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