



2026

**Denton County Livestock Association Youth
Fair Exhibitor Handbook**

**DCLA
P.O. Box 887
Krum, TX 76249**

Revised 9/29/25

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Last revised, 9/2/25 @ 12:01 pm

Schedule.....	3
General Information and Rules.....	10
Animal Health.....	18
Market Steer Show.....	19
Market Swine Show.....	21
Market Lamb Show.....	23
Market Goat Show.....	25
Market Broiler Show.....	27
Market Rabbit Show.....	29
Jackpot Single Fryer	30
Other DCYLA Rabbit Activities.....	31
Breeding Beef Show.....	33
Breeding Swine Show.....	34
Breeding Sheep Show.....	35
Breeding Meat Goat Show.....	39
Breeding Rabbit Show.....	41
Fancy Poultry Show.....	43
Ag Mechanics Show.....	47
Creative Arts Show.....	50
Horticulture Show.....	55
Public Speaking.....	58
Tractor Driving Contest.....	60
Livestock Skill-a-thon Contest.....	63
Youth Rodeo	64

2025 Schedule
**** Subject to Change with notice**
March 30 – April 4, 2026

** All market steers, lambs, goats, barrows and gilts must be state validated. Market steers only allowed at county validation.

** All breeding heifers, sheep, goats and swine must be state validated.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2025

Payment due for all County Steer Validation tags.

Saturday, December 6, 2025

County Steer Validation – North Texas Fair Grounds

Saturday, December 20, 2025

All market and breeding entries are due through the Showman App (except market rabbits, breeding rabbits and fancy poultry).

Breeding entries MUST submit copy of papers at time of entry – no exceptions.

Queen & Princess Nominations due via Google Form

Contact: dclaqueenprincess@gmail.com 940-368-3515

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Queen / Princess – First Meeting 2 – 4 pm
@ North Texas Fair & Rodeo Fair Hall

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Blue Ribbon Club Scholarship Applications due.

No late applications will be accepted, no exceptions.

Saturday, February 14, 2026

All Contest Entries – Skillathon, Creative Arts, Horticulture, Public Speaking, Tractor Driving and Ag Mechanics due through the Showman App.

Fancy Poultry, Breeding and Market Rabbits entries are due through the Showman App.

Saturday, February 21, 2026

9 am – 12 Noon Horticulture Validation
@ North Texas Fair Grounds - Fair Hall
2217 N Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX 76201

Thursday, March 5, 2026

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Market Rabbit validation – Validation forms will be provided.
@ North Texas Fair Grounds – Fair Hall
2217 North Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX 76201

Sunday, March 29, 2026

1:00 pm Fair & Pen Setup – All 4H clubs and FFA Chapters to assist.

Monday, March 30, 2026

5:00 am Gates Open

6:00 am – 8:00 am Move-In Breeding Swine

7:00 am – 8:00 am Move-In Breeding Poultry (Fancy Chickens)

8:30 am Check In Breeding Poultry

9:00 am Check In Breeding Swine

9:00 am Judging: Breeding Poultry

10:00 am Judging: Breeding Swine
All entries release after breeding show & pens cleaned

2:30 pm Contest: Livestock Skillathon

7:00 pm **BLUE RIBBON CLUB SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION & DINNER**

9:00 pm Gates Close

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

5:00 am	Gates Open	
6:00 am – 8:00 am	Move-In	Breeding & Market Goats
8:30 am	Check In:	Breeding Goats
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Weigh In:	Market Goats
10:00 am	Contest:	Public Speaking: All exhibitors will be assigned a time slot. **Goat Exhibitors will be first, followed by remaining contestants.
1:00 pm	Judging:	Breeding Goats followed by breeding goat showmanship
	Judging :	Market Goats followed by market goat showmanship ** 15 minutes after conclusion of breeding Goat showmanship
		All breeding and non-sale/non floor entries must move out after the market goat showmanship and pens are cleaned. All sale / floor goats must be relocated to their respective pens on grounds.
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Move In:	Market Swine – provided goat show is concluded. May stage prior to move in ONLY at end of rodeo arena
9:00 pm	Gates Close	

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

5:00 am	Gates Open	
5:00 am – 8:00 am	Move-In	Market Swine
6:00 am – 8:00 am	Move-In	Breeding Sheep & Market Lambs
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Weigh In:	Market Lambs
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Weigh In:	Commercial Breeding Sheep
8:00 am – 11:00 am	Move in:	Creative Arts & Horticulture entries
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Check In:	Breeding Sheep
9:30 am – 11:00 am	Weigh In:	Market Swine
11:00 am -	Judging:	Queen / Princess Speeches – Livestock Show Arena
11:30 am	Judging:	Horticulture for freshness
1:00 pm	Judging:	Registered Breeding / Commercial Breeding Sheep Followed by breeding sheep showmanship
	Judging :	**Market Lambs followed by market lamb showmanship ** 15 minutes after conclusion of breeding lamb showmanship
		At conclusion of market lamb showmanship all breeding and non- sale/non floor entries must move out and pens cleaned.
		All sale / floor goats must be relocated to their respective pens on grounds.
1:00 pm	Judging:	Creative Arts
3:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Move in:	Ag Mechanics entries
9:00 pm	Gates Close	

Thursday, April 2, 2026

5:00 am	Gates Open	
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Move-In	Market Broilers
7:30 am – 1:00 pm	Move-In	Breeding Heifers
9:30 am	Judging:	Market broilers
11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Weigh In	Market Steers Order: American, British, Exotic
	Check in:	Breeding Heifers immediately following market steer Weigh in and will close at 4 pm.
12:00 Noon	Judging:	Ag Mechanics
1:00 pm	Judging:	Commercial Sifted Swine – 1 class
	Judging :	Market Swine immediately following commercial swine Market Swine showmanship following market swine.
		At conclusion of market swine showmanship all non-sale /non floor entries must move out and pens cleaned.
4:00 pm	Queen & Princess interviews	
6:00 pm	All ag mechanics projects must be moved out, except the 3 sale making projects.	
9:00 pm	Gates Close	

Friday, April 3, 2026

5:00 am	Gates Open
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Move-In Market Rabbits
7:30 am	Disqualification of Market Rabbits
8:30 am	Judging: Market Rabbits
9:00 am	Move In: Breeding Rabbits Judging: Following Market Rabbit Show
9:00 am	Judging: Market steers followed by market steer showmanship. ** 30 minutes after the conclusion of the market steer show, any changes to sale slots resulting from the market steer show, must be turned in at Livestock Office.
	Judging: Breeding heifers and heifer showmanship immediately following conclusion of market steer show.
	At conclusion of breeding heifer show, all breeding and non-sale /non floor market steer entries must move out and pens cleaned.
1:00 pm	Contest: Tractor Driving
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Release Creative Arts entries
6:00 pm	Final Queen & Princess ticket turn-in @ Livestock Office.
9:00 pm	Gates Close

Saturday, April 6, 2026

50th Annual Youth Fair Buyers Reception & Auction*

North Texas Fairgrounds, 2217 N. Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX 76201

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 10:00 am | Buyer Registration Opens
Buyer Reception @ Grand Champion Club Tent |
| 11:00 am | Silent Auction Opens |
| 11:00 am | Grand Champion & Reserve Champion Pictures |
| 11:45 am | Special Awards and Auction Announcements |
| 12:00 Noon | Live Auction Begins |
| 1:00 pm | Silent Auction Closes |
| 6:00 pm | Youth Rodeo & Queen and Princess Selection
** Slack, if needed, will be Friday, April 3, 2026 - TBD |

To learn more about the auction, to RSVP and for Buyer Pre-registration visit our website @ www.dentonyouthfair.com/auction

GENERAL INFORMATION & RULES

WELCOME: The Denton County Youth Livestock Association (DCYLA) encourages your participation in this year's Denton County Youth Livestock Association Fair and Rodeo.

ABOUT: The youth fair is a permanent committee of the Denton County Livestock Association. This committee will consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and they will serve as the Show Superintendent Committee. . The Youth Fair Show Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and a Youth Fair Secretary-Treasurer will be elected officers to serve a one-year term. The Superintendent Committee is responsible for coordinating activities for the Youth Fair.

FAIR DATES: The 2026 DCLAYF will be held March 30, 2026, through April 4, 2026 unless postponed, shortened, or extended by the Board of Directors, which they reserve the right to do if deemed necessary for the general welfare of all concerned.

LIABILITY STATEMENT: All exhibitors and exhibits shall comply with these Rules. DCLA shall not be liable to exhibitor for lost profit or other financial loss of any type or description including any special, indirect, reliance, incidental or consequential damages which may be caused directly or indirectly by the enforcement of these Rules, or for any time delays, inadequacies of services of DCLA or any use of the premises or by any deficiency or defect therein. Additionally, DCLA is not responsible for any loss, injury or damage caused by exhibitor or exhibitor's property that may arise directly or indirectly from exhibitor's participation at the Youth Fair. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any such loss, injury, or damage, whether to person or property, and shall indemnify the Denton County Livestock Association and their respective officers, directors, employees, elected and appointed officials, licensees, volunteers, contractors, representatives, managers, agents, principals, successors, and assigns, from and against all losses, damages, costs, and legal proceedings arising therefrom.

INTERPRETATION OF RULES: DCLAYF reserves to its Executive Committee the final and absolute right to interpret these General Rules and Regulations, the Youth Livestock Show Special Rules, and/or any applicable special requirements as published in this premium list (collectively, the "Rules") and to reasonably settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of or connected with or incident to the Fair, and the right to amend or add to these rules as its judgment may determine. An exhibitor who violates any of the following rules may forfeit all privileges, fees paid and premiums and be subject to such penalty as the Executive Committee may order. The failure of the DCLAYF to enforce any of the provisions, rules, rights, or remedies of this premium list or to exercise any options or sanctions herein provided will in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions, rules, rights, remedies, sanctions, or options. Special rules or conditions are published in each department where necessary. If there is a conflict between the special rules or requirements of any department or division and the general rules and regulations, the special rules or requirements shall apply.

