



NORTHERN MAINE AGRICULTURAL FAIR

July 30 - Aug 3, 2025

4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS HANDBOOK

Theme 2025

“Sowing Seeds for the Future: Year of Youth in Ag”

Participation in the Northern Maine Agricultural Fair (NMAF) is an opportunity for 4-H members to be recognized for their efforts on projects they have completed and skills they have gained over the past 4-H year. Club members and independent 4-Hers from any part of Maine, who are members in good standing in their County 4-H program, are eligible and welcome to participate in 4-H activities at the Northern Maine Fair. All Aroostook County and State 4-H rules and regulations must be followed. No entry fees are charged for 4-H events.

4-H PLEDGE



I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking
My **HEART** to greater loyalty
My **HANDS** to larger service
My **HEALTH** to better living for my Club,
my Community, my Country and my World



In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and pursuing its own goals of diversity, the University of Maine System does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, familial status, ancestry, age, disability physical or mental, genetic information, or veterans or military status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The University provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Equal Opportunity, 5713 Chadbourne Hall, Room 412, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5713, 207.581.1226, TTY 711 (Maine Relay System).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4-H CODE OF CONDUCT	2
4-H DRESS CODE	2
4-H STANDARDS IN ANIMAL CARE	2
4-H MEMBERSHIP AGE	3
4-H LIVESTOCK RULES AND REGULATIONS	3
4-H LEASING RULES	4
THE DANISH SYSTEM OF JUDGING	5
EVALUATION OF 5-8 YEAR OLD ACTIVITIES	5
NORTHERN MAINE AGRICULTURAL FAIR	6
4-H FAIR LIVESTOCK SHOWS..	7
110 DIVISION 4-H DOG	7
120 DIVISION 4-H ALPACA	9
300 DIVISION 4-H BEEF	9
301 DIVISION 4-H BABY BEEF	10
400 DIVISION 4-H DAIRY	10
500 DIVISION 4-H SHEEP	11
600 DIVISION 4-H GOAT	12
700 DIVISION 4-H SWINE	13
800 DIVISION 4-H HORSE	14
900 DIVISION 4-H RABBIT/CAVY	16
PREMIUMS FOR 4-H LIVESTOCK SHOWS & SPECIAL EVENTS.....	18
130 DIVISION 4-H SPECIAL EVENTS & AWARDS	19
- JUDGING	
- TRACTOR DRIVING	
- COSTUME PARADE	
- OBSTACLE COURSE	
- PAPER AIRPLANE CONTEST	
- EXHIBITOR OF CHARACTER AWARD	
- HERDSMAN AWARD	
- DEMO EX	
- BARTLETT SIGN CONTEST	
- EGG EXHIBITS	

4-H Fair Code of Conduct

Members exhibiting or participating in any activities at the Northern Maine Fair must...

- Participate fully in this program.
- Follow all schedule times including curfew and wake-up hours, to be where assigned, when assigned.
- Follow the Dress code established for this program/event.
- Uphold the highest standards of behavior, manners and language.
- Refrain from using alcoholic beverages, non-prescribed or illegal drugs, tobacco products, or fireworks.
- Respect the rights of others at all times and make every attempt to include all participants in all activities.
- Leave the facilities in the same condition or better.
- Support and follow all leadership and direction received from coordinators, chaperones and any other adult authority.
- Respect the personal space and property of others in all settings including during overnight programs.
- Seek assistance and support from adult chaperones on behalf of myself or others should a situation arise that warrants adult intervention or makes me feel uncomfortable.

4-H Dress Code

It is an honor and a privilege to represent 4-H and the excellent reputation of your local program. When you are representing 4-H, please abide by the following policies. If leaders of 4-H events think that your attire is not appropriate for representing 4-H, they may ask you to change your attire. All clothing shall be neat, clean, acceptable in repair and appearance, and shall be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for 4-H events and activities.

- 4-H shirts and state logos are strongly encouraged, except as indicated in ring/show attire.
- Footwear deemed appropriate must be worn at all times for current activities. Example: Livestock area - closed toe shoes (no sandals).
- Clothing displaying profanity, products, or slogans which promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and sex are prohibited.
- Skirts and dress hems must be no more than 4" above the knee. The inseam length of shorts is 4" or longer.
- Exposed bare midriffs (front or side), bare chests, visible cleavage, undergarments (including bra straps), or transparent (see-through) clothing are prohibited. Shirt straps must be at least 2" wide, which means that spaghetti straps are prohibited.
- Undergarments worn as exterior clothing will not be allowed. Undergarments must be completely covered at all times. Immodest clothing is not permitted.

4-H Standards of Animal Care

- Treat your animals with kindness as appropriate to each species. There is never any need to be abusive or to yell at your animals.
- Animals should have fresh water, as often as possible. Fair visitors get very upset if they think animals don't have access to water.

- Be available to answer visitor's questions. Afternoons and evenings are busy in the barn areas, and you should be there to make sure your animals are safe around visitors and visitors are safe around your animals. It's also a perfect time to educate visitors about animals and their care and your 4-H program!
- We want people to enjoy coming to the livestock area! Please make sure it is always safe and pleasant to walk around in your area. Make sure there are no tools or equipment to trip over, and your animals and pens are clean at all times. Please do not leave a wheelbarrow full of manure where the public can see it.

