

DATE: August 17, 2021

TO: All 4H Members Who Registered to Enter Lambs in 2021 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest and all 4-H Sheep Project Leaders

FROM: Autumn Converse, Program Coordinator - 4-H Youth Development

RE: Eligible 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest Participants

We had a good response to the 2021 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest, with twelve 4-H members submitting entries! Contest entrants include:

NAME

1. Larson Cardella
2. Layna Cardella
3. Lea Cardella
4. Chelsia Holtz
5. HallieAnn Holtz
6. Lane Preston
7. Lily Preston
8. Peter Rambadt
9. Kara Triezenberg
10. Kenzy Triezenberg
11. Ashton Wells
12. Lydia Wells
13. Hayden Montague



MSU EXTENSION
St. Joseph County

612 E. Main St
Centreville, MI 49032

Phone: 269-467-5511
Fax: 269-467-5641
www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph

Attention Participants: It is your responsibility to call the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office right away if you decide to drop out of the program for any reason.

Following is information on the 2021 4-H Carcass Lamb Program:

1. The purpose of the program is to provide members with an opportunity to learn about the relationship between live animal evaluation and carcass composition and quality.
2. Entry in the contest will be limited to twelve (12) members on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than 12 members submit entry forms, selection of the 12 participants will be based on a combined "factor" of member age plus years in project, with older youth with more years of project membership taking precedence over younger members with less project experience.
3. Only one (1) lamb may be entered per participant.
4. A given member may, if desired, exhibit a carcass lamb and up to two (2) individual market lambs from among the lambs registered in his/her name.
5. **Attention!!!** 4-H members participating in this contest **MUST** attend **BOTH** the Live Evaluation Day on Saturday, September 11, 2021 and the Carcass Lamb Evaluation Workshop on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 (see details on both activities below) in order to receive a premium and any associated awards. Any member who fails to meet this requirement will have his/her animal disqualified from the contest.

(continued on page 2)

- The "live evaluation" portion of the 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest will be held in the livestock show arena on the fairgrounds in Centreville as part of the four-species (goat/beef cattle/sheep/swine) **Live Evaluation Day** scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2021. Live evaluation times are as follows: 1:30 a.m. = carcass goats (weigh-in at 1:00 p.m.), 2:00 p.m. = carcass steers (weigh-in at 1:00 p.m.), 2:30 p.m. = carcass lambs (weigh-in at 2:00 p.m.), 3:00 p.m. = carcass hogs (weigh-in at 2:00 p.m.).

The reasons for conducting the four (4) different carcass contest "live evaluations" all on the same day are as follows:

- ➔ Make better use of the live evaluations as a means to educate **ALL** 4-H goat, beef, sheep and/or swine project members and leaders (not just those directly involved in the contest) regarding the relationship between the "live" conformation of a given animal and the yield of lean meat in the carcass.
 - ➔ Make it more convenient and time-efficient for 4-H members with entries in more than one of the carcass contests to participate.
- All lambs entered in the Carcass Lamb Contest **MUST** be shorn within two (2) weeks of the **Live Evaluation Day** (Saturday, September 11). Animals that have not been shorn within this time period will be disqualified from the contest. It will be the responsibility of the 4-H member to have his/her lamb sheared.
 - The **Carcass Lamb Evaluation Workshop** will be take place on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Bontrager Custom Meat Processing, 53541 Correll Rd., Leonidas, MI 49066 (followed by the Carcass Steer Evaluation Workshop at 6:00 p.m.).
 - Each participant in the Carcass Lamb Contest will be responsible for arranging for "private treaty" sale of his/her lamb before the contest. A **4-H Carcass Lamb Processing Information Sheet** will be mailed/e-mailed to all program participants. This form must be filled out completely, signed by the buyer and turned in when the member unloads the lamb for "live evaluation" at the fairgrounds on September 11. The processing information is needed by Bontrager Custom Meat Processing in order to process (cut and wrap) the carcass according to the buyer's specifications. **Exception:** The Champion and Reserve Champion lamb carcasses **MUST** be sold in the 4-H Large Animal Sale on Thursday, September 23, 2021. Therefore, when making arrangement for "private treaty" sale of a lamb, you need to be sure your buyer understands the carcass will be sold in the Large Animal Sale if it wins Champion or Reserve Champion honors.
 - It will also be the member's responsibility to inform the "private treaty" buyer of the carcass that the buyer will be responsible for the slaughter and processing costs (**TBD**), which will be payable to Bontrager Custom Meat Processing.

Please feel free to call me at 269/467-5511 if you have any questions regarding information contained in this letter.

AC/tb

Enclosure

c: Bontrager Custom Meat Processing

Thank You's For Contest Support: Each member who exhibits an animal in the 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest is required to write a "thank you" letter to **Bontrager Custom Meat Processing** to thank this business for the vital role it plays in making the 4-H Carcass Lamb Contest possible.

- **"Thank you" note must include complete donor address, your return address and must be affixed with a \$0.58 postage stamp.**
- **Attractive 4-H "thank you" note stationery (including a stamped envelope) will be available for sale at \$2.00 each at the 4-H Fair office starting on Sunday, September 19.**
- **Deadline for Submitting "Thank You" Note:** Completed "thank you" note **must** be turned in to the 4-H Fair Office by 10:00 p.m. on **Saturday, September 25.**
- **Penalty for Not Submitting "Thank You" Notes:** Your fair premium check will be held at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office until your "thank you" note has been submitted in a properly prepared, stamped envelope.

The mailing address for **Bontrager Custom Meat Processing** is as follows: Bontrager Custom Meat Processing
c/o Willie Bontrager
53541 Correll Rd.
Leonidas, MI 49066