I. Eligibility – Exhibitor – to be eligible to show.

1. Exhibitors must live in Denton County or attend a school in Denton County.
2. The exhibitor must be a Bonafide member in good standing of a Denton County 4H club, FFA or FCCLA chapter.
3. Exhibitor must be at least 9 years old as of August 31, 2025 (or 8 years old and in the third grade) but not more than 18 years old as of August 31, 2025, and below college level.
4. Second semester FFA and FCCLA members must be members by Feb 1, 2026, in order to enter in any division or contest. These second-semester members may also enter

animals in the fancy poultry, market, and breeding rabbit divisions. They may also enter Public Speaking, Tractor, Creative Arts and the rodeo.

5. Limitation on Number of County Participation. FFA, FCCLA and 4H exhibitors will not be eligible to participate in the Denton County Youth Fair if they have exhibited in another county show within the preceding nine months. Any violations will result in the forfeiture of all prizes and premium money. (Floor money will be paid minus 4% commission if shipped)

II. Eligibility – Entry/Project:

1. No Pass, No Play, No Project. If an exhibitor is not passing, he/she will not be permitted to show his / her project at the fair, nor will the project be eligible to show at the youth fair. Students must be academically eligible by the first day of the show.

2. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE SHOWMAN APP ONLINE. ALL FFA CHAPTERS AND DENTON COUNTY 4H must submit a list of qualified exhibitors to be uploaded on the Showman App. Exhibitors will be required to select their name from the chapter or club list before entering. Each exhibitor will submit their payment online directly the DCLAYF. The Showman App will close at 11:59 pm on Saturday, December 20, 2025 for all Market Entries and Saturday, February 14, 2026 @ 11:59 pm for all other entries. Anything entered late will have to pay the late fee of \$100 plus entry fee.**

3. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE EXHIBITED BY THE OWNER.** Exceptions, such as illness, will be handled individually by each Superintendent. A Substitution form (Exhibit 1) must be completed prior to the substitution. If an exhibitor has more than one entry per class, a substitute/extra showman may be utilized. This substitute showman must be a DCLAYF exhibitor and entered in the show. Exhibitors violating show rules will forfeit all premium and auction sale money.

III. General Rules

1. Any animal that has passed through any auction sale in connection with any other livestock show is ineligible.
2. No animals will be allowed to stay in trailers unless designated by the show superintendent due to special conditions.
3. All trucks and trailers will be parked in a designated parking area immediately after an entry is in place. All others will be towed at the owner's expense. No vehicle should be parked between barns.
4. Exhibitors will not be allowed to spend the night on the grounds. The gates will be locked between the hours of 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Night watchmen will be on duty during these hours.
5. Bedding is not to be put down until stalls have been assigned. **WOOD SHAVINGS WILL BE THE ONLY BEDDING ALLOWED.** Goats, sheep and swine will have assigned pens, cattle are first come first serve.
6. **Dogs or puppies will not be allowed on show grounds, unless they are officially certified as a service animal.**
7. **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS DURING THE YOUTH FAIR AND RODEO.**

8. DISORDERLY CONDUCT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

9. ALL DECISIONS BY OFFICIAL JUDGE WILL BE FINAL. No harassment of the judge will be allowed. Adults and / or exhibitors will be asked to leave the grounds and projects are subjected to disqualification. Protest procedures must be followed. Questions/complaints should be first directed to the Division Superintendent.

10. All decisions of the superintendent will be final. Any abuse (verbal or otherwise) toward division superintendents, assistant superintendents, interns and/or judges may cause exhibitors and/or their families to be put on probation. Further protest must follow the stated procedures.

11. NO OUTSIDE SCALES ALLOWED ON GROUNDS

12. No re-weighs unless due to a malfunction of scales.

13. Showmanship age groups for all Breeding & Market Shows are as follows:

Juniors: 3rd – 5th Grade
Intermediate: 6th - 8th Grade
Seniors: 9th – 12th Grade

** There will be a “Novice Showmanship” for all Breeding & Market shows
One (1) age group – all combined for 1st year exhibitors at DCLAYF.

IV. Market Division Rules

Entry Validation

1. DCLAYF market exhibitors will be allowed to enter and pay for two (2) market entries per species @ \$25 each and will declare the tag number at the specie weigh-in. At this time, that number will be cross-checked and verified through state validation. Exhibitors may pay for as many entries in the breeding, horticulture, and creative arts as they want.

2. All market animals except market rabbits must be owned by the exhibitor and state validated and will be permanently identified by the superintendent of each division at state validation times. All state-validated animals will be cross-referenced to prove ownership. Market rabbits will be validated (tattooed). Steers ONLY may be validated on 12/6/25 with a Denton County validation tag.

Entries:

1. Family entries - When more than one immediate family member feeds market animals, individual ownership must be declared upon arrival at the weigh-in. The project will then belong solely to the exhibitor designated.

2. All market entry forms must be complete with all information, quality counts, & signatures at the entry deadline. All exhibitors, parents & advisors agree that each animal shown at the Denton County Livestock Association Youth Fair is subject to random drug testing. All market entries must be entered through the Showman App **December 20, 2025. Late entries will be: Entry fee plus \$100 late fee, and must be turned in with full payment by March 27, 2026.**

**3. A fee will be charged for all market animals at the time of entry.
NO ENTRY FEE WILL BE REFUNDED. See fees in Section X – Entry Procedure**

If an exhibitor plans to show two pens of Rabbits, two entries will be required. Fifteen (15) Market Rabbits may be validated, from which a pen of (3) will be exhibited.

An exhibitor may show two pens of chickens (3 birds same sex) from one hatch; the two pens must be the opposite sex.

Ex. Exhibitor buys a "hatch" (all hatches are straight run) of 25 birds. Exhibitors may pick the three best females for one pen and three best males for other pens. Two entries will be required for a total of \$100.00. (\$50.00 for entries, and \$50 for birds)

4. Loss of tag: Any lost tags must be reported to the state validation offices and the specie superintendent. **No 4-H or FFA leader may replace tags on their own.**

Classifying Animals

1. The official classifier of a specie, will review any questionable animal pertaining to the class or breed on the day of the classifying before the judging begins.
2. Exhibitor/parents will not be allowed to talk to the classifier while they are in the classifying area. The only person allowed to enter the classifying area will be the exhibitor and their animal.

Entry Declaration/Auction Sale

1. Exhibitors may sell only one item. An exhibitor making the sale order or silent auction with more than one project will not receive support money on the non-selling project. An exhibitor may not sell both the Silent Auction and the Live Auction. **All animals making the sale will be sold unless the exhibitor has more than one project making the sale.**
2. **Exhibitors who make the sale with MORE than one project must declare which project will sell within 30 minutes of completion of the last market show in which they are entered. Superintendents of the involved division and the Livestock office must be notified ASAP. Failure to notify division superintendents of any changes will result in the forfeiture of sale spots.**
3. If an exhibitor wins more than one Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion in **different specie divisions**, both will sell in the auction. This is the only instance where an exhibitor may have two sale lots.
4. All sale animals must be identified with a tag presented at weigh-in.
5. Entry release - Market animals that do not make the sale, and are not floored, need to be removed from the grounds immediately after showing.

V. Breeding Division Rules

Ownership of Entries: All breeding animals must be registered in the herd book of their association in only the name of the junior owner on, or before, November 1st of the year preceding the show. Purchase, delivery, possession, transfer, and registration must occur on or before November 1st, the year prior to the show. Original registration certificates must be available at all times. All breeding entries must be state validated for the 2026 show.

Entries:

1. All breeding entries must have a copy of the papers uploaded at time of entry through the Showman App, complete with all information and quality counts.
2. All breeding entries must be entered online through the Showman App by **December 20, 2025**.

Late entries will be accepted for entry fee plus \$100 per entry. Due by March 27, 2026. See Fees in Section X – Entry Procedure

VI. Grounds for Disqualification

Exhibitors in violation of the rules will be asked to leave the show by the Executive Committee and further participation in the show this year or any other year will be subject to review by the Executive Committee.

Exhibitors should practice rules of fair competition.

1. Everyone is required to keep the grooming and fitting on an amateur basis. Only the exhibitor, immediate family (mother, father, brother, sister, grandparents, brother-in-law or sister-in-law), fellow 4-H or FFA members, Denton County Agents, Denton County 4-H Adult Leaders, or Denton County Ag. Teachers will be allowed to fit or groom for the show. Failure to abide by this rule will result in automatic disqualification of the animal entered. **No professional fitters will be allowed!**
2. The showing of unethically fitted livestock or livestock of any ineligible age for exhibition in the class entered is prohibited.
3. Unethical fitting will be deemed to consist of any method altering the natural conformation of any part of the animal's body and painted / dyed to conceal the additional material. No change of the major color pattern of the animal will be allowed. The final decision will rest with the Division Superintendent and Judge.
4. Any animal showing signs of having been operated upon or tampered with, in the opinion of the Judge, Superintendent, Show Superintendent or Veterinarian, for the purpose of concealing faults in conformation or with intent to deceive relative to the animal's soundness will be disqualified.
5. If any exhibitor, family member, volunteer, 4-H agent/leader, or Agricultural Science Teacher attempts to remove a sale-qualifying animal from the sale, they **WILL BE PROSECUTED TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW**. In addition, all parties involved, including exhibitors, immediate family members, volunteers, 4-H agents/leaders, or Agricultural Science Teachers, will be banned from participating in the DCLAYF for life.

VII. Protests

1. **FILING:** All protests must be in writing and accompanied by a deposit of \$250.00, cash or certified check, which will be forfeited if protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint or appeal and must be delivered to the show superintendent immediately after the occasion for such protest. Protests will be accepted prior to, during and within two (2) hours immediately following the conclusion of judging the competition. Protests must be filed and signed off on by the supervising ag science teacher or county agent.

2. INVESTIGATION: Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation; and depending on the basis of the protest, a decision may be withheld until a thorough investigation is completed. DCLA reserves the right to hold all protests and investigation findings confidential. The Board of Directors of the DCLA reserves the right to the final authority.
3. The Grievance Committee, composed of the Denton County Livestock Association Executive Board, will hear any initial complaints/protests at the show. If not resolved immediately, the matter will go to the DCLA board of directors.