4-H Membership Age

The official age range for 4-H Membership in Maine is 5 to 18. "4-H Age" is defined as the age of the individual on December 31 for the current 4-H Year. The official 4-H year runs from October 1 of one calendar year to September 30 of the next. Participation in Fryeburg Fair activities in October is considered as part of the previous 4-H year. *For example: If Johnny is 8 years old on December 31 and turns 9 on January 1, then in accordance with Maine's 4-H age policy, Johnny would be 8 years in 4-H age for the current enrollment year.*

At the discretion of the 4-H Youth Development Educator or Professional, individuals who are older than 18 may be enrolled when it is mutually beneficial for the Maine 4-H Youth Development program and the individual. For example, mentally-impaired individuals chronologically over 18 but who function at a developmental level that falls within the 5 to 18 4-H age-range could be enrolled as 4-H members.

4-H Livestock Rules & Regulations

1. "4-H Age" is defined as the age of the 4-H member as of December 31 of the current 4-H year. All ages below are "4-H Ages."
 - 4-H exhibitors must be 9 through 18 years of age in order to show competitively in any 4-H animal show.
 - 4-H members age 8 may participate in non-competitive demonstration shows using a rabbit, cria, dog, kid goat, non-market lamb, piglet, or non-market calf. One-on-one supervision by an adult or older teen is required. All participants will receive identical forms of recognition of participation. (See Cloverbud Policy.)
 - 4-H members ages 5 through 7 may participate in a skill-a-thon, educational clinic or other public educational activity with one rabbit, cria, dog, kid goat, non-market lamb or piglet, or calf. One-on-one supervision by an adult or experienced older teen having ultimate control of the animal is required. All participants will receive identical forms of recognition of participation. (See Cloverbud Policy.)
2. All shows will require that exhibitors ages 9 through 18 present the standard Approval Form for 4-H Animal Shows.
 - Each animal must be listed on only one member's approval form with the exception of horse and alpaca. Two members who are not siblings or all the children from one family may share the same horse.
 - Cloverbud members will not be required to use Animal Approval Forms for their animal activities, but are encouraged to submit them for show planning purposes.

3. 4-H members ages 9 through 18 must fit any animals they show.
4. Members ages 5 through 8 may have assistance from an adult or older 4-H member in fitting their animal with the amount of hands-on participation related to the skills and abilities of the younger member.
5. 4-H members 9 through 18 may use leased animals in 4-H shows.
6. An Animal Substitution Form is available for a 4-H member to use if their ONLY project animal listed on the current year's signed and embossed official Animal Approval Form dies, or has a long-term critical illness that will affect the animal's ability to show and warrant it "unusable" in the current 4-H year.
 - In both cases this must be confirmed by a licensed veterinarian with both a signature on the Animal Substitution Form and a certificate of death, or written statement of long-term illness that will affect the animal's ability to show in the current 4-H year.
 - If one of a 4-H member's animals is unable to be exhibited for any reason (illness, death), and they have other project animals listed on their Animal Approval form there is never any substitution form allowed. Please see the back of the Animal Substitution Form for a full list of rules. The Animal Substitution Form can be found on the Forms page of this website.

4-H Leasing Rules

1. There can only be one 4-H member per leased animal with the exception of horses. Another way to state this is "Each animal can only be rented by one 4-H member and appear on one Approval Form with the exception of horse. Up to two members who are not in the same family are permitted to lease the same horse." Two members are permitted to lease the same horse because expenses are generally higher with the horse project and it is sometimes safer for two members to work together. In families with more than 2 children, the horse may be leased by all of the children. Families must take care not to overwork the horse and recognize that every child may not be able to show at the same horse show.
2. No more than 20 animals of each type (dairy cow, beef animal, goats, dogs, sheep, working steer, swine, poultry, rabbits, llamas, horse, other) that require an Approval Form can be leased by one 4-H member.
3. It is understood that 4-H members will receive help with fitting during the year as these skills are learned. It is expected that the fitting of leased animals for 4-H shows and competitions will be done by the 4-H member who signed the lease form. Alpacas can be shared by more than one member as long as those sharing the animal are in different age divisions.
4. It is desirable to keep leased animals under the direct responsibility of the 4-H member. It is expected that a 4-H member with a leased-animal project will, on average, assist with the care, maintenance and training of that animal at least twice per week.
 - a. The 4-H club leader, project leader, or independent advisor will verify that this is an active project by signing the Animal Approval Form. One method of verification the leader can use is to review the project record to date.

Danish System of Judging

The Danish system is a method of evaluation where a product or process is evaluated against a set of standards, and recognition is awarded on the degree to which the standard has been met by each competitor. In the Danish system of judging, the exhibitors are not judged against each other. In a “true” Danish system the standard of excellence is the same for everyone regardless of age or experience. In 4-H, a “modified” Danish system is used that uses standards adjusted according to the member’s age and years of experience in the project. The Danish system is used in 4-H for 9 through 18 year olds because it is a way to provide recognition to greater numbers of youth who may all be making significant progress in their projects. The Danish system is considered by National 4-H Policy to be a competitive form of judging and is therefore not to be used for 4-H members under the age of 9. In Maine 4-H, ribbons traditionally awarded by the Danish system are:

- Blue: for excellence, exceeding the standards
- Red: for good work that meets the expected standard
- White: for work that falls below the expected standard

Evaluation of 5-8 Year Olds

Cloverbuds, 4-H members ages 5 through 8, are not ranked or judged competitively. Cloverbud members will receive identical forms of recognition of participation for work exhibited in Exhibition halls or for participation in non-competitive animal demonstrations, skill-a-thons, clinics, or other educational events. Although Cloverbud exhibits or demonstrations are not ranked or scored, it is important for the children to receive feedback on their work. They may participate in a “show and tell” activity about their exhibit or receive written or oral feedback that includes positive encouragement and constructive suggestions for growth for their exhibits or animal activities.

