



Cass County

4-H Family News

Fair 2016

Annual Fair Newsletter Update

Back by popular demand, the fair species pages! Please be sure to check out the general livestock updates that ALL livestock exhibitors should read and then skip around to the species that mean the most to you.

If you have questions, please first contact your Superintendent or check your fair book. They are more than happy to help!

Stephanie Consford

4-H Program Coordinator

Contact Us

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CassCountyMichigan4HY-
outhDevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/CassCountyMichigan4HY-outhDevelopment)

Fair Entries

All youth exhibitors must pre-register to exhibit at the Cass County Fair. Registration deadline is June 17th. Fair premium books and entry forms will be available in late May. Be certain to enter all classes that you are eligible for on the pre-registration form. Don't forget showmanship and evaluation classes.

Updated Late Livestock Entry Policy Notice

If the fair entry form is not turned in by June 17th, there will be a \$50 late entry fee PER LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR, and the exhibitor must inform the Superintendent of the late entry. **NO LATE LIVESTOCK ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER JULY 1st.** A \$25 late still exhibit entry fee will be applied after June 17th, increasing to \$50 10 days or later prior to fair.

Cass County Fair would like to remind exhibitors that YOU, as well as YOUR ANIMAL are on display through-out the ENTIRE week of the fair. Your actions, demeanor, and clothing portray the image of 4-H to the public, potential buyers, and fellow 4-H members at all times.

Check out the website for more information, fair book, and entry forms.
<http://mycasscountyfair.com/>

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**No late
livestock
entries
will be
accepted
after
July 1st.**

Yearly Timeline of Events

All
Paperwork is
due

JUNE 17th!

Paperwork
turned in
after this
deadline will
need to pay a
**\$50 livestock
late fee.**

No late
livestock
paperwork
will be
accepted
after

JULY 1st!

December

First Saturday in December prior to fair
All Beef Possession and Validation Date

April

April 1st: Dogs Possession Date
Third Saturday in April: Possession and Validation Date
Dairy Feeder Steer: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

May

May 1st: Possession Date
Dairy, Goats, Horses, Sheep, Swine, Beef Feeder Steers,
Breeding Beef
First Saturday in May: Validation Date
Beef Feeder Steers: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Market Goats: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Sheep: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Sunday following first Saturday in May: Validation Date
Sheep: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
May 15th: Horse ID Sheet due at MSU Extension office
Must have readable copy of Coggins paperwork attached

June

June 1st: Breed Rabbit Possession Date
June 17th: FORMS DUE AT MSU EXTENSION OFFICE
Youth Entry Forms
Pen Reservation Forms

July

July 1st: Late Livestock Entry cutoff! (No Exceptions)
July 1st: Market Rabbit Possession Date
July 9th: Market Rabbit Validation: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

August

July 31st through August 6th, 2016 Cass County Fair

September

Dates for after fair livestock, horse, and still exhibit meetings will be posted at fair.

Youth Cat and Dog Program

We are excited to announce that there are a few changes for those that are showing in the cat and dog programs this year. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact the superintendents.

Each youth that is showing is required to complete a record book. You can pick these up at the 4-H Extension office. These will be judged with the still exhibit check in on Saturday, July 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and must be entered on the youth's exhibit entry form when turned in, in order to show at fair.

Deadlines and Dates to Know:

May 10th and 31st

Cat Meeting (No Cats)
6:30 p.m. at Cass County Animal Control

May 17th and 24th

Dog Meeting
6:30 p.m. at Bergman Small Animal Clinic, weather permitting

June 11th

Tri-County Dog Fun Match
Van Buren Youth Fair grounds

June 17th

Youth Exhibit Entry Form for classes due at the Extension office
Vaccine and Veterinary Form due to Extension office

July 29th

Dog Agility, Costume & Cloverbud Classes—Show Arena
Check-in 5:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m., Classes start at 6:00 p.m.

July 30th

Record Book Judging with Still Exhibit Check-in, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dog Showmanship, Obedience, Team/Brace Classes—Show Arena
Check-in 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Classes start at 12:00 p.m.