VIII. Auction Sale General Rules

1. Live Auction - The sale of the market animals and baked goods will begin at 12:00 Noon Saturday, April 4, 2026, following the special awards presentation at 11:45 a.m. All Champion and Reserve Market Champions **MUST** be present in the picture backdrop @ 11 a.m.. The sale order is as follows:

Grand Champion Steer
 Grand Champion Goat
 Grand Champion Lamb
 Grand Champion Rabbit
 Grand Champion Broiler
 Grand Champion Swine
 Grand Champion Senior Food
 Grand Champion Junior Food
 Grand Champion Horticulture
 Reserve Grand Champion Steer
 Reserve Grand Champion Goat
 Reserve Grand Champion Lamb
 Reserve Grand Champion Rabbit
 Reserve Grand Champion Broiler
 Reserve Grand Champion Swine
 Reserve Grand Champion Senior Food
 Reserve Grand Champion Junior Food
 Reserve Grand Champion Horticulture
 Steer** (All division / breed champions before others)
 Goat** (All division / breed champions before others)
 Lamb** (all division / breed champions before others)
 Rabbit** (All division / breed champions before others)
 Broiler** (All division / breed champions before others)
 Swine * (All division / breed champions before others)
 Ag Mechanics - 3 sale lots

*Sale order will continue to rotate in groups until all eligible animals are sold.

2. There will be a maximum of 197 sale lots. Each exhibitor may only sell one project.
 - a) There will be 30 steers, 64 swine, 34 lambs, 40 goats, 10 broilers, 10 rabbits, 4 food items, 2 horticulture items and 3 Ag Mechanics items sold during the live auction.
 - b) No more than 75% of the exhibitors in a specie may sell. If a specie falls below 20 entries, no more than 50% of the exhibitors will sell.
 - c) All animals selling in the auction are the property of DCLAYF as soon as they leave the auction ring.

3. Silent Auction - The silent auction of the eligible food and horticulture projects take place before the auction. Items purchased in the silent auction must be paid on sale day unless the buyer purchases in the live auction.

4. An exhibitor may be excused from the sale only upon written request to participate in a UIL-sanctioned activity at a district or higher level, TAPPS or competition approved by the Executive Board that has been submitted with the official Substitution Form turned in by 4/3/26.

5. All animals will sell in "show condition. "

- a) Only banners, ribbons and/or awards from the current Youth Fair will be allowed in the sale ring. *No graffiti, signs, handheld props, flowers, ribbons, hats, or glitter* will be permitted on the animals.
- b) There will be no solicitation of buyers at, or during the Buyers' reception.
- c) **ONLY 1 ADDITIONAL PERSON IN SALE RING WITH EXHIBITOR. No exceptions.**

6. Animals making the sale become the property of the DCLAYF as soon as they exit the auction sale ring. The only way an animal can be pulled from the sale is if an exhibitor has two or more market items that qualified for the sale.

Any remaining market animals (steers, swine, lambs, and goats) may be sold at the floor price. Exhibitors wishing to sell their animals on the floor must report to their Ag teacher or 4-H agent, who will provide a list to the livestock office by **Friday, April 3, 2026, by 3 pm.**

Any animal that goes through the sale is the property of the DCLAYF. All animals will be shipped and cannot be bought off the floor on the grounds.

7 All buyers are required to remit payment for purchased items through the show office. A commission of four percent (4%) will be withheld from the proceeds of all sales. Commission will also be deducted from any additional add-on money designated for an exhibitor. (This includes all floor animals that are shipped through the show.) **EXHIBITOR CHECKS WILL BE DISBURSED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.**

8. Pictures of all auction items will be made at the auction for the buyer, and the cost will be deducted from the exhibitors premium check(s).

9. Exhibitors will be provided with the name and address of their projects buyer(s). Exhibitors are REQUIRED to write a thank you note to the buyer(s). This courtesy helps significantly in retaining buyers and attracting future buyers. Adult leaders will assist in getting thank you notes written. Original Thank you notes will be turned in to the Show Board 14 days following receipt of buyer names and addresses. These will be cross checked and mailed from the show office. Once thank you notes are verified, checks will be released to those that have submitted thank you cards. All other checks will be held in Youth Fair office.

10. **EXHIBITORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR AUCTIONED ITEMS UNTIL THEY EXIT THE SALE RING.**

11. A Buyer appreciation gift is encouraged and may ONLY BE distributed AFTER exiting the auction ring.

IX. AWARDS.

Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Champions will receive a belt buckle and a banner. Breed & Division Champions and Reserve Breed & Division Champion will receive Banners. Champion showmanship winners will receive belt buckles, 2nd and 3rd will receive banners. Ribbons will be awarded in all classes 1st – 6th place and participation ribbons where needed. *Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your buckles.*

X. Entry Procedure

Entry Fees:

All applications for entry must be accompanied by related fees. If the entry does not have fees enclosed, the application for entry will not be accepted or accepted conditionally. Entry fees are not stall fees and do not dictate stall space.

Prospect/Market Steers	\$25 per entry
Market Barrows	\$25 per entry
Market Lambs	\$25 per entry
Market Goats	\$25 per entry
Pens of Market Broilers	\$25 per entry \$50 for the Chickens
Pens of Market Rabbits	\$25 per entry
Breeding Beef	\$25 per entry
Breeding Swine	\$25 per entry
Breeding Sheep	\$25 per entry
Breeding Goats	\$25 per entry
Breeding Rabbits	\$20 for the first rabbit entry \$5 for each additional rabbit entries
Fancy Poultry	\$20 for 1 poultry entry \$5 for each additional entry
Ag Mechanics	\$25 per entry
Environmental Science	\$15 per entry
Home Economics	\$15 per entry for first entry and \$5 for any additional entries
Horticulture	\$15 per entry for first entry and \$5 for any additional entries
Public Speaking	\$10 per entry (contestant) \$15 per entry (team)
Tractor Driving	\$15 per entry
Livestock Skillathon	\$10 per entry
LATE FEE	\$100 + ENTRY FEE

XI. Animal Health

1. All requirements of the Animal Health Commission must be met. Any animal condemned at slaughter by the USDA or Texas Animal Health Commission will be charged back to the exhibitor.

2. As a condition for participation in the Denton County Livestock Association Youth Fair, every exhibitor must agree to submit any animal so entered by him/her to inspection by a veterinarian appointed by DCLA and agrees to have such animal submitted to any test that may be designated and requested by the veterinarian and agrees that the conclusion reached by the veterinarian shall be final. - *WITHOUT RECOURSE AGAINST THE DENTON COUNTY LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION OR ANY OF ITS DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS.*

3. Sifting - An appointed Show Committee will have the right to remove any entry that, in their opinion, is undesirable. Animals not meeting show weight requirements will be removed from the fairgrounds immediately. All animals weighed wet will be sifted. *Animals will be weighed one time only.*

4. Scrapie Tags - According to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations, all sexually intact sheep and goats must have a scrapie tag. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show weigh-in/sift. Any sexually intact sheep and goats that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show. Animals that require tagging include: (1.) All sheep 18 months of age or older; (2.) all breeding sheep regardless of age; (3.) sexually intact show or exhibition sheep and goats; (4.) all goats 18 months of age or older that are or have been commingled with sheep, and (5.) all breeding goats that are or have been commingled with sheep.

XII. Drug Testing

1. The use by non-veterinarian of animal drugs or other substances in any manner other than in accord with the labeling approved by FDA is a violation of federal law. Exhibitor and Exhibitor's parents and / or guardians agree that: (1) they are absolutely responsible persons for the care and custody of their animals, (2) the Denton County Livestock Association shall be entitled to disqualify an exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug, even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrong doing and did not administer the drug, (3) the drug tests results of the testing laboratories are final and binding upon the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents and / or guardians. Even if the source of the drug is unknown, the Denton County Livestock Association shall be entitled to disqualify the exhibitor.

2. The Show specifically reserves the right to have tissue, blood, urine, hair, feather, and/or fecal laboratory analysis made on any animal entered for competition. An exhibitor of any animal producing an analysis with a quantity of diuretic, or any non-approved medication will be barred from future competitions at the Denton County Youth Fair, without recourse against the Denton County Livestock Association or any of its officers.

Market Steer Show

Superintendent: Jacob Stuckly

Assistant: Amanda Millican

Judge: Dr Chris Skaggs

Classifier: Ronald Blum

**County Steer Validation – December 6, 2025 10 am – Noon
@NTFR – Fair Grounds – 2217 N Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX 76201**

Entries deadline: December 20, 2025

**Arrival: April 2, 2026 7:30 am – 10:30 am
Weigh In: April 2, 2026 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Judging: April 3, 2026 9:00 AM**

**Show Order: Market Steers, Bred & Owned, Steer Showmanship
Release: April 3, 2026 Following Heifer Show**

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. **Steers will weigh and show in the following divisions:**
American, British, Exotic
3. Only steers weighing at least 1000 lbs. will be shown as market steers. All steers that are state, or county validated are eligible to be sold at floor price, provided they are halter broke and weighed at official steer weigh in. **Steers not weighing a minimum of 1000 lbs. are eligible for a Commercial Sifted Steer class (Not eligible for sale)**
4. Steers will be divided into classes by division and weight by the Superintendent after weigh-in. Steer classes will be broken at the discretion of the Superintendent into as many classes as needed, with the classes divided as equally as possible. Division Superintendent must be notified of any weigh-in discrepancy at least 1 hour before the show begins.
6. Stall assignments are first come, first serve.
7. All steers must be halter broke and dehorned. Any unruly calves will be excused from the show ring if they get loose more than three times.
8. Steers will be slick sheared. All steers will be clipped to have no more than 1/4" of hair on any part of the animal's body upon arrival at fairgrounds. The only exception will be the tail switch. The switch may be ratted and balled or may be bobbed off. Steers will be checked at the time of weigh-in for conformity of the 1/4" of hair. Cordless clipping on steers (electrical or manual) will be allowed once the steers are on the grounds at the DCLA Youth Fair. All steers violating this rule will be eliminated from the competition and removed from the grounds. The exhibitor will also be eliminated from the competition for the current show in the steer division.
9. Sale order will be picked on a percentage basis of each breed/class not to exceed a total of 30 market steers. Sale lots from each class will be posted before the market steer show begins.