Northern Maine Agricultural Fair:

In order to participate in the Northern Maine Agricultural Fair, State of Maine Health regulations must be met by all animals entering the grounds. Entry is open to all Aroostook County 4-H members and to other 4-H members who request to attend based on available space. No entry fees are required for 4-H classes.

All Aroostook County entrants must submit a 4-H Livestock Approval Form to an Aroostook County office before June 30, 2024. Entrants outside of Aroostook County must meet the Aroostook County deadlines. Please call 532-6548 if you have questions. Animal Approval Forms will be embossed and returned to you for presentation to NMAF officials upon your arrival. Note: Poultry does not need to be listed on Animal Approval Forms. However, members must follow all fair rules concerning the number of animals permitted in shows and all members will be required to present any licenses, registration papers, or certificates of health required by fairs or the state of Maine to Fair officials.

To participate in livestock shows, entrants will be required to present the following papers at check-in or class registration:

- Animal Approval Form
- Registration papers (if animal is registered)

- Lease Papers (if animals is leased)
- Health Records (as required where indicated)
- Proof of Insurance (send a copy with your entry)
 - Livestock Insurance can be purchased from the Maine Association of Livestock Exhibitors <http://www.mainerlivestockexhibitors.org/membership.html>

Northern Maine Fair Livestock Rules & Regulations

1. Health Requirements:

- All animals entering the grounds must meet the health requirements of the Maine State Department of Agriculture as established for State Fairs. Details of these requirements can be obtained from the Fair Livestock Superintendent. Entering animals will be inspected by the Fair Livestock Superintendent. If an animal is found to be unfit, the animal must be returned home. Evidence of ringworm, warts, mange, foot rot, sore mouth, or any other infectious disease will be cause for removal.
For more information - <http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/ahi/fairs/index.html>.
Animals with these conditions may not be exhibited at any other fair until cleared by the State Veterinarian and released by the Division of Animal Industry. Warts may not be removed on fairgrounds.
- All animals/breeds with approved rabies vaccines should be inoculated before arrival at the Fair. All animals must be housed in their assigned areas.

2. Attendance Requirements:

- 4-H members who can not bring their animals for the week may bring them for the day of the show with prior approval. They will show in classes of their own for ribbons only, no premiums or financial awards. All animals must still have Intent to Participate forms, Livestock Approval Forms, and Proof of Insurance Forms even if just attending for the day.
- 4-H Exhibitors are expected to stay on the grounds with their animals throughout the fair. If a member can't stay, but is willing to keep their animals on the fairgrounds, it will be acceptable to make arrangements with another 4-Her to tend your animals for you. It must be a 4-H member and not an adult. In this case, the 4-H member will be allowed to collect premiums for any winnings; however they will not be eligible for the Herdsman Award or Exhibitor of Character Award since they are not solely responsible for their animals. This must first be pre-approved by 4-H staff.

3. Additional Rules & Requirements:

- Substitutions of livestock may be made as long as the substitute animal is on the Animal Approval Form and the 4-H Official is notified before the show.
- Any animal which cannot be controlled by its handler will be immediately returned to the barn and will be disqualified. Only judges, officials, and handlers are allowed in the show ring.
- 4-H Families are reminded that alcohol and drug possession or use by members on Northern Maine Agricultural Fairgrounds is strictly prohibited. Members who violate this

rule will be ineligible to show. All family members are reminded that State and local alcohol laws must be obeyed.

- The Northern Maine Agricultural Fair is now a smoke-free area. Please read the smoking policy online at their website.

Note: Northern Maine Agricultural Fair Livestock Rules & Regulations apply to 4-H livestock. Any conflicts/issues must be cleared and in agreement with Northern Maine Agricultural Fair Livestock Superintendents and the 4-H Fair Office.

Maine 4-H Horse Program Helmet Policy

1. Effective January 1, 2002 all youth under 19, participating in any 4-H equestrian activities, regardless of riding seat, shall wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet which carries a current American Society for Testing and Materials/Safety Equipment Institute approval with secured chin harness properly fastened at all times when mounted on an equine or in a vehicle being pulled by one or more equines.
2. It is the responsibility of the rider or the parent or guardian of the minor rider, to see to it that the headgear worn complies with such approved standards and carries the proper seals, and is properly fitted and in good condition. Due to degeneration concerns, equestrian and sport manufacturers recommend replacement every five years. The University of Maine system, organizing committees, and licensed officials or leaders are not responsible for checking headgear worn for such compliance. The University of Maine or said committees and officials and leaders make no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about such headgear and cautions riders that serious injury may result despite wearing headgear, as no helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries in equestrian activities.
3. At any 4-H equestrian activity, the official activity manager (e.g. show manager, clinic organizer, club leader) may, at his/her discretion, check a participant's equestrian helmet for proper standards. If the participant is found to be wearing an unapproved, defective or improperly fitted helmet, he/she will NOT be permitted to participate in any mounted or driving activities until proper headgear is acquired.

Livestock Shows

110 Division 4-H Dogs

1. Entries are open to all youth in the State of Maine who are enrolled in an approved 4-H Dog Project as of June 30, 2025. Exhibitors must be 9-18 years old as of December 31, 2025.
2. Any sick or unmanageable dogs will be dismissed from the show.
3. All dogs must be owned or leased by June 1, 2024.
4. All participants must present a properly executed rabies certificate, license and lease form (if applicable), to the 4-H representative on the day of the show. The 4-H representative strongly encourages all dogs to have up-to-date distemper and parvo shots.
5. Participants must pick up after their own animals.
6. A dog may be shown by more than one family member as long as they are in separate projects.
7. Dogs must be at least 6 months old to enter the show; however, dogs need not be purebred or registered.

