

SCIOTO COUNTY CARCASS CONTEST

(See Pre-Fair Schedule for Time and Dates)

4-H'ers must be enrolled in this activity by May 1 on their advisor's Enrollment Report. They must also have their animal identified according to county guidelines and submit the appropriate forms in order to be eligible for this activity.

Since members do not exhibit at the fair, the Senior Fair Board does not pay premiums on this activity. However, the Market & Breeding Animal Committee and other sponsors do provide prize money and awards to top award winners.

CARCASS ACTIVITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(Since this is a county activity, these numbers are not listed in the 4-H Family Guide. They must be listed on the enrollment form).

CARCASS STEER
CARCASS HOG
CARCASS LAMB
CARCASS GOAT

Members must be present at the carcass evaluation to have their carcass animals placed and receive any prizes and awards.

All final calculations and results will be announced at the carcass contest. Participants and their families will be able to ask questions of the judge during the contest. Every effort will be made to ensure a learning environment throughout the event. However, since all judges decisions are final and will not be adjusted after the close of the contest, participants and their families should be sure to ask questions while the judge is available for comment. Final placings will also be posted at the fair. Awards will be announced during the appropriate specie market show. Please keep in mind that final results can be influenced by a variety of factors including: carcass size, muscle size, carcass length, fat thickness, degree of marbling, yield grade, quality grade and the color, condition, texture and quality of the meat.

Those species eligible to participate in the carcass project include market steer, sheep, goat and swine. **All carcass animals must meet these established requirements to be eligible for awards.**

Additional Information will be available at the contest. Standard requirements are as follows:

HOG: Advisors should not register hogs for the **carcass contest that weigh more than 75 lbs. at the time of tagging (May 1). Older hogs, weighing over 75 lbs. at tagging, are ineligible to compete in this contest.** If scales are not available, a hog's weight should be taken by weighing a person on bathroom scales (covered in plastic) then weighing the person holding the hog. Weight tapes (available at your local feed store or livestock catalogue) may also be used but be sure to use them in the proper manner to insure accuracy.

<u>HOG:</u>	Maximum Starting Weight	75 pounds (at May tagging)
	Minimum Loin Eye Area	4.5 sq. in.
	Live Weight	225-280 lbs.
<u>LAMB:</u>	Minimum Amount of Fat	.10 inch
	Minimum Carcass Weight	45 lbs.
	Quality Grade Requirement	Choice or Higher
<u>BEEF:</u>	Minimum Live Weight	1,000 lbs.
	Minimum Quality Grade*	Select (*Choice Preferred)
<u>GOAT:</u>	Minimum Live Weight	55 lbs.

All carcasses must meet minimum quality assurance standards. They must also exhibit the proper meat quality, texture and color standards for that specie. Carcasses must be free of drug residues. Tissue and muscle damage (bruising, injection site damage, etc.) should be avoided and may be taken into account during the judging process. Carcasses exhibiting quality assurance problems will be placed accordingly.

ANIMALS MEETING THE BEFORE MENTIONED STANDARDS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FINAL PLACINGS. THESE CARCASSES WILL BE PLACED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

HOGS, LAMBS, GOATS, STEERS: 100 % Carcass Merit*

*** Meat quality (i.e. condition, texture/firmness, wetness and color) are major factors in the carcass evaluation process. Meat quality, yield grades, quality grades, carcass standards and calculations will be evaluated by the rail judge in each specie. This information will be utilized in making the placings for the carcass contest. Meat quality can influence the overall placing of an animal and is of major importance to the livestock industry. All judge=s decisions are final.**

The carcass with the greatest number of points (after these calculations) and highest meat quality evaluations will be placed accordingly. Rosettes will be given to the top five participants in each specie. Other prizes and cash awards will be determined by the Scioto County Market and Breeding Animal Committee. All judge's decisions are final.

Exhibitors are permitted to enter one carcass per specie in the carcass contest. Carcasses can be sold as freezer meat by the 4-H'er or taken home. It will be the responsibility of each participating 4-H'er to secure a buyer for their animal if they do not wish to take the meat home for their own personal use.

Carcass animals will be sold by RAIL WEIGHT based on current market packing prices. Prices may be negotiated by the 4-H'er and buyer. You may also have the meat processed for your own use.

Each participant must complete a Purchase Process Agreement to help facilitate the identification, processing and destination of the animal carcasses. **Agreements must be completed and turned in by the live weigh-in prior to slaughter.**

The carcass activity is a great hands-on experience and an opportunity for everyone to learn more about the meat industry. Other club members, parents, advisors and family members are welcome to attend the evaluations and any clinics designed for carcass participants.

Specific times, dates and locations of live and carcass evaluations are listed in the pre-fair schedule and the advisors newsletter.

CARCASS ACTIVITY PROJECT NUMBERS TO

BE USED FOR ENROLLMENT REPORTING:

CARCASS STEER
CARCASS HOG
CARCASS LAMB
CARCASS GOAT