10. All market steers making the auction sale will be shipped.

11. Animals will be randomly drug tested at the discretion and direction of the DCLA board of directors.

12. All steers making the sale become the property of the DCLAYF as soon as they exit the auction ring. The only way a steer can be pulled from the sale is if they have two or more market animals qualifying for the auction sale.

13. All steer exhibitors will be allowed to show for showmanship. Exhibitors must own the steer and, and that steer must have been shown in the steer show.

a) Novice Showmanship – one age group

b) Juniors: 3rd - 5th Grades

b) Intermediate: 6th - 8th Grades

c) Seniors: 9th - 12th Grades

Market Swine Show

Entry Deadline: **DECEMBER 20, 2025**

Superintendent: Chance Bannahan

Assistant: Diane Johnson

Judge: Ryan Rash

Classifier: Glen Blount

Arrival: March 31, 2026 6 pm – 8:30 pm

*Provided the Goat Show has concluded. No swine allowed on grounds before Goat Show Ends. *

Weigh-In: April 1, 2026 – 9:30 am – 11:00 am

Judging: April 2, 2026 - 1pm, following Commercial Sifted Swine

Release: April 2, 2026, non-sale/non floor hogs following the selection of Swine Showmanship winners. Otherwise, they must remain on the grounds until AFTER the conclusion of the cattle show on April 3, 2026.

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. No carpet will be allowed in the swine area. Any chapter or club with carpet will be disqualified.
3. All entries must be state validated.
4. **All barrows and gilts** must weigh a minimum of 240 lbs. and not exceed 310 lbs. There will be a 5 lb. tolerance given for scale variation. Scales will be certified before the start of weigh-in. As stated in general rules, there will be no re-weighing unless due to malfunction of scale.
5. **Superintendents will draw with advisors for the weigh-in rotation order on Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 1:00 pm.** Each chapter will bring five hogs at their allotted rotation time, then move to the next chapter through the rotation until all hogs have been weighed.
6. All pigs **MUST** be CLEAN, DRY, and CLIPPED at the time of weigh-in. Only cordless clippers will be allowed for touch-ups on fairgrounds and **ABSOLUTELY NO SNARING ALLOWED.**
7. No outside scales will be allowed. Official scales will be provided.
8. **A classifier will classify the pigs as they come across the scales per the classification guidelines of the National Swine Registry (NSR).** Neither exhibitors nor parents will be allowed to talk to the classifier. Decisions of the classifier are final unless the exhibitor or advisor declares the animal is a crossbred prior to classification. This declaration must be notated on the weight card. Protests or harassment of the classifier, interns, or any show officials will be grounds for immediate disqualification.
9. If a pig classifies out, it will be assigned to the crossbred classes.
10. Division Superintendent must be notified of any weigh-in discrepancy or classification issue within half an hour of the posting of weights.
11. Classes will be broken at the discretion of the division superintendents into breed and weight classes, with the classes being as evenly divided as possible.

Breeds will be divided into the following. Show order will be the same

- a) Duroc b) Hampshire c) Yorkshire d) Berkshire
- e) Other purebreds OPB to include: Chester White, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted
- f) Light Cross g) Dark Cross

12. Animals will be randomly drug tested at the discretion and direction of the DCLA board.

13. Pigs will be stalled 2 to a pen as assigned by the superintendent.

The exhibitor **MUST** provide dividers. All Aisles must be kept open and clear.

Show boxes and equipment must be kept above or in pens.

14. Only water may be used for dressing animals for the show. Swine must be clipped before coming to the fairgrounds.

15. Only Exhibitor and their Market Swine projects will be allowed in the Staging area.

(Staging area is described as the holding pen animals enter prior to entering the show arena). Only Show Officials will be allowed in the Staging area. **NO PARENTS, AG SCIENCE TEACHERS, 4-H LEADERS, SIBLINGS, FRIENDS, ETC... WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE STAGING AREA. THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

16.. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in each class. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, and the showmanship division winners will receive belt buckles. *Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.*

17. First and second place swine in each class will compete for Breed Champion and Reserve. Breed Champion and will show for Overall Grand and Reserve Champions.

18. Sale order will be picked on a percentage basis of the classified animals each breed / class not to exceed a total of 64 swine. Sale lots from each class will be posted before the market swine show begins.

19. The 64 pigs making the sale become property of the DCLAYF as soon as they exit the auction ring. The only way a pig can be pulled from the sale is if they have two or more Market Animals qualifying for the sale.

20. All premium sale animals will be permanently identified by the DCLA.

21. If any Exhibitor, Family Member, Volunteer 4-H Agent, 4-H Leader, or Ag. Teacher makes any attempt to remove a sale qualifying pig from the sale, they **WILL BE PROSECUTED TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW.** In addition, all parties involved which includes Exhibitor, Immediate Family Members, Volunteer, Hired hand, 4-H Agent, 4-H Leader or Ag. Advisor will be banned for life from participation in the DCLAYF.

22. All exhibitors will be allowed to show for showmanship. Age divisions as follows:

- a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
- b) Juniors: 3rd - 5th Grades
- b) Intermediate: 6th - 8th Grades
- c) Seniors: 9th - 12th Grades

Market Lamb Show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025

Superintendent: Georgina Webb
Assistant: Randy Pels

Judge: Mike Gann

Classifier: Glen Blount

Arrival: April 1, 2026, 6:00 am – 8:00 am
Weigh-In: April 1, 2026, 8:15 am – 9:00 am

Judging: April 1, 2026

30 minutes following the breeding sheep showmanship

Release: April 1, 2026, Following the Market Show for animals not in the sale or being floored

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. Show will be open to Ewes & Wethers.
3. All market lambs will be slick shorn ten (10) days before entering the fairgrounds for the show. There will be no shearing of lambs on the fairgrounds. Those breeds that carry wool below the hock may be shown with that wool, however no adhesives may be used to “bone” the legs, no paint, powder, or artificial coloring may be used on lambs. Lambs should not have wool located on the back and underlines any shorter than the rest of the body. Cordless clippers will be allowed to be used on market lambs on the fairgrounds.
4. All lambs will be state validated. **Any animal entered in a DCLAYF breeding show (registered or commercial) will NOT be eligible for market show.**
5. Division Superintendent must be notified of any weigh-in discrepancy at least 1 hour before the show begins.
6. Animals will be randomly drug tested at the discretion and direction of the DCLA Board.
7. Minimum weight will be 100 lbs. for Medium Wool and Fine Wool; a minimum weight will be 90 lbs. for Southdown’s and Hair Sheep. There is no top weight, but the judge will select lambs for placing based on the size demanded by packers and consumers.
8. Classes will be broken as evenly as possible at the discretion of the Market Lamb Superintendents after weigh-in.
9. Sheep will be classified at weigh-in by breed according to show order, with the exception of medium wood classified last. Breed Divisions and show order: Southdown, Fine Wool / Fine Wool Cross, Medium Wool, Hair Sheep.

10. Sale order will be picked on a percentage basis of each breed/ class not to exceed a total of 34 lambs. Sale lots from each class will be posted before the market lamb show begins.
11. Lambs not making the Auction may be sold at a floor price to be announced. Floor price will be posted. A holding area will be designated at show time for lambs being shipped. All other non-selling lambs must leave the grounds following the show on Wednesday. Only animals eligible to show will be allowed to be sold on the floor. Exhibitor must notify their ag teacher or club leader of their intent to sell on floor. Ag teacher or advisor will compile list of floor animals to show superintendent by 3pm Friday April 3, 2026. Superintendent will maintain care of floor animals, including feed and water. Exhibitors will NOT continue to feed their animal once it is submitted for the floor.
12. All sexually intact sheep (ewes) **must** have a scrapie tag according to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show weigh-in/sift. Any sexually intact sheep (ewes) that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show.
13. **All lambs making the sale become property of the DCLAYF as soon as they exit the auction ring. The only way lamb can be pulled from the sale is if they have two or more Market Animals qualifying for the sale.**
14. All exhibitors will be allowed to show for showmanship. Age divisions as follows:
 - a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b) Juniors: 3rd-5th Grades
 - c) Intermediate: 6th-8th Grades
 - d) Seniors: 9th-12th Grades
15. Overall Grand and Reserve Champions and the showmanship winners will receive belt buckles. Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.

Market Goat Show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025

Superintendent: Matt Pape
Assistant: Lillie James

Judge: Justin Burns

Arrival: March 31, 2026 , 6:00 am – 8:00 am
Weigh-In: March 31, 2026 8:30 am – 10:00 am
Judging: March 31, 2026 Following Breeding Goat Show
Release: March 31, 2026 @ Conclusion of the Market show

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. The show will be open to Does & Wethers that are state validated. All does must have a scrapie tag prior to arrival on the grounds.
3. Horns must be tipped for safety reasons, but goats do not have to be dehorned. Tipping or removal of horns on fairgrounds will result in disqualification.
4. All goats must be clipped, show ready upon arrival at the fairground. Cordless clippers are allowed for touchup only. (There will be no indication of blocking.) No clipping will be allowed on the fairgrounds, either manually or electric clippers. NO USE OF LEG HAIR ADHESIVES OR HAIR COLOR/PAINT. INJECTION OR APPLICATION OF ANY SUBSTANCE PER RECTUM IS PROHIBITED FURTHER, THE APPLICATION OF ANY SUBSTANCE NEAR THE TAIL OR ANUS IS PROHIBITED.
5. The minimum weight will be 50 lbs. There is no top weight, but the judge will select goats for placing based on the size demanded by packers and consumers.
6. Animals will be divided into classes as equally as possible by weight only. The show superintendent will determine the number of classes based on total number of entries. The show superintendent has the authority to make the final decision on where to break classes based on weight. Classes will be divided into weight divisions as equally as possible. The show superintendent will determine the number of divisions, with a minimum of two (2). Division and reserve division champions will be selected.
7. Division Superintendent must be notified of any weigh-in discrepancy within 30 minutes of weights being posted.
8. Sale order will be picked on a percentage basis of each breed/ class not to exceed a total of 40 Market Goats. Sale lots from each class will be posted before the Market Goat show begins. All goats making the sale become the property of DCLAYF as soon as it exits the the auction ring.
9. Goats not making the Auction Sale may be sold at a floor price to be announced. The floor price will be posted. A holding area will be designated at show time for goats being shipped. All other non-selling goats must leave the grounds following the show on Tuesday. Only animals eligible to show will be allowed to be sold on the floor. Exhibitor must notify their ag teacher or club leader of their intent to sell on the floor. Ag teacher or advisor will compile a list of floor animals to show the superintendent by 2 pm Friday, April 3, 2026.