8. All dogs must be kept on-leash when not in the show ring, and handler must keep dog under control at all times. Any dogs displaying aggressive or disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the show grounds immediately.
9. Female dogs in season will not be permitted on show grounds for any reason.
10. Failure to comply with any rule will be considered just cause for disqualification from the show and/or forfeiture of all awards.
11. Showmanship and Obedience scores will be the primary factor in determining the High Point Dogs. However, bonus points will be given to dogs entering the additional class(es). A High Point award will go to the highest scoring dog handled by a junior and the highest scoring dog handled by a senior.

Required dress: Black or Tan bottoms and White shirts, ties if available. Sandals and flip-flops are not permitted in the show ring.

110 Dog Showmanship Classes:

Members are judged on knowledge about the dog's health, parts of the dog, handler's appearance and attitude, grooming, and handling of the dog.

001 Senior Showmanship

002 Junior Showmanship

111 Obedience Class

112 Obstacles Class: Course must be completed as posted: course will be posted on 4-H Office Board. Time will not be kept, but judging is based on how well each obstacle is performed, the confidence and attitude of handler, and dog taken into account.

113 Figure 8:

Participants will complete a Figure 8 course composed of two cones and a jump. Time starts at the middle with the dog jumping the first jump... time stops when both loops are completed and dog jumps back across center. Handler may or may not jump with their dog. Downed rails result in 2 sec. penalty.

114 Pause Table Keyhole:

Starting at one end, handler and dog race to the Keyhole. Dog is asked to lie down on a pause table for 5 seconds, then team races back to starting line.

116 Jumpers:

Timed event. A course of 6 jumps. Course must be completed in posted order, or point penalties result. Point penalties also result for downed jumps. Three heights of jumps will be offered to accommodate dogs of all sizes. Handler can choose their height preference.
8 inches high / 16 inches high

117 Costume Class: (All Ages)

Exhibitors will receive points towards the High Point Award for entering this class. Each exhibitor will receive one (1) bonus point for entering. Exhibitors will receive a second bonus point for costumes that show extraordinary creativity, effort and/or imagination.

118 Champion Class: (In the Event of a Tie for Grand Champion)

Awarded to the Exhibitor who receives the most overall points for the day. In the event of a tie, the judge may choose a Heel on Leash or Command Class (3 sec) to determine a winner. (At the discretion of the show, coordinator classes may be broken down further or combined together - depending on the number of registrations.)

120 Division 4-H Alpacas

1. Exhibitors may show one (1) animal that must appear on their Animal Approval Form.
 - a. Juniors (9-13 years old)
 - b. Seniors (14-18 years old)

Required Dress: white shirt (a 4-H shirt is also acceptable), black pants (no jeans), hard shoes or boots.

120 Showmanship Classes:

001 Senior Showmanship

002 Junior Showmanship

The showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired handler whose alpaca is prepared to a clean condition and performs the required movements with promptness and willingness.

121 Obstacle Courses:

001 Senior Obstacle

002 Junior Obstacle

Alpaca is taken through different obstacles in the shortest time without moving the obstacle. The obstacle can be some of the following; Doorway, Pass-Thru Ring, Tunnel, Petting, Clothesline, Ramp/Stairs, Fan, Surprise Animal, Backing, Tail/Foot/Ear/Teeth, Jumps, Agility, Side Pass, Bridge, Serpentine, Teeter-Totter, Change of Pace, Water Hazard, or Loading into a Trailer.

122 Costume Classes:

001 Senior Costume

002 Junior Costume

Youth are required to construct a costume for themselves and the alpaca. The class is judged on originality and complexity of costume. A short story, describing the characters the youth and alpaca are representing, is to be prepared by the youth and handed into the ring steward prior to the class. This story will be read while the youth and alpaca parade around the ring.

123 Communication Clinics:

001 Senior Communication: 3-5 minutes

002 Junior Communication: 2-4 minutes

An oral presentation about different aspects of alpacas: Shearing, Reproduction, Feeding, Worming, Grooming, Conformation, and others. The presentation will be presented to the audience as an educational demonstration during the show.

300 Division 4-H Beef

1. How many animals exhibitor may show:
 - a. Junior (9-13 years old) may show no more than three (3) animals.
 - b. Senior (14-18 years old) may show no more than five (5) animals.
2. Grade and registered animals will compete together with breeds shown separately. There will be one separate class for crossbreeds. No bulls allowed.

Required dress, button down shirt, jeans (no holes), boots, and cowboy hats.

301 4-H Baby Beef Classes:

Only members of the Aroostook Valley Baby Beef Club are eligible to show and participate in the Baby Beef Show and Auction.

