2024 Ellis Co. 4-H Livestock ID Procedures

At the respective market weigh-in, the animal may be put in the 4-H family’s name. At the pre-entry deadline in July, each animal must be designated to one 4-H member’s name.

Market Beef (Steers & Heifers) – Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal prior to county weigh-in. All market beef animals must be brought to the weigh-in site and have the option to have tags verified, rather than taking the animals across the scale. Animals not weighed in on the official fairground scales are not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.

Breeding Beef

Commercial Heifers - Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal. Submit a photo id of the length of the animal, with its head turned to show 4-H tag # to the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. the day of the spring county weigh-in.

Registered Heifers - Registration or transfer papers dated as of May 1 and verified with the Beef Superintendent at County Fair check-in. The animal can be registered in more than one exhibitor’s name(s) within a family, but must be entered into only one exhibitor’s name at County Fair entry deadline.

Feeder Calf – Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal. Animals must be ear tagged prior to the spring county fair weigh-in. Bring animal to the spring small animal county fair weigh-in for verification.

Bucket Calf - Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal. Submit a photo id of the length of the animal, with its head turned to show 4-H tag # to the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. the day of the spring county weigh-in.

Dairy – For Registered animals, you must have registration or transfer papers in the 4-H member’s name by June 15 of the current year. Grade or leased animals must have a completed 4-H Grade Dairy Cattle or Leasing Identification Form (including photo) for each animal and return it to the Extension Office by June 15, of the current year.

Dairy Goat – For Registered animals, registration papers must be in the sole name of the 4-H member by May 1. No joint herd names or multiple owners are allowed. All papers must be presented at check-in for verification. For Commercial animals, purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal. Goats must be identified with a registered tattoo or an official USDA premises ID tag (Scrapie tag) in the ear of the animal by Spring county weigh-in. Submit a photo id of the length of the animal, with its head turned to show 4-H tag # to the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. the day of the spring county fair weigh-in.

Sheep - Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal prior to Spring county weigh-in. All sheep must be identified with an official USDA premise (Scrapie) tag in the ear of the animal by Spring county weigh-in. Obtain Scrapie tag from the animal’s breeder. If the youth is feeding a home raised lamb, the responsibility of obtaining a Scrapie tag rests with the youth or the youth’s family. All market sheep animals must be brought to the weigh-in site to have tags verified, weighing of animal is optional but encouraged. Animals not weighed in on the official fairground scales are not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.

Market Swine - Purchase an official 4-H EID ear tag and tag animal prior to Spring county weigh-in. All market swine animals must be brought to the weigh-in site to have tags verified, weighing of animal is optional but encouraged. Animals not weighed in on the official fairground scales are not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.

Breeding Swine

Commercial Breeding Swine - Purchase an official 4-H EID tag and tag animal. Bring animal to spring county weigh-in for visual check of official 4-H EID tag.

Registered Breeding Swine - Registration or transfer papers dated as of May 1 and verified with the Swine Superintendent at County Fair check-in. The animal can be registered in more than one exhibitor’s name(s) within a family, but must be entered into only one exhibitor’s name at County Fair entry deadline.

Horse – The state 4-H Horse Identification Certificate (including photos) must be submitted or updated and returned to the Extension Office by May 1.

Meat Goat – Purchase an official 4-H EID tag and tag animal prior to Spring county weigh-in. Goats must be identified with a registered tattoo or an official USDA premises ID tag (Scrapie tag) in the ear of the animal by Spring county weigh-in. Goats identified with registration tattoos must have legible tattoos and must have registration papers for these animals available for inspection. Obtain Scrapie tag from the animal’s breeder. If the youth is feeding a home raised goat, the responsibility of obtaining the Scrapie tag rests with the youth or the youth’s family. All meat goat animals must be brought to the weigh-in site to have tags verified, weighing of animal is optional but encouraged. Animals not weighed in on the official fairground scales are not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.

Poultry – All out of state and in state chickens, turkeys, and game birds, regardless of age must be accompanied by a certificate or test chart approved to show compliance with the following requirement: 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. NO POULTRY TESTING FOR THE ELLIS COUNTY FAIR UNTIL 2025.

Rabbits – Each rabbit is to be legibly and permanently tattooed in its left ear for identification prior to June 22.
Policy Statement for Animals Weighing in on a Different Date

Market animals must be ear tagged prior to the weigh in and brought to the county weigh in site to be eligible to show in market classes at the Ellis Co. Fair. New in 2022 they do not have to be weighed but tags must be verified at county weigh in site. In the event that they are not able to weigh-in on the official weigh-in date, due to an emergency situation as determined by Extension Agents, they may be weighed on a certified scale within one week (prior or following) the official weigh-in and the scale ticket presented to the Extension Staff. Animals not weighed in on the official fairground scales are not eligible for Rate of Gain awards.

Lost Tags – If an animal loses a tag, replace the tag as soon as possible by contacting the Extension Office. A form will be presented to the 4-H’er with the change of tag number on it. Cost of a replacement tag is FREE.

Livestock Identified at a later date for Show at KJLS or KSF
Contact County Extension Staff to arrange for visual tag verification of animals at Extension Office prior to show entry deadlines.

Recommended by Ag Livestock 11/19 – Approved by 4-H Council 12/19 – Amended by 4-H Ag Livestock 3/16/2020 – Amended by Ag Livestock 11/22- Approved Amendment by 4-H Council 12/22 - Amended by Ag Livestock 1/24