10. All sexually intact goats must have a scrapie tag according to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show weigh-in/sift. Any sexually intact goats that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show.
11. Market does if entered in the market goat show cannot show in the commercial doe show.
- 12. All goats making the sale become property of the DCLAYF as soon as they exit the Auction Ring. The only way a goat can be pulled from the sale is if they have two or more Market Animals qualifying for the sale.**
13. Animals will be randomly drug tested at the discretion and direction of the DCLA board.
14. All market exhibitors will be allowed to compete in showmanship. Grand and Reserve Champions and the showmanship winners will receive belt buckles. Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.
Age divisions as follows:
 - a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b) Juniors - 3rd - 5th Grades
 - c) Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
 - d) Seniors - 9th - 12th Grades

Market Broiler Show

Entry Deadline: December 20, 2025

Superintendent: Laura Reed

Assistants: Ellen Todar

Judge: Brian Lowe

Arrival: April 2, 2026, 7:00-8:00 AM

Judging: April 2, 2026, 9:30 AM

Release (for non-drug test animals): April 2, 2026, Following Market Show and sale adjustments

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. All broiler chicks must be paid for at the time of entry. Exhibitors must pay for the chicks (XX per 25 chicks) and pay for entries into the pullet and cockerel show (\$50).
 - a. Orders for chicks are placed in increments of 25. A minimum order per exhibitor or family unit is 25 chicks, and up to a maximum of 75 chicks. The total number of birds for each order form submitted must be in increments of 25 birds. The minimum order per form is 25 birds.
 - B. Each set of 25 broiler chicks will cost (XX.XX) for the 2026 show.
 - C. Each exhibitor must enter two pens of broilers (1 cockerel, 1 pullet) at a total cost of \$50.
3. All chicks will be from the same hatch date. The broiler superintendent will receive the birds and contact advisors and club leaders regarding distribution arrangements.
 - a. *From this hatch, if an exhibitor gets 12 males and 13 females, the exhibitor will pick the 3 best females for one pen and 3 best males for their other pen.*
 - b. Chicks delivered for this show will be straight-run commercial type broiler chickens (pullets and cockerels randomly mixed). These are U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid (PT) clean birds. They should be raised away from other farm fowl, especially older birds.
4. Once an order is received and processed, it cannot be cancelled for a refund. Exception: If the show is cancelled BEFORE the chicks are distributed, refunds will be processed. Refunds will not be processed for any other reason or after the birds are distributed.
5. A "pen" is composed of three birds of one sex from the exhibitor's hatch assigned to the exhibitor by wingband number. **All 3 broilers, from a sale-making pen, will be terminal if they are selected for a drug test.**
 - a. Each exhibitor's order will be identified by a series of numbered wing bands. Chicks are assigned to exhibitors by these numbers.
 - b. Broilers losing their wing bands, for whatever reason, will not be allowed to enter the show. Broilers with wing bands that show evidence of tampering will be sifted, and the decision of the show official is final.
6. There is no upper or lower weight limit.
7. Each exhibitor is to bring small cups or containers to feed and water the birds for the entirety of the time the birds are in the barn.
8. First through fifth place females and males will sell in the live auction Saturday, April 4, 2026 for a total of 10 pens. 1st place female and 1st place male will compete for Overall Grand Champion. If the exhibitor of the Grand Champion also has the first place from the opposite sex

pen, they must remove that pen from Overall Reserve Grand Champion selection. The second place pen will take its place.

a. Exhibitors should not remove any bird from the show grounds until the sale order of the broiler show has been determined.

9. Only one bird needs to be taken into the sale ring for the sale.

10. Broiler exhibitors are expected to clean their exhibit area before leaving the area. Cages and barrels not needed for the sale will be returned to the storage barn. The area will be swept and cleaned if necessary.

1. The threat of avian influenza and other reportable diseases continues to be of serious concern to poultry in Texas. Monitoring programs are in place on a continuous basis. Any requirements for testing, limitations on the movement of poultry, or other activities related to this or similar matters will be handled under the authority of show officials and/or the Texas Animal Health Commission. Due to this, the show superintendents reserve the right to adapt the show rules in order to align with current TAHC suggestions or mandates.

Market Rabbit Show

Validation Deadline: March 5, 2026, Entry Deadline: _____

Superintendent: Hugh Bolton

Judge: Lloyd Morgan

Validation: March 5, 2026, at the North Texas Fairgrounds between 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM

Arrival: April 3rd, 7:00 am - 8:00 am

Judging: April 3, 2026- Disqualifying of Market Rabbits starts at 7:30 am,
Judging starts at 8:30 am

Release: With the exception of those making sale, April 3rd, Conclusion of Judging. Those making sale will remain onsite. Rabbits making sale will be shipped no matter the buyer.

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. All entries will be examined at the time of arrival. Any rabbit showing signs of ill health (ear canker, open wounds, etc.) will not be allowed to remain or enter the show area.
3. Any exhibitor may validate/tattoo 15 rabbits per pen March 5, 2026 Up to two market rabbit entries may be shown per exhibitor.
4. You must have the 3 rabbits for your pen picked out prior to the official weigh-in; unofficial scales will be available to weigh rabbits so you can choose your official pen.
5. Requirements of a meat pen:
 - a. 3 rabbits of the same breed and variety
 - b. Rabbits not over 10 weeks of age
 - c. No single rabbit weighing over 5.5 lbs.
 - d. No single rabbit weighing less than 3.5 lbs.There will be 2 oz. plus or minus variance allowed on weight because of the variation in scale. If any rabbit is disqualified for any reason or does not meet the above requirements, the entries pen is ineligible to show.
6. The following will apply to evaluation of market rabbits:
 - a. Meat Type - 40 points
 - b. Condition of flesh - 30 points
 - c. Uniformity of body and weight - 20 points
 - d. Fur - 10 points
7. The top 10 exhibitors will present their winning pens in the sale arena. Exhibitors should dress in good jeans/Khakis for this presentation. Please DO NOT decorate your rabbits in ANY manner. You may hold your rabbit in the arena or put the pen in a basket.
8. This is a terminal show for all rabbits making the sale. Rabbits will be shipped no matter the buyer. No more than 50% of the exhibitors will sell if the number of pens competing falls below 20. Exhibitors can bring Commercial rabbits from home and will be offered the floor price.
11. No dogs are allowed in the rabbit show barn except certified service dogs. A copy of the certification must be sent in with the rabbit entry.

The Superintendent will be glad to work to meet with any group to help with their rabbit project.

Validation will be held on March 5th at the North Texas Fairgrounds between 5:00 and 7:00

Jackpot Single Fryer
Validation Deadline: March 5, 2026,
Entry Deadline: _____
Superintendent: Hugh Bolton
Judge: Lloyd Morgan

Validation: March 5, 2026, at the North Texas Fairgrounds between 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM

Arrival: April 3rd, 7:00 am - 8:00 am

Judging: April 3rd

Disqualifying of Market Rabbits starts at 7:30 am,

Judging starts at 8:30 am

Release: With the exception of those making sale, April 3rd, Conclusion of Judging. Those making sale will remain onsite. Rabbits making sale will be shipped no matter the buyer.

Purpose: To allow exhibitors an opportunity to exhibit a single fryer rabbit from their validated meat pen group.

Entry fee is \$5.00 CASH due the day of the show.

1. Each exhibitor may only have one entry.
2. Entry may be any rabbit selected from their validated group of rabbits.
3. Entry fee - \$5.00 entry to be paid in cash at time of show. Entry fee will be awarded as prize money being split - 50% to first place, 30% to second place, and 20% to third place.
4. Requirements for a single fryer.
 - a. Rabbits not over 10 weeks of age
 - b. Rabbits not over 5.5 pounds or under 3.5 pounds
 1. There will be a 2 oz. plus or minus variance allowed on weight because of variation in scale.
5. Exhibitors can bring Commercial rabbits from home and will be offered the floor price.

You may bring folding chairs to sit in. Space is limited. Other items that could be useful are a rabbit grooming table, grooming supplies, food and water for the rabbit. Please have your rabbits in a suitable cage with a leak-proof pan. NO cardboard boxes, laundry baskets, or open top carriers. Rabbits must be secured at ALL TIMES. No dogs are allowed in the rabbit show barn except certified service dogs.

Other DCYLA Rabbit Activities
Entry Deadline: **April 3, 2026 (Day of Show)**

Superintendents: Hugh Bolton
Showmanship Contest Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. Exhibitors age as April 1, 2026:
 - a. Novice showmanship - one age group
 - b. Juniors - 3rd - 5th Grades
 - c. Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
 - d. Seniors - 9th - 12th Grades
3. Exhibitors will need to provide your own rabbit: it does not have to be in the show quality. Contestants will be judged on knowledge of rabbit information and ability to handle a rabbit as if they were the judge and give reasoning for judging.

Educational/Promotional Rabbit Posters & Displays

Purpose: to promote the rabbit project and/or to share knowledge of the rabbit project. Entry fee is \$5.00 due day of show.

1. Each exhibitor may only have one entry.
2. Entry fee - \$5.00 entry to be paid in cash at time of show. Entry fee will be awarded as prize money.
3. Posters will be divided into three categories as of April 3, 2026:
 - a. Juniors - 3rd - 5th Grades
 - b. Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
 - c. Seniors - 9th - 12th Grades
4. All posters should be on standard poster board or free-standing tri-fold display boards. If on a standard poster board ensure there is a way to hang the poster.
5. Posters should promote the rabbit project/rabbit industry or display some knowledge or skill gained in the rabbit project.
6. Exhibitor's name should not appear on the front of the poster.
7. Posters will be judged using the included rubric.
8. Posters will be judged from 5 feet.
9. Exhibitors must have a rabbit in the show.