- 001 Senior Showmanship
- 002 Junior Showmanship
- 003 Novice Showmanship
- 004 Senior Fitting
- 005 Junior Fitting
- 006 Novice Fitting
- 007 Lightweight Steers
- 008 Heavyweight Steers
- 009 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

302 Heifer/Cow Classes:

- 001 Senior Fitting and Showmanship
- 002 Junior Fitting and Showmanship
- 003 Spring Heifer Calf (4-1-25 to 6-30-25)
- 004 Junior Heifer Calf (1-1-25 to 3-31-25)
- 005 Senior Heifer Calf (9-1-24 to 12-31-24)
- 006 Summer Yearling (5-1-24 to 8-31-24)
- 007 Spring Yearling (3-1-24 to 4-30-24)
- 008 Junior Yearling (1-1-24 to 2-28-24)
- 009 Senior Yearling Heifer (1-1-23 to 12-31-23)
- 010 Cows 2 years and older (includes freshened yearling heifers)
- 011 Cow/Calf
- 012 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Heifer

303 Beef Steers:

- 001 Senior Fitting and Showmanship
- 002 Junior Fitting and Showmanship
- 003 Beef steer under 12 months
- 004 Beef steer 12-18 months
- 005 Dairy Steer
- 012 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Steer

400 Division 4-H Dairy

1. How many animals exhibitor may show:
 - a. Junior (9-13 years old) may show no more than three (3) animals.
 - b. Senior (14-18 years old) may show no more than five (5) animals.
2. Grade and registered animals will compete together with breeds shown together. No bulls allowed.

Required Dress: white shirt, white or dark pants(no jeans), hard shoes or boots.

400 Dairy Classes

001 Senior Fitting and Showmanship

002 Junior Fitting and Showmanship

401 Breed Classes:

Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, Milking Shorthorn (In the event that there are less than 3 entries in the classes of any breed, breeds will be shown together.)

001 Spring Heifer Calf (born March 1, 2025 and after)

002 Winter Heifer Calf (12-1-24 to 2-28-25)

003 Fall Heifer Calf (9-1-24 to 11-30-24)

004 Summer Yearling (6-1-24 to 8-1-24)

005 Spring Yearling Heifer (3-1-24 to 5-31-24)

006 Winter Yearling Heifer (12-1-22 to 2-28-23)

007 Fall Yearling Heifer (9-01-22 to 11-30-22)

008 Junior Champion (1st place animals from Classes 1-7) Ribbon Only

009 Cows two years old (includes freshened milking yearlings)

010 Cows three years and older

011 Senior Champion (1st place animals from Class 9 and 10) Ribbon Only

012 Grand Champion (Junior and Senior Champions)

013 Dairy Steers - All breeds competing together.

500 Division 4-H Sheep

1. How many animals exhibitor may show:
 - a. Juniors (9-13 years old) may show no more than four (4) animals, plus one (1) market lamb.
 - b. Seniors (14-18 years old) may show no more than six (6) animals, plus one (1) market lamb.
2. Ewe lambs may be shown as either market lambs or breeding stock but not both.
3. All sheep must be shown using halters.
4. Ram lambs must be registered.
5. Market lambs may be ewes or wethers; no rams allowed
6. Market lambs must be slick shorn.
7. Limit single classes to two entries and one-entry in-group classes.
8. **You must only show in the class that your animal is fit for. Example: Wool can only show in the wool class, not wool and meat.**

Required Dress: white shirt, black, or tan pants, (no jeans), hard shoes or boots.

500 Sheep Classes:

001 Senior Fitting and Showmanship

002 Junior Fitting and Showmanship

501 Colored Face Meat Breeds Classes:

001 Ram Lamb

002 Ewe Lamb

003 Yearling Ewe

004 Breeding Ewe two and over

- 005 Champion Ewe & Reserve (ribbon only)
- 006 Pair of Ewes
- 007 Flock: one (1) yearling ewe, one (1) ewe lamb, and one (1) ram lamb
- 502 White Faced Meat Breeds Classes:
 - 001 Ram Lamb
 - 002 Ewe Lamb
 - 003 Yearling Ewe
 - 004 Breeding Ewe two and over
 - 005 Champion Ewe and Reserve (ribbon only)
 - 006 Pair of Ewes
 - 007 Flock: one yearling ewe, one ewe lamb, and one ram lamb
- 503 Wool Breeds Classes:
 - 001 Ram Lamb
 - 002 Ewe Lamb
 - 003 Yearling Ewe
 - 004 Breeding Ewe two and over
 - 005 Champion Ewe and Reserve (ribbon only)
 - 006 Pair of Ewes
 - 007 Flock: one (1) yearling ewe, one (1) ewe lamb, and one (1) ram lamb
- 504 Champion Classes:
 - 001 Grand and Reserve Champion Ewe (Classes 501/005, 502/005, 503/005)
 - 002 Grand and Reserve Champion Ram Lamb (Classes 501/001, 502/001, 503/001)
- 505 Market Lambs Class:
 - All breeds compete together (must be 6 months or younger)
 - 001 Grand and Reserve Champion Market Lamb

600 Division 4-H Goat

1. How many animals exhibitor may show:
 - a. Junior (9-13 years old) may show no more than four (4) animals.
 - b. Senior (14 -18 years old) may show no more than six (6) animals.
 - c. In addition to the animals above, members 9 and over may show up to two (2) meat animals.
 2. Grade and registered animals will compete separately, with breeds shown separately or together at the discretion of the judge.
 3. No bucks allowed.
 4. No horns are allowed except for meat breeds. Scurs will not disqualify an animal.
 5. Wethers and non-dairy animals may be shown in Showmanship and Meat Class only.
- Required Dress: white shirt, white, black, or tan pants (no jeans), hard shoes or boots.