August 4th

Cat Show, Showmanship, Breed, Agility, Costume
Check-in 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Classes start at 12:00 p.m.
Top Floor in the Gregarek Building

August 5th

Small Animal Sweepstakes—4:00 p.m. in Show Arena

Dog Showmen:

If you are showing dogs, you must attend at least one qualification, and qualify in front of the superintendents, to be eligible to show at fair. This is for the safety of the dogs as well as the youth handlers. These dates will be posted at a later time. Please check with the Cass County 4-H & Youth Dog Program Facebook page for updates. Also, please be sure that the MSU Extension office is aware that you are interested in showing dogs, this way we will have contact information to update you as well if you do not have access to Facebook. There will also be a few county-wide workouts this year, if you attend, plan to arrive 30 minutes early to help set up or stay 30 minutes late to help put equipment away.

Contact Information

Superintendent

Brooke Lamb
Cell: 269-462-3930
Call or Text

Assistant Superintendent

Tina Konrath
Cell: 574-849-9616
Call or Text

Assistant Superintendent

Robin Rowe—Cats

Assistant Superintendent

Jenny Pegura—Dogs

Cat Showmen:

Please make sure that the MSU Extension office is aware that you are interested in showing cats so that we can update you with information for the cat program meeting. You do not have to be there to be eligible to show, but we will be going over record books, showing information, and practicing for show day with the kittens and cats at the shelter.

Dairy Section

Contact Information

Superintendent
Randy Bowman

Assistant Superintendent
Marilyn Bowman

Rules to Remember

1. Exhibitors are limited to two (2) entries per class and an overall limit of eight (8) animals in this division, **each listed separately on entry form.**
2. An informative dairy barn rules/guidelines meeting will be held on the first Sunday of the fair at 5:30 p.m.
3. All dairy exhibitors will be required to participate in dairy showmanship classes. All showmanship participants must be present throughout the entire class.
4. All cattle participating in the Cass County Fair are required to have an official radio frequency identification device (RFID) ear tag approved by the Michigan Department of Agriculture inserted in left ear.

Judging will take place on Monday of fair week at 8:00 a.m. in the Show Arena.

Pee Wee / Cloverbud

1. See General Pee Wee/Cloverbud Rules and Pee Wee/Cloverbud Livestock Rules.
2. Pee Wee/Cloverbud age for dairy showmanship will be 5-7 years.
3. Dairy exhibitors will be allowed to show either their own junior, intermediate, or senior aged heifer calf, or an animal from another exhibitor that was shown in either class 101, 102 or 103, 121, 122 or 123.

Dairy Feeder Section

Possession and Validation Information

All dairy feeder projects must be owned and in the possession of the exhibitor no later than the third Saturday in April. All youth will be required to pay a \$10.00 exhibitor fee. This will be deducted from their auction check.

All dairy feeders are to be tagged and weighed at the mandatory validation on the third Saturday in April from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Cass County Fairgrounds. A validation form will be submitted for each exhibitor. Weight recorded during validation will be the starting weight for all dairy feeders for the rate-of-gain competition.

Requirements for Fair

Dairy feeders must be of a dairy breed and exhibit distinct color markings of their respective dairy breed. Both sire and dam must be of dairy origin. Dairy crossbreeds will be permitted, but no beef breed crossbreeding is allowed. Questionable calves will be reviewed at the time of validation in April.

All cattle leaving their Michigan premises must be tagged with a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag. To learn more about RFID tagging, please visit the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdard>. Select animal health, then animal ID, then electronic ear tags.

To be eligible to compete in the championship classes and to sell at the Cass County Fair Livestock Auction, dairy feeder steers must weigh between 400-650 pounds. Calves will be weighed as they arrive at the fair on Sunday. Calves cannot be stalled until they have been weighed. Ending weights will determine rate-of-gain and will be used to divide animals into weight classes for the show.

Contact Information

Superintendent
Jan Becraft
Ph: 269-641-5434

Assistant Superintendent
Vicki Schoetzow

Important Reminder!