Denton County Livestock and Youth Fair Rabbit Poster

Exhibitor Number					
Areas	19-25 Points	13-18 Points	7-12 Points	1-6 Points	
Pictures/ Graphics	The display has a variety of images/ graphics that are related to the topic that helps the audience understand the material.	The display has some images/graphics that are related to the topic.	The display has very few images/graphics that are related to the topic.	The display does not have images/graphics that relate to the topic.	/25
Design/ Layout	The display has a clear title. The content is viewable, and clear and in focus from 5 feet away. The layout and design are exceptionally neat, organized, and creative. Information is organized with titles, and subheadings where applicable, are clear and understandable. There is a good use of color. The overall Design/Layout looks great.	The display has a title. The content is viewable from 5 feet away. The layout and design are mostly neat, organized, creative and very clearly located. Information is organized with titles, and subheadings where applicable. The overall Design/Layout looks good.	The display may be missing a title. The content may be difficult to read and view from 5 feet away. The layout and design are not as organized as they should be. Information that would help the reader understand is missing. The overall Design/Layout looks OK.	The display lacks a title. The display is illegible from 2 feet away. The layout and design appear disorganized and/or distracting and messy. The information is unclear for the reader to understand. The overall Design/Layout needs work.	/25
Content	The display includes a thesis or main idea which is supported through research with multiple facts and details that capture important information about the topic aimed at increasing the audience's understanding which is clearly communicated. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitors and not that of another.	The display includes a thesis or main idea which is supported through research with at least 3 facts and details that capture important information about the topic attempting to increase the audience's understanding but they may need more information to fully understand. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitors and not that of another.	The display includes a thesis or main idea which is supported through some research and details about the topic. Some elements are missing and the important information about the topic needs more development to increase the audience's understanding. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitors and not that of another.	The display does not appear to include a thesis or main idea which is supported through research about the topic. Elements are missing and the important information about the topic needs more development so that the audience can understand the topic. It appears that the work may not be that of the exhibitors and could be that of another.	/25
Grammar	The display is free of grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors.	The display has 3 or more grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	The display has 6 or more grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	The display has more than 9 grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	/25
					/100

Breeding Beef Show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025

Superintendent: Amanda Millican
Assistant: Jacob Stuckly

Judge: Dr. Chris Skaggs

Arrival: April 2, 2026, 7:30 am – 1:00 pm

Check In: ** April 2, 2026

****Immediately following market steer weigh in & will close at 4:00 pm**

Judging: April 3, 2026 – immediately following the conclusion of the Market Steer Show

Show Order: Heifers, Bred & Owned Heifers, Showmanship

Release: April 3, 2026, Following conclusion of Heifer Show

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.

2. All clipping should be done prior to arrival on the fairgrounds. This is a Blow and Go Show. No adhesives will be allowed. No clippers which must be plugged into an electrical outlet are allowed to be used on Breeding Beef Heifers once they arrive on show grounds. Cordless clippers are allowed.

3. Heifers must be registered in the name of the exhibitor and state validated. Registration papers will be submitted at time of entry. Calves must be halter broken. Any unruly calves will be excused from the show ring if they get loose more than three times. No heifer validation required for bred – owned heifers 6 months and younger at the time of validation. (Heifers born 4/1 or later)

4. Exhibitors will compete in three divisions:

- a) American b) British c) Exotic

There must be **four** or more animals of the same breed to make a breed show in a division. If less than four head of a breed are entered, the heifers will compete in:

- a) ORB American b) ORB British c) ORB Exotic

5. Classes will be broken by age, nothing over 30 months of age.

6. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in class. Breed Champions and Reserve Breed Champions will be named and will compete for Division Champions. Division Champions and Division Reserve Champions will be named and compete for Overall Grand and Overall Reserve Champions. *Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.* Beef Heifer committee members may solicit funds for premiums, amounts to be determined by committee members.

All exhibitors who own their animal and showed in the heifer show will be allowed to show for showmanship. Age divisions as follows: Exhibitors must show their own animal.

- a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
- b) Juniors - 3rd - 5th Grades
- c) Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
- d) Seniors - 9th - 12th Grades

Breeding Swine show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025

Superintendent: Chance Bannahan
Assistant: Diana Johnson

Judge: L. J. Young

Arrival: March 30, 2026, 6:00 am – 8:00 am
Check-In: March 30, 2026, 9:00 am **Judging:** March 30, 2026, 10:00 am
Release: March 30, 2026, Following the selection of Swine Showmanship winners
****Must move out following breeding show****

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. Only females will be shown. All breeds may be shown together.
3. All breeding swine must be state validated and will follow the major show guidelines on registration. **Registration papers will be submitted at time of entry.**
4. Classes will be broken at the discretion of the superintendent. There will also be a Non-Pedigree (Crossbreds) division that will show before the Registered breeds. They will show for their own Champion & Reserve Champion but are not eligible for the Supreme Drive.
4. Show order will be alphabetical.
 5. Pigs will be stalled 2 to a pen as assigned by the superintendent. The exhibitors provide dividers. Aisles must be kept open and clear. Show boxes and equipment must be kept above or in pens.
 6. All pigs MUST be CLEAN, DRY, and CLIPPED at the time of weigh-in. Only cordless clippers allowed for touch-ups on fairgrounds and ABSOLUTELY NO SNARING ALLOWED. **Only water may be used for dressing animals to show.**
 7. Only Exhibitor and their breeding swine projects will be allowed in the Staging area. (Staging area is described as the holding pen animals enter prior to entering the show arena). Only Show Officials will be allowed in the Staging area. NO PARENTS, AG SCIENCE TEACHERS, 4-H LEADERS, SIBLINGS, FRIENDS, ETC... WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE STAGING AREA. **THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**
8. All exhibitors who own their animal and showed in the show will be allowed to show for showmanship. Age divisions as follows:
 - a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b) Juniors: 3rd - 5th Grades
 - c) Intermediate: 6th - 8th Grades
 - d) Seniors: 9th - 12th Grades
9. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in each class. Thank you notes will be provided for the Grand and Reserve Champion and must be written at that time to receive your award. Breeding Swine committee members may solicit funds for premiums. Amounts to be determined by committee members. DCLA DOES NOT FUND PREMIUMS!

Breeds: Berkshire, Chester, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Spot, Yorkshire

**Registered Breeding Sheep Show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025**

**Superintendent: Georgina Webb
Assistant: Tonya Sylvester**

Judge: Mike Gann

Classifier: Glen Blount

**Arrival: April 1, 2026, 6:00 am – 8:00 am
Check-In: April 1, 2026, 9:30 am – 10:00 am**

Judging: April 1, 2026, 1:00 pm

Release: April 1, 2026, Following the Market Show for animals not in the sale or being floored

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. To be eligible to exhibit in the 2026 breeding sheep show, all sheep must be validated in the Texas 4-H and FFA breeding sheep validation program. Registration papers will be submitted at time of entry. Hair follicles samples could be collected from all Breed Champions and Reserve Champions, and a DNA analysis could be conducted on each of these hair follicle samples. The breeding sheep show committee may also collect hair follicle samples from any other entry for the purpose of conducting a DNA analysis. Any sheep not having a positive match from DNA analysis of the hair follicle samples, compared to the DNA analysis of the hair follicle sample taken from it at the time of enrollment in the validation program, will be disqualified and up for review by the DCLA Board of Directors. Nose prints will also be taken on all sheep at validation and those prints may verified at the show. All breeding sheep will be validated in individual exhibitor names and not by families. No partnerships allowed. **Any animal entered in market show will NOT be eligible for either breeding show (registered or commercial).**
3. All sexually intact sheep (ewes) **must** have a scrapie tag according to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show weigh-in/sift. Any sexually intact sheep (ewes) that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show.
5. All exhibitors will be allowed to show for showmanship. Age divisions as follows:
 - a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b) Juniors: 3rd-5th Grades
 - c) Intermediate: 6th-8th Grades
 - d) Seniors: 9th-12th Grades

Registered Division Rules:

1. Registration: All entries in this department must be registered in the flock books of their respective breed, on or before October 1 of the year before the show.
2. Shearing: Sheep may be shown in any length fleece unless Breed Association specifies fleece length. The superintendent and his committee have the right to determine if this rule has been complied with and disqualify any animal not meeting these criteria. Rule for clipper use on show grounds applies.

3. Classes for Ewes:

- a. Ewe lambs - Lambs must be carrying all milk teeth. Lambs showing either or both of their first pair of permanent incisors may not show in the lamb classes.
- b. Two-teeth ewes - Sheep eligible to compete in the two-tooth breeding classes must show only the first pair of permanent incisors. Sheep that have dropped their central pair of milk teeth and show one or both teeth of the first permanent pair may show as singles only in the two-tooth classes of their respective breeds.
- c. Aged ewes - Sheep showing the first two pairs or three pairs of permanent incisors may show as singles in the four-to-six-tooth class only.
- d. Sheep with more than six permanent teeth may not exhibit in the show.

4. Will be shown as individual breeds. All other breeds will be shown AOB. Breeds will consist of:

- a. Suffolk
- b. Southdown
- c. Hampshire
- d. Dorset
- e. Dorper

5. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in class. There will be a Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion for each breed. Breed Champions will compete for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Registered Breeding Sheep.

6. Overall Grand and Reserve Registered Breeding Sheep Champion winners will receive belt buckles. Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.