- 600 Goat Classes:
 - 001 Senior Fitting and Showmanship
 - 002 Junior Fitting and Showmanship
- Breed Classes:

601 Commercial Class: (Grade)

001 Commercial Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

602 Purebred Classes: (Decision to show together or by breed will be at the discretion of the judge.)

001 Doeling (0-3 months)

002 Doeling (3-6 months)

003 Doeling (6-12 months)

004 Dry Yearlings

005 Junior Champion (Classes 001-004)

006 Milking Yearling

007 Milking Doe (two years and over)

008 Senior Champion (Classes 006-007)

009 Dam and Daughter (Dam and one or two daughters)

010 Herd (one (1) milker, one (1) dry, one (1) exhibitor's choice)

012 Purebred Grand Champion and Reserve Champion (Classes 005 and 008)

603 Meat Class:

001 Meat Class Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

700 Division 4-H Swine

1. 4-H members 9 and older may show one (1) Auction Market Hog.
2. All market animals should be between 180 and 280 pounds. Buyers will not pay for additional weight over 300 pounds at auction.
3. Animals must be kept under control.

Required Dress: white shirt, tan pants (no jeans), hard shoes or boots.

700 Market Hog Classes:

001 Senior Showmanship and Fitting

002 Junior Showmanship and Fitting

003 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

701 Commercial Hog Classes:

01 Senior Showmanship and Fitting

02 Junior Showmanship and Fitting

03 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

702 Pet Swine Classes:

01 Senior Fitting

02 Junior Fitting

03 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion

800 Division 4-H Horse

Pre-Registration for 4-H Horse Shows is required. All State and NMAF special notices for Livestock and 4-H Livestock apply to 4-H Horse Show participants. Participants must pre-register with 4-H staff by June 30, 2025. You will also need to present your embossed animal approval form, a current Coggins Certificate and proof of Rabies, EVH-1 and Equine Influenza vaccination. It is recommended that your horse is currently on EEE in consultation with your local practicing veterinarian.

Numbers and class lists will be available at the announcer's table.

Rules:

1. Exhibitors may show one (1) animal that must appear on their Animal Approval Form. Two riders may share one (1) horse as long as it appears on both member's Animal Approval Forms and they ride in different categories.
2. Members/horses may show in two (2) seats (English, Western, or Walk-Trot). A horse that is being shared by two members may only be shown once by each member.
3. All Exhibitors must enter Showmanship and Equitation classes. No premiums are given for these classes, but each member who rides in the classes will receive the Worthy Exhibitor premium.
4. Walk-Trot category is for riders who have never shown at a canter and who have not previously won grand or reserve champion in the Walk-Trot category. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the 4-H staff.
5. Any horse that is unmanageable, cannot be controlled by its rider, or is overtired, in the opinion of the judge, will be excused from the ring. The animal will be allowed to continue in the show at the judge's discretion.
6. 4-H Exhibitors must wear an ASTM/SEI approved helmet while mounted and proper footwear any time they are working with a horse. This applies to the entire NMAF.
7. All grooming, stable work, and show preparation is to be done by the 4-H member. Other members may assist members only. Parents or adult volunteers should be present as younger members work to intervene in case of a safety emergency.
8. No stallions.

Required Dress:

Western: boots, pants, long-sleeved Western shirt, tie highly recommended, no chaps. English: boots, breeches or jodhpurs, and jacket.

800 Horse Classes: (To be awarded at the conclusion of the horse show.)

- 001 Grand and Reserve Champion English Senior
- 002 Grand and Reserve Champion English Junior
- 003 Grand and Reserve Champion Western Senior
- 004 Grand and Reserve Champion Western Junior
- 005 Grand and Reserve Champion Walk-Trot
- 006 High Point Game Senior
- 007 High Point Game Junior
- 008 High Point Game Walk-Trot

801 Fitting and Showmanship Classes: (Ribbon only, required of all riders.)

- 001 Seniors

- 002 Juniors
- 802 Equitation Classes: (Ribbon only, required of all riders.) 001 English Seniors
 - 002 English Juniors
 - 003 Western Seniors
 - 004 Western Juniors
 - 005 Walk-Trot
- 803 Pleasure Classes:
 - 001 English Seniors
 - 002 English Juniors
 - 003 Western Seniors
 - 004 Western Juniors
 - 005 Walk-Trot
- 804 Bridle Path Hack: (English Class)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
- 805 Western Riding Pattern:
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
- 806 Parade Classes: (Open to all riders, please enter by age.)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
 - 003 Walk-Trot
- 807 Command Classes:
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
- 808 Costume Class:
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
 - 003 Walk-Trot
- 809 Obstacle/Trail Classes: (Western and Walk-Trot Class)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
 - 003 Walk-Trot
- 817 Hunter Hack: (English Class)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
- 810 Keyhole Race: (Game)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
 - 003 Walk-Trot
- 811 Barrel Race: (Game)
 - 001 Senior
 - 002 Junior
 - 003 Walk-Trot

812 Egg and Spoon: (Game)

001 Senior

002 Junior

813 Pole-Bending: (Game)

001 Senior

002 Junior

003 Walk-Trot

814 Apple Dunking: (Game)

001 Senior

002 Junior

003 Walk-Trot (riders lead horse back to finish)

815 Don't Spill a Drop: (Game)

001 Senior

002 Junior

003 Walk-Trot (riders lead horse back to finish)

816 Rescue Ralph: (Game)

001 Senior

002 Junior

003 Walk-Trot (riders lead horse back to finish)

900 Division – 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Show

1. How many animals exhibitor may show:

a. Junior (9-13 years old) may show no more than four (4) animals.

b. Senior (14-18 years old) may show no more than eight (8) animals.

2. All rabbits and cavies must be permanently and legibly marked in the left ear.

3. Any animals in poor condition or that appear sick will be removed from the fairgrounds as deemed by the 4-H Club Leader, 4-H Staff, or judge.

4. Exhibitors must compete in showmanship and fitting, breed or pet class, and public speaking to compete for Grand Champion. The speech must follow the Maine Public Speaking criteria.

5. All class points are tallied for Grand Champion results.

Required Dress: white coats and white or dark pants, no jeans or flip-flops.

900 Rabbit/Cavy Classes:

001 Senior Showmanship

002 Junior Showmanship

901 Breed Classes:

The judge will decide if there are enough animals to show by breed; otherwise, rabbits will be shown together by age.

001 Pre-Junior Doe (Californian, Red Satin, Flemish giant, or other large breeds.)

002 Pre-Junior Buck (Californian, Red Satin, Flemish giant, or other large breeds.)

003 Junior Doe

004 Junior Buck

005 Senior Doe

006 Senior Buck

- 008 Best in Class
- 009 Best Opposite
- 902 Commercial/Pet Class Rabbits:
 - 001 Junior Doe
 - 002 Junior buck
 - 003 Senior Doe
 - 004 Senior Buck
 - 005 Best in Class
- 903 Champion Classes:
 - 001 Best of Show (Premium of \$10)
 - 002 Best Opposite
- 904 Guinea Pigs: (Cavies)
 - 001 Senior Boar (over 30 ounces)
 - 002 Senior Sow (over 30 ounces)
 - 003 Intermediate Boar (4-6 months, 20-30 ounces)
 - 004 Intermediate Sow (4-6 months, 20-30 ounces)
 - 005 Junior Boar (up to 4 months, 12-22 ounces)
 - 006 Junior Sow (up to 4 months, 12-22 ounces)
- 905 Public Speaking:
 - 01 Senior Public Speaking
 - 02 Junior Public Speaking
- 906 Costume Class: (All Ages)

Premiums for NM Fair Livestock Shows & Special Events

Grand Champion

\$30.00

Reserve Champion

Ribbon only

Show Placing & Showmanship Premiums

First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
\$10.00/Blue	\$8.00/Red	\$7.00/White	\$6.00/Yellow	Pink Ribbon
Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth	
Green Ribbon	Purple Ribbon	Brown Ribbon	Gray Ribbon	

Worthy Exhibitor - \$10.00

- Worthy Exhibitor is to be awarded to Junior and Senior 4-H Members showing animals.
- The 4-H Member receives a Worthy Exhibitor per Division (Alpaca, Beef, Dairy, Horse, Sheep, Goat, etc) not per animal. All members receive one (1) Worthy Exhibitor premium regardless of the number of animals shown in each Division.

4-H Herdsman Award: \$50

4-H Judging Events

Individual Judging Premiums

First	Second	Third	Fourth
\$10.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00

Team Judging Premiums

First	Second	Third	Fourth
\$30.00	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$ 8.00

4-H Special Events: Tractor Driving, Obstacle Course, Paper Airplane, Costume Parade, Egg-celent Eggs-hibits

First	Second	Third	Fourth
\$10.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00

Demo Ex and Bartlett Signs listed with the contest details.

130 Division 4-H Special Events

4-H Judging Events

4-H Judging Class Participant Age Groups

Juniors (9-13 years old)

Seniors (14-18 years old)

Judging Classes:

130 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Judging (Individual only)

131 4-H Horse Judging

001 Individual

002 Team

132 4-H Beef Judging

001 Individual

002 Team

133 4-H Dairy Judging

001 Individual

002 Team

134 4-H Sheep Judging

001 Individual

002 Team

135 4-H Potato Judging

001 Individual

002 Team

Judging events can vary year to year based on available animals, schedule and interests.

4-H Tractor Driving

Open to 4-H members 14-19 who have participated in an approved tractor safety activity in the current 4-H year.

4-H Costume Parade

Open to all 4-H members. Show your creative side and dress up yourself and/or your animal to participate in the costume parade. All costumes must be appropriate and safe for the member and/or animal. Themed costumes are encouraged.

Animals not required to participate.

001 Junior/Senior

003 Cloverbud (Non-competitive, participation ribbon only.)

4-H Obstacle Course

Course will be set by 4-H staff.

Completed with animal

001 Seniors

002 Juniors

003 Cloverbud (Non-competitive, participation ribbon only.)

Completed without animal

- 001 Seniors
- 002 Juniors
- 003 Cloverbud (Non-competitive, participation ribbon only.)

4-H Paper Airplane Contest

- 001 Seniors
- 002 Juniors
- 003 Cloverbud (Non-competitive, participation ribbon only.)

Premiums for the above Special Events will match the exhibit hall premiums.

Prizes for the below contests may be awarded during the annual 4-H Achievement Celebration scheduled in the fall

Exhibitor of Character Award

The “Exhibitor of Character” Award seeks to recognize any 4-H member or exhibitors who show exemplary character at the Northern Maine Fair. Fair goers can nominate members they witness displaying the good character pillars of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.

Nomination forms will be available at the 4-H office.

Herdsman Awards

The Northern Maine Fair will judge 4-H livestock exhibitors for the Herdsman Award. Members must adhere to all fair and 4-H rules and regulations to be considered for the award. Judging will be based on the level at which members adhere to the 4-H Standards of Animal Care (pg. 2-3).

4-H Demo Ex Contest

This contest is open to all Aroostook County 4-H members. **Members may enter only one of the three classes for the event.**

Exhibitors in all classes should demonstrate a connection between their topic and 4-H. And must follow the time limits based on their age.

The location of the contest may vary year to year and is subject to change due to weather, please plan accordingly.

Public Speaking & Demonstration Class

Exhibitors presenting in the public speaking & demonstration class are able to present on a topic of their choice. Presentations will be evaluated in a similar fashion to traditional 4-H Public Speaking events.

Scoring in this class will focus on the presenters ability to communicate effectively with the audience.

Examples: persuasive speeches, cooking demos, informative speeches, skills and hobbies, plants, animals.

Pet & Animal Presentation Class

Exhibitors presenting in the pet/animal class will deliver a presentation focusing on the health, care, and knowledge of their animal. Visual aids (posters, supplies, etc..) are encouraged. The pet/animal should be in attendance. Exhibitors who are not able to have their animal in attendance should present in the Public Speaking & Demonstration class with an animal topic.

Scoring in this class will focus on the knowledge and care of the animal.

Examples: household animals (hamsters, dogs, cats, fish), small livestock, trained and well mannered large livestock.

*Please note this contest may take place in an enclosed space and has an audience. If your animal is not comfortable with those environments please don't enter the Pet/Animal class.

*Animals must be contained or on leads at all times. Small animals may be removed from cages for demonstrations.

Performing Arts Class

Exhibitors presenting in the performing arts class will deliver a performance followed by a spoken piece that will describe the connection between 4-H and their performance.

Examples: dance, monologue, vocal or instrumental performance.

*Note location of Demo Ex may be on turf or outside, please plan accordingly.

Age Categories:

Cloverbuds (ages 5-8)

Juniors/Seniors (ages 9-18)

Length of Presentations:

Cloverbuds 3-5 minutes

Juniors/Seniors 3-8 minutes

Pre-registration is required for this contest. To register email, emily.dow@maine.edu or call the Houlton Extension office 532-6548 or 1-800-287-1469

Sample score sheet available upon request.

Premiums for 4-H Public Speaking/Demonstration Contest

Junior/Seniors

First \$50.00/Blue Ribbon

Second \$30.00/Red Ribbon

Third \$20.00/White Ribbon

Cloverbuds will receive a 4-H gift item and participation ribbon.

Bartlett Farms 4-H Sign Contest

Sponsored by Bartlett Farms. The purpose of the contest is to use your creativity to showcase your animal or project while educating the public. **One sign per member.** Livestock signs will be clearly visible and installed over or next to your stall or pen, or any other space designated as appropriate. Non Livestock signs will be displayed at the 4-H Food Booth or other designated location.

If you want your sign judged for this contest, please sign up with 4-H staff.

All Signs must include the following information:



- Your name and the name of your town
- The name of your 4-H club (or independent membership)
- At least one standard clover and the words/numbers "4-H"

Livestock signs, you must also include the following information:

- The name of your animal
- The breed of your animal
- The age of your animal
- At least 2 educational facts about your animal (for 9-13 year olds)
- At least 5 educational facts about your animal (for 14-18 year olds)

Livestock signs will be clearly visible and installed over or next to your stall or pen, or any other space designated as appropriate.

Project signs, you must also include the following information:

- The 4-H motto or slogan
- At least 2 educational facts about your project
- At least 1 piece of information that educates the public about 4-H

General information for all signs:

- All signs must be constructed of weatherproof materials if intended to hang outside.
- Signs meant to be displayed indoors must be made of sturdy material such as foam-core board or other similar, sturdy material.
- All signs must be a **minimum** of 18" x 18". They may be any shape.
- Spelling counts
- Neatness counts
- All signs must bear a tag received when the entry form is submitted that is visible from a distance and indicates they are entered in the sign contest.

Premiums for Bartlett Farms 4-H Sign Contest

First	Second	Third	Fourth
\$20.00/Blue	\$15.00/Red	\$10.00/White	\$5.00/Yellow

Cloverbuds: All Cloverbud entries will receive an identical participant ribbon.

Egg-cellent Eggs-hibits

This cross listed exhibit & livestock contest allows members to showcase their poultry projects in a market and art class. A single member can submit one entry in each class.

Entry Drop off: Please see exhibit hall submission times and dates.

Market Eggs Class

Requirements:

- ½ Dozen eggs from chickens raised and tended by the member.
 - Families with more than one member may pull eggs from the same flock, so long as members are equally responsible for tending the flock.
- Standard egg carton is required for display.
 - Must be free of marketing, names, or identifiable text/images. (often the top of a store bought carton can be removed to fulfill the requirements)

Scoring:

Eggs will be scored in areas essential for producing a marketable (store quality) product.

- **Uniformity:** Consistent color and size throughout the carton.
Eggs of any size or color may be submitted, but the dozen should all be as similar as possible (ie:all medium size, all brown)
- **Shell Condition:** Texture, free of lumps, ridges, calcium deposits.
- **Soundness:** Free of cracks and breaks.
- **Cleanliness:** Free of foreign material & stains.
- **Egg Carton:** Clean, free of foreign material & stains. No commercial marketing or identifiable markings.

Cloverbud submissions will be ranked as FAIR, GOOD, EXCELLENT and receive comments.
Junior/Senior submissions will be scored using the danish system.

Creativity Class

Requirements & Scoring

- ½ Dozen eggs that are decorated or displayed in a cohesive theme.
- Eggs can be displayed in a container or box of choice. Display can not be larger than 13X13.
- Scoring will be based on creativity, neatness, and development of theme.

Additional resources for exhibiting eggs can be found at

<https://livestock.extension.wisc.edu/articles/exhibiting-eggs-as-a-4-h-or-ffa-project/>

Premiums for Egg-cellent Eggs-hibits

First	Second	Third	Fourth
\$10.00/Blue Ribbon	\$8.00/Red Ribbon	\$7/White Ribbon	\$6/Yellow

Cloverbuds: All Cloverbud entries will receive a participant ribbon.