All dairy feeder animals are required to be vaccinated for respiratory diseases and provide proof prior to the fair. Vaccinations will be available at the mandatory validation in April at minimal cost.

Validation and Possession Dates

All goat projects must be owned and in the possession of the exhibitor no later than May 1st of the current year. All market goats will be assigned a tag number at the mandatory validation on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Cass County Fairgrounds goat barn. (One day only.)

Exhibitors may validate up to 3 market goats, but may exhibit only 2 market goats at the fair. Each exhibitor is limited to a total of 6 animals in the goat section at the fair. Scrapies tag on goat is required at validation. Be sure to read the small auction rules. Exhibitors are limited to 3 sale orders and can only sell 2 animals from the same livestock group. Only animals receiving A or B ratings during judging may sell in the auction.

Goats to Fair and Weigh-In

All goats that enter the goat barn must have a Scrapies tag or ID legible tattoo and copy of required registration papers. Market goats must have a tag on the goat. No goats due to kid at the fair. No goats just kidded at the fair (discharge). USDA Scrapies/MI Scrapies Rules: 1-866-873-2824. If you have questions, please call the superintendent. Purchasing goats? Remember to get a Scrapie tag from the seller.

All goats should enter the goat barn at the back entry only. Goats will be checked before going into the goat barn, any goats showing signs of sickness, disease, or parasites will not be allowed to enter barn or tent. Official weights will be taken in the sheep barn at the fairgrounds from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 31, 2016. Weights will be used to divide animals into weight classes for the show, auction, and determine rate-of-gain.

Requirements for Fair

All market goat exhibitors are required to complete a Market Goat Record Keeping Notebook. Market Goat Record Keeping Notebook evaluations will be judged the Saturday prior to fair during still exhibit judging. Your notebooks must be judged at this time to be eligible to show or sell. Market Goat Record Keeping forms are available from the MSU Extension office. Exhibitors need to keep information for their Market Record Sheet NOW!! Keep a list and price of anything you get to raise your project. Also birth weight and price you paid for your goat.

All goat exhibitors must come to the Goat barn clean-up day on Thursday, July 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Horned goats will be allowed if breed standards include it in their conformation scoring for breed classes only. No horns allowed on dairy or market goats. Any goats with horns that are aggressively using horns, may be asked to leave.

Costume class, cart class, and obstacle class will take place on Friday—see fair book.

Goats will again be housed in the current goat barn and poultry barn as they had been last year. Due to space limitations, there is a new rule in the fair book describing tack box requirements and limitations on other supplies being housed in the barns. All milking supplies need to be cleaned and taken care of upon completion of milking and all milk should be disposed of immediately in the appropriate location.

Goats will be divided into 2 classifications, dairy and meat. Be certain to enter your animals that you intend to exhibit correctly on your pre-entry forms.

Contact Information

Superintendent:

Terri Fryman

Ph: 269-944-9712

frymanboergoat@gmail.com

Assistant Superintendents:

Kelli Davis

kelmi_4@yahoo.com

Kitty Pielemeier

Cloverbud/Pee Wee goats

4-H and youth exhibitors ages 5-7 years old on January 1st of the current year are eligible to exhibit up to 2 livestock classes. Pee Wee goat exhibitors may enter a single doe or wether goat or use another exhibitor's animal. Cloverbud/Pee Wee goat exhibitor's permission form is needed to do this. Scrapies tags are required on Pee Wee goats.

Pee Wee goat showmanship will take place on Wednesday, August 3, 2016. Animals shown in the Pee Wee division may be shown in youth division classes. Pee Wee exhibitors are responsible for the care of their animals at the fair. They must also adhere to the same possession date, entry form, and pen reservation form dates as other exhibitors. Due to space, Cloverbud/Pee Wee goats may be asked to

Contact Information:

Superintendent

Erica Pye

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Assistant Superintendent

Jill Dull: 269-483-0366

Jessica Gray: 269-919-2199

Sara Hartsell: 269-876-6401

Facebook Page:

Cass County Rabbit & Cavy Association

Important Dates to Remember

- Breed Rabbit Possession Date: June 1st
- Market Rabbit Possession Date: July 1st
- Market Rabbit Validation and Barn Clean Up: July 9th 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Rabbits Section

2016 Changes:

- New Rabbit Evaluation books for ALL ages (see additional info below)
- Exhibitors are limited to 10 overall entries for Rabbits including the evaluation book & Showmanship
- Costume class has been dropped
- Check-in time is 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 31st (**Animals MUST be in place**)
- Check-out time is 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 7th

Check-In day

- Rabbits MUST be clean and dry and in place by 2:00 p.m.
- Market Rabbits MUST weigh 3 1/2 - 8 lbs. If the rabbit is under or over weight, the option will be to move it to breed class or take it home
- Barn meeting will be Sunday evening after check-in, time TBA at check-in

Sheep Section

Show Day

- Acceptable attire should be a long sleeve white shirt or lab coat for showmanship, dark pants/jeans (NO distressed) and a closed toe shoe
- Show starts at 9:00 a.m., report to the Rabbit barn
- Only animals receiving an A or B rating during judging may sell in the auction

Cloverbud/Pee Wee Rabbits

- 4-H and current youth exhibitors ages 5-7 years old on January 1st of the current year
- MUST have their own rabbit and have a pen reservation form filled out to exhibit at fair and adhere to the same possession dates and paperwork due dates as other rabbit exhibitors
- Limited to 1 rabbit and housed at the fair

Reminders

All breed animals must be listed on the back of the pen reservation form with their tattoo number, class, and sex. **IF THE BACK OF THE PEN RESERVATION FORM IS NOT FILLED OUT, THE EXHIBITOR WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER BREED RABBIT(S) AT THE FAIR, NO EXCEPTIONS.** The exhibitor IS responsible for the tattoo number in breed rabbits.

Possession Dates and Validation Information

All youth sheep projects must be owned and in the possession of the youth exhibitor no later than May 1 of the current year. Cloverbud/Pee Wee possession date is no later than June 17.

1. All youth market sheep will be tagged and weighed at the mandatory validation the first weekend in May. On Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and on Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Cass County fairgrounds. Weighing will take place in the sheep barn.
2. USDA official Scrapie tag is required at validation (may be in either ear).
3. Weight recorded during validation will be the starting weight for all market sheep for the rate-of-gain competition. Lambs not competing in rate-of-gain must still be weighed and validated in May.

Requirements for Fair

Showmanship is mandatory at the Cass County Fair. Make sure you sign up for it on your entry form. Exhibitors not showing in showmanship will not be allowed to show in market classes and will not be allowed to sell in the auction.

1. Market lambs will be shown by breed: Suffolk, Hampshire, Crossbred, Natural Colored, and Any Other Breed Not Listed. There must be at least 4 lambs in a class to make a class. There will be divisions for both ewes and wethers.
2. **Be sure to read the fair book for complete rules, other requirements, and auction rules!**
3. To be eligible to compete in the championship classes and to sell at the Cass County Fair Livestock Auction, lambs must meet the minimal weight of 80 pounds. Remember, this is a minimum weight, not an ideal weight. An animal's ideal weight will vary based on frame size and other factors, but is reached when the animal has deposited enough muscle and fat to be harvested.
4. Lambs will be weighed upon arrival of the animal at the fair on Sunday. Ending weights will determine rate-of-gain and will be used to divide animals into weight classes for the show.
5. The Sheep Show is on Monday, August 1st, starting at 9:00 a.m. The Pee Wee class will show first, followed by the Showmanship classes, and then market classes.

Contact Information

Superintendent

Kris Sweitzer

Ph: 765-532-7729

Assistant Superintendent

Judy Ruggles: 269-718-9863

Jayna Sobecki: 269-470-2823

Cloverbud

Cloverbud / Pee Wee exhibitors will be allowed to bring their own lamb or use a lamb from another exhibitor to show in their showmanship class. They should be involved in preparing the lamb for show and helping with chores the week of the fair. **Please fill out the sheep exhibitor permission form.**