**Commercial Breeding Sheep Show
Entry Deadline: DECEMBER 20, 2025**

**Superintendent: Georgina Webb
Assistant: Tonya Sylvester**

Judge: Mike Gann

Classifier: Glen Blount

Arrival: April 1, 2026, 6:00 am – 8:00 am

Weigh-In: April 1, 2026 9:00 am – 9:30 am

Judging: April 1, 2026, Following the Registered Breeding Sheep Show

Release: April 1, 2026, Following the Breeding Show Showmanship

Rules

- 1 Entries are subject to all general rules.
1. To be eligible to exhibit in the 2026 breeding sheep show, all sheep must be validated in the Texas 4-H and FFA breeding sheep validation program. **Hair follicles samples could be collected from all Breed Champions and Reserve Champions, and a DNA analysis could be conducted on each of these hair follicle samples.** The breeding sheep show committee may also collect hair follicle samples from any other entry for the purpose of conducting a DNA analysis. Any sheep not having a positive match from DNA analysis of the hair follicle samples, compared to the DNA analysis of the hair follicle sample taken from it at the time of enrollment in the validation program, will be disqualified and up for review by the DCLA Board of Directors. Nose prints will also be taken on all sheep at validation and those prints may be verified at the show. All breeding sheep will be validated in individual exhibitor names and not by families. No partnerships allowed. **Any animal entered in market show will NOT be eligible for either breeding show (registered or commercial).**
3. All sexually intact sheep (ewes) **must** have a scrapie tag according to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show check-in. Any sexually intact sheep (ewes) that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show.
4. All exhibitors with entries in either the Registered or Commercial Breeding Sheep Show will be allowed to show for Breeding Sheep Showmanship. Age divisions are as follows:
 - a) Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b) Juniors: 3rd-5th Grades
 - c) Intermediate: 6th-8th Grades
 - d) Seniors: 9th-12th Grades

Commercial Division Rules:

1. Commercial Ewe Show will consist of: Finewool, Southdown, Dorper, and Medium Wool Breeds. Animals exhibited will show by weight. These animals do not require a certificate from a breed registry.
2. Each exhibitor is entitled to enter five (5) total animals, with no more than two (2) per breed. ONLY wether dams may be shown.
3. All animals must be shorn prior to arrival on grounds. Animals may be washed after arrival. The pelt must be slick shorn and uniform in length over entire body at the time of showing. Boots will be optional, and no top knots will be allowed. General rule VI-3 pertaining to fitting and grooming will apply.
4. All dams must be taken to the official scales for official weigh-in & classifying between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. on arrival. No weight cards will be turned in.
5. At the time of show, dams must not have more than their first set of yearling teeth.
6. All classes will be broken by weight and breed within the divisions by the following breeds, and additional classes as deemed appropriate by show superintendent: Finewool, Southdown, Dorper, Medium Wool.
7. Classes for Ewes:
 - a. Ewe lambs - Lambs must be carrying all milk teeth. Lambs showing either or both of their first pair of permanent incisors may not show in the lamb classes.
 - b. Two-teeth ewes - Sheep eligible to compete in the two-tooth breeding classes must show only the first pair of permanent incisors. Sheep that have dropped their central pair of milk teeth and show one or both teeth of the first permanent pair may show as singles only in the two-tooth classes of their respective breeds.
8. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in class. There will be an Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Commercial Ewe chosen from first and second places in each class.
9. Overall Grand and Reserve Registered Breeding Sheep Champion winners will receive belt buckles. Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.

Breeding Goat Show

Entry Deadline: **DECEMBER 20, 2025**

Superintendent: Matt Pape

Assistant: Lillie James

Judge: Justin Burns

Arrival: March 31, 2026 6:00 am – 8:00 am

Check-In: March 31, 2026, 8:30 am

Judging: March 31, 2026, 1:00 pm, bred and owned show at the conclusion

Release: March 31, 2026, Following the Market Show

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. To be eligible to exhibit in the 2026 breeding goat show, all goats must be validated in the Texas 4-H and FFA breeding goat validation program. All breeding goats will be validated in individual exhibitor names and not by families. No partnerships allowed. Show will be split into 2 shows: Registered (breeding) and Commercial. **Any animal entered in market show will NOT be eligible for breeding show (registered or commercial). Registration papers will be submitted at time of entry**
3. All goats will be clipped for show before arrival. There will be no shearing of goats on the fairgrounds. No clippers or shears which must be plugged into an electrical outlet are allowed to be used on breeding goats once they arrive on show grounds. Cordless clippers or manual shears are allowed.
4. All breeding exhibitors will be allowed to show for showmanship. The exhibitor must own and have shown animal in breeding class. Age divisions are as follows:
 - a. Novice Showmanship – one age group
 - b. Juniors: 3rd- 5th grades
 - c. Intermediates: 6th - 8th grades
 - d. Seniors: 9th – 12th grades

Registered Division Rules:

1. All breeding goats will be toothed on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at check in. **The exhibitor must be present.** All animals will be shown as toothed. All breeds will show together.
2. The following are the Doe classes for goats. Must have at least 4 head to make a breed:
 - a. Kids (No breaking of skin or eruption of either of two permanent front teeth)
 - b. Yearlings (Two teeth)
 - c. Two Year Olds (Four teeth)
 - d. Aged (Six teeth or older)
3. Show Superintendent will set the following special rules as set by AMGA.
 - a. Age: No breaking of skin or eruption of either of two permanent front teeth)
 - b. Milk teeth must be in place.
 - c. Horns: Dehorning is acceptable.
 - d. Restraints: Exhibitors will be allowed to use halters or collars in the show ring

4. Ribbons will be given to first through sixth place in class. There will be a Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion for each breed. Breed Champions will compete for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion. Breeding sheep committee members may solicit funds for premiums. Any premiums collected will be divided according to the decision of committee members. DCLA does not fund premiums. Thank you notes will be provided for buckle winners. Thank you notes must be written and returned before receiving the buckle.

Commercial Division Rules:

1. Show will be open to Does that are state validated. All breeding goats will be toothed on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at check in. **The exhibitor must be present.** All animals will be shown as toothed.
2. Horns must be tipped for safety reasons, but goats do not have to be dehorned. Tipping or removal of horns on fairgrounds will result in disqualification.
3. Does must be shorn slick, with no indication of blocking, to the skin above the knee and hock joints to include the head, excluding the tail switch, before arrival on the grounds. Cordless clippers are allowed for touch up only. NO USE OF LEG HAIR ADHESIVES OR HAIR COLOR/PAINT. INJECTION OF APPLICATION OF ANY SUBSTANCE PER RECTUM IS PROHIBITED FURTHR. THE APPLICATION OF ANY SUBSTANCE NEAR THE TAIL OR ANUS IS PROHIBITED. SIGNIFICANT CLIPPING/SHEARING ON THE BODY IS NOT CONSIDERED TOUCH UP AND THE GOAT IS SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION.
4. Minimum weight will be 50 lbs.
5. Animals will be divided into classes as equally as possible by weight only. The show superintendent will determine the number of classes based on the total number of entries. The show superintendent has the authority to make the final decision on where to break classes based on weight. Classes will be divided into weight divisions as equally as possible.
6. All sexually intact goats must have a scrapie tag according to current Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations. A Texas Animal Health Commission Scrapie Tag must be in place before the official county show weigh-in/sift. Any sexually intact goats that are not tagged with a TAHC scrapie tag will not be eligible for show.
7. Ribbons will be given first through sixth place in class. There will be a Commercial Doe Champion and Reserve Champion and a Registered breeding doe champion and reserve champion. Breeding goat committee members may solicit funds for premiums. Any premiums collected will be divided according to the decision of committee members. DCLA does not fund premiums. Thank you notes will be provided for buckle winners. Thank you notes must be written and returned before receiving the buckle.

t Breeding Rabbit Show
Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026
Superintendent: Hugh Bolton
Judge: Lloyd Morgan

Arrival: April 3, 2026, 7:00 am - 8:30 am
Judging: April 3, 2026, Following the Market Show
Release: April 3, 2026, Conclusion of Judging

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. All entries will be examined at the time of arrival. Any rabbit showing signs of ill health (ear canker, open wounds, etc.) will not be allowed to remain or enter the show area.
3. No dogs are allowed in the rabbit show barn except for certified service dogs. No other livestock are allowed in the rabbit show area.
4. Rabbits are evaluated using the American Rabbit Breeders Association Standard of Perfection.
5. All rabbits must be tattooed in the left ear before check-in time. (No tattooing at the show.)
6. Exhibitors may enter two rabbits per class per breed. No rabbit may enter more than one class.
7. Classes will be determined by the superintendent based on the number of entries. Breeds with less than five rabbits entered will be ineligible for breed awards, winners of these breeds will be eligible for Best of Show awards.
8. Ribbons will be given to first through fifth place in class, Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex of Breed. Breeding Rabbit committee members may solicit funds for premiums. Amounts to be determined by committee members. **DCLA DOES NOT FUND PREMIUMS!**

Showmanship Contest Rules

1. Exhibitors are subject to all general rules.
2. Exhibitors must have a rabbit entry in the show.
3. Showmanship will be divided into three categories:
 - a. Novice showmanship - one age group
 - b. Junior - 3rd - 5th Grades
 - c. Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
 - d. Seniors - 9th - 12 Grades
4. Exhibitors will need to provide your own rabbit: it does not have to be in the show quality. Contestants will be judged on knowledge of rabbit information and ability to handle a rabbit as if they were the judge and give reasoning for judging.

Educational/Promotional Rabbit Posters & Displays

Purpose: to promote the rabbit project and/or to share knowledge or the rabbit project.

Entry fee is \$5.00, due day of show.

1. Each exhibitor may only have one entry.
2. Entry fee - \$5.00 entry to be paid in cash at time of show. Entry fee will be awarded as prize money.
3. Posters will be divided into three categories as of April 3, 2026.
 - a. Juniors - 3rd - 5th Grades
 - b. Intermediate - 6th - 8th Grades
 - c. Seniors - 9th - 12th Grades
4. All posters should be on standard poster board or free-standing tri-fold display boards.
 - a. If on a standard poster board, ensure there is a way to hang the poster.
5. Posters should promote the rabbit project/rabbit industry or display some knowledge or skill gained in the rabbit project.
6. Exhibitor's name should not appear on the front of the poster.
7. Posters will be judged using the included rubric
8. Posters will be judged from 5 feet.

Exhibitors must have a rabbit in the show.

You can bring folding chairs to sit in. Space is limited. Other items that could be useful are a rabbit grooming table, grooming supplies, food and water for the rabbit.

Please have your rabbits in a suitable cage with a leak-proof pan. NO cardboard boxes, laundry baskets, or open top carriers. Rabbits must be secured at ALL TIMES.

No dogs are allowed in the rabbit show barn except certified service dogs.

Breeding Fancy Poultry Show

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Superintendent: Jayme Kiraly

Assistant: Laura Reed

Judge: Ryne Crosswaithe

Arrival (Coop-In): March 30, 2026, 7:00 am – 8:30 am

Judging: March 30, 2026, immediately following coop-in

Release: March 30, 2026, Conclusion of Judging and awards presentation

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. All entries must comply with all rules and regulations of the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program as enacted by the 65th Texas Legislature.
 - a. Negative pullorum-Typhoid test in the past 30 days for individual birds or be from a flock that meets the Texas Pullorum-Typhoid Program or the National Poultry Improvement Program (NPIP) and accompanied by a VS 9-2 testing report.
 - b. Poultry must not originate from an area where reportable avian diseases are known to have been active in the last 30 days prior to the date of the show.
 - c. Waterfowl are exempt from PT test regulations.
 - d. One day, on-site PT testing may be accepted if a tester can be secured.
3. Entries must check-in with the Poultry Committee and receive a coop assignment before they are placed in a coop. Any poultry showing signs of ill health will be sifted and not allowed to remain or enter the show arena.
4. Participants may enter as many breeds and birds as they would like.
5. Erroneous entries may be corrected by notifying the show management. Additional birds may not be entered on the day of the show; however, substitutes may be allowed with permission of the show management.
6. All supplies will be neatly stored under pens as designated for poultry exhibitors. Adequate care, food and water for poultry are the responsibility of exhibitors.
7. All judging will be done in accordance with the latest edition of the American Poultry Association (APA) Standard of Perfection for large fowl and American Bantam Association (ABA) Bantam Standard and all rules of the APA/ABA.
8. Backyard Chicken Class: The backyard chicken class will be comprised of hybrids, crosses, and breeds not recognized by the APA and ABA. Coop-In for the backyard chicken class will be from 9:00-10:00. This class will be cooped away from the fancy classes for biosecurity. Backyard chickens will be permitted to have an on-site PT test if a tester can be secured. This class will be judged on overall condition, body type, and standard features that would be looked for in a

quality chicken. Standard disqualifications such as vulture feathers, side sprigs, split wing, etc. will be taken into consideration.

9. No one will be able to handle poultry or remove eggs from show coops, except their own, without the permission of the owner or show management. Show judges and officials are exempt from this rule.
- 10. To avoid confusion and loss, no birds may be removed or exchanged from their coops from 8:30am (Coop-In) until the Coop-Out announcement has been given by the show management. Failure to comply may result in a forfeiture of entry for the upcoming year.**
11. Awards: Ribbons will be given to a minimum of first through third place for breeds and varieties. Class awards will be given ribbons and monetary awards. Classes with less than four birds will be ineligible for monetary class awards, but winners of these classes will still be eligible for Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show. *Thank you notes will be provided for the Grand and Reserve Champion and must be written at that time to receive your award.* Breeding (Fancy) Poultry committee members may solicit funds for premiums. Amounts to be determined by committee members. DCLA DOES NOT FUND PREMIUMS!
12. Showmanship will be conducted in accordance with the Youth Exhibition Poultry Association (YEPA)
 - a. Time slots will be signed up for – first come, first served – at the time of check in.
 - b. Age Classifications (as of show date):
 - i. Junior (8-10)
 - ii. Intermediate (11-13)
 - iii. Senior (14-18)
 - c. Awards: Buckles will be awarded to the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior champions. *Thank you notes will be provided and must be written at that time to receive your award.* In addition, trophy awards will be provided by YEPA for 1st and 2nd place for Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Classes.
 - d. A show report will be filed with YEPA within 90 days.

Breeding (Fancy) Poultry Classes

Large Fowl	Bantam	Waterfowl
American	Modern Game	Bantam
Asiatic	Game	Light
English	Single Comb Clean Legged	Medium
Mediterranean	Rose Comb Clean Legged	Heavy
Continental	Feather Legged	Turkey – One Class
All Other Standard Breeds (AOSB)	All Other Comb Clean Legged (AOCCL)	Guinea – One Class

Backyard Chicken Class

Breeds not recognized by the APA/ABA, Crosses, and Hybrids i.e.) Easter Egger, Cinnamon Queen, Speckled, White and Red Star Sex-linked, Golden Comet, etc.

Educational/Promotional Poster & Displays

Purpose: To promote the poultry project and/or to share knowledge of the poultry project.

Entry fee is \$5.00 on the day of the show. Do NOT pay poster entry fee with your bird entries.;

1. Each exhibitor may only have one entry.
2. Entry fee- \$5.00 entry to be paid in cash at time of the show. Entry fee will be awarded as prize money.
3. Posters will be divided into the same age categories as showmanship. These ages are dictated by the general show rules.
4. All posters should be on a standard poster board or a tri-fold display board.
 - a. If on a standard poster board ensure there is a way to hang the poster.
5. Posters should promote the poultry project/industry or display some knowledge or skill gained in the poultry project.
6. The exhibitor's name should NOT appear on the front of the poster.
7. Posters will be judged from approximately 5 feet, so please size information appropriately.
8. If entry numbers permit, the posters may be separated into age categories based on their showmanship classification. If entry numbers are low, all posters will be judged together with age appropriateness considered.
9. Exhibitors must have a bird in the poultry show.
10. Posters will be judged using the following rubric.

Denton County Livestock and Youth Fair Poultry Poster Rubric

Exhibitor Number

Exhibitor Age

Areas	19-25	13-18	7-12	1-6	
Pictures/ Graphics	The display has a variety of images/ graphics that are related to the topic that helps the audience understand the material. All images enhance the intended purpose.	The display has some images/ graphics that are related to the topic. Some images used may take away from the intended purpose.	The display has very few images/ graphics that are related to the topic. Some images used may take away from the intended purpose.	The display does not have images/graphics that relate to the topic. Some images used may take away from the intended purpose.	/25
Design/ Layout	The display has a clear title. The content is viewable, and clear and in focus from 5 feet away. The layout and design are exceptionally neat, organized, and creative. Information is organized with titles and subheadings where applicable. They are clear and understandable. There is a good use of color. The overall design looks great.	The display has a title the content is viewable from 5 feet away. The layout and design are mostly neat, organized, creative, and very clearly located. Information is organized with titles and subheading where applicable. The overall design looks good.	The display may be missing a title. The content may be difficult to read and view from 5 feet away. The layout and design are not as organized as they should be. Information that would help the reader understand is missing. The overall design looks good but needs improvement.	The display lacks a title. The display is illegible from 2 feet away. The layout and design appeared disorganized and or distracting and messy. The information is unclear for the reader to understand the overall design needs work.	/25
Content	The display includes a main idea which is supported through research with multiple facts and details that capture important information about the topic. These increase the audience's understanding and are clearly communicated. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitor and not of another.	The display includes a main idea which is supported through research with at least three facts and details that capture important information about the topic. These increase the audience's understanding, but they may need more information to fully understand. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitor and not of another.	The display includes a main idea which is supported through some research and few details about the topic. Some elements are missing and the important information about the topic needs more development to increase the audience's understanding. It appears that the work is that of the exhibitor and not of another.	The display does not appear to include a main idea which is supported through research about the topic. Elements are missing and the important information about the topic needs more development so that the audience can understand the topic. It appears that the work may not be that of the exhibitor and could be that of another.	/25
Grammar	The display is free of grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	The display has 3 or more grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	The display has 6 or more grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	The display has more than 9 grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	
					/100

Ag Mechanics Show
Superintendent: Craig Bickers
Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Arrival: Wednesday April 1, 2026 - 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Judging: Thursday April 2, 2026 - 12:00 PM

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.
2. Entries will not sell in the auction but may be sold by private treaty. The DCLA assumes no responsibility or liability for the private treaty sales.
3. Judging Criteria – All exhibitors (individual or team) must be present for judging.
 - a. Workmanship – 30 points
 - b. Design and Materials used – 20 points.
 - c. Practicality – 20 points
 - d. Degree of Difficulty – 10 points
 - e. Finish – 10 points
 - f. Portfolio (Plans, Bill of materials, Photos) – 10 points
4. There will be a Junior Show (8th grade under) and a Senior Show (9th – 12th grades) for all shop projects and showmanship. Awards will be given as follows:
 - a. Ribbons will be given to the top three (3) placings in each class.
 - b. A banner will be given to the Division winners.
 - c. A banner and a buckle will be given to the Show Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion for both the Junior and Senior Show.
 - d. A buckle will be given to the best Showman in the following categories:
 1. Junior Showman
 2. Senior Showman
 3. Team Showman
5. There will be no refund of the entry fee.
6. Projects exhibited must have been constructed by FFA and 4–H members either as a part of the Ag Mechanics instruction, under the supervision of an AST or CEA.
7. Projects may have been made individually or by a group consisting of up to 4 team members and may be individual or chapter owned.
8. A project can be exhibited only one time at the Denton County Youth Fair and must have been constructed within twelve (12) months of the exhibition date.
9. All projects must be painted or properly treated and must be clean and in a presentable condition even though they may have been used. No aerosol paint will be allowed in the show area.
10. An original working plan or drawing, photographs showing stages of construction and a list of materials at a minimum are required with each project.
11. No tractors, trucks, or vehicles will be allowed in the exhibited area as a part of the display.
12. Appropriate and safe display stands are to be provided for gates, panels, and other projects that need support. Sharp edges and points, such as found on self-feeder roofs, bale movers, etc. are to be padded and / or covered as a necessity to prevent possible injuries. All projects must be shown on the ground level.
13. All projects will be identified with exhibitor cards provided by DCYLA. No “For Sale” signs will be permitted during the judging.
14. Every precaution will be taken to protect the projects entered; however, the DCLA and its officials are not responsible for any loss or damage to the project.

15. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR EXHIBITING PROJECTS EQUIPPED WITH ENGINES AND /OR BATTERIES. There is to be no more than two gallons of fuel in any fuel tank; the fuel tank cap is to be in place and sealed with tape; and the battery, if equipped with one, is to be disconnected. This applies to all engines in the exhibit area.
16. Tractor Restoration: No lