

June 2, 2026



Extension
Cottonwood District

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Dear 4-H'ers enrolled in livestock, horse and small animal projects,

The Ellis County Fair will be here soon! This year's theme is "Let the Good Times Roll!" **Please read this letter carefully, as there are a few changes from past years.** Enclosed you will find the required pre-entry forms that are due back in the Extension Office by **5 p.m. FRIDAY, JUNE 26.**

Fair Entry Information- Pre-entry forms are enclosed and due back to the Extension Office by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26.** As in previous years, **all entries must also be submitted online** at: <https://faireentry.com/Fair/SignIn/22979> Use your 4-H Online credentials. An instruction document is available on the Ellis County 4-H Fair webpage.

Be sure to also enter your **intent to participate in showmanship** online by the deadline.

Forms & Information

This letter and all forms are available online at www.cottonwood.ksu.edu under *Ellis County Fair – 4-H Events*. Additional blank forms are available at the office.

Please read your fair book carefully for schedule updates and fitting guidelines.

Stall Deposits - \$5 per animal is needed for each animal. Submit stall deposit and photo/insurance checks separately—two checks required, **made payable to Ellis Co. 4-H Ag Livestock.**

Photo & Frames - The Ag Livestock Committee will again provide frames for pictures this year. \$9/animal includes two framed photos—one for the buyer, one to keep. **The ONLY time photos will be taken is Tuesday, July 14th from 8-11am.**

Fairgrounds Clean Up Night is Wednesday, July 8 – RSVP to the Extension Office by July 1. Pizza will be provided by Commerce Bank—thank them for their support!

Parking during clean up night – The Fairboard asks that folks not park to the East and North of the livestock barn on clean up night, so that the area can be mowed.

Livestock Release - Each family is asked to check out with an Extension Agent before leaving to receive their stall deposit. Forfeited deposits will be used to support improvements in the respective barn.

HEAT CONTINGENCY PLAN

In the case of an excessive heat forecast during the Ellis County Fair, the Ellis County Fair Board will implement the livestock heat contingency plan for Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Rabbits, and Poultry. **Implementation of the Heat Plan will be determined the week of the fair.** Please check the fair bulletin boards, the Ellis County Extension website www.cottonwood.k-state.edu, 4-H and Fair Facebook pages for information concerning the Heat Plan.

LIVESTOCK ANIMALS

Livestock Insurance - The insurance available is \$7 per animal. Coverage Summary is as follows-
Transit Coverage: Death and Crippling from any cause of loss while in transit Inbound to the fair.
Premises Coverage during the Fair: Death and Crippling from any cause of loss while on the fairgrounds during the fair. All Coverage is for current market value at the time of the loss.

Bedding Policy - In order to avoid the drains from stopping up, most of the pigs will be stalled north of the wash pens. They will not be allowed to use any kind of bedding. (Rubber mats are acceptable). The sheep and any goats will be allowed bedding, but the pens will be dry. No water can be used to hose down pens, etc, just to fill livestock water pans.

(OVER)

Health Requirements - Please be aware of the **health requirement for swine and sheep**. The State of Kansas Animal Health Department **no** longer requires that swine be tested for pseudorabies and brucellosis.

Sheep will **not** have to have health papers stating they are free of sore mouth and club lamb fungus infection. However, a Veterinarian will check animals prior to you unloading them at the fairgrounds. If an animal is suspect, they will be asked not to unload. **Sheep and Goats** should have a scrapie tag / premise identification tag (provided by the livestock breeder).

Drug Withdrawal / Age Verification Forms - Each livestock exhibitor selling a **market animal** must sign a drug withdrawal form. As part of the food chain, it's your responsibility to ensure animal safety for consumers.

Livestock Processing – It is the responsibility of the 4-H family to work with the sale buyer to make appointments and transport livestock to the processor. Appointments fill quickly, so visit with local lockers NOW.

SMALL ANIMAL

Health Requirements – All poultry exhibiting at the Ellis Co. Fair must originate from a hatchery or breeding flock that is classified U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean under the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). Poultry shown at State Fair must be tested each year and found free of pullorum-typhoid diseases.

Cats & kittens – All will need a proof of vaccinations or vet check before entering at the fair. Please bring this paperwork with you for check in.

HORSE

4-H Horse Show – As always, volunteers are needed to help run a safe & successful Horse show. Pictures will be on the morning of the show, Sunday July 12th at 8 am. If you are willing to help out, please contact the Extension Office.

Horse - All exhibits in the 4-H Horse Show must present proof of negative Coggins test within the last 12 months at check-in. **If you are needing the test completed please reach out to our office** and we will work with a local vet to get it completed.

More information on the Coggin's test can be found on the [K-State Veterinary Health Center website](#).

We'll keep you informed via our website, Facebook, and email. Contact your project leader or the Extension Office with any questions.

We look forward to working with your family at this year's Ellis County Fair!

Ben Sims

Ben Sims
District Extension Agent
4-H and Youth Development

Enclosures

Cottonwood Extension District
Kansas State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
and Cooperative Extension
Service

K-State, County Extension
Councils, Extension Districts,
and U.S. Department of
Agriculture Cooperating.

K-State Research and
Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and
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**Beyond
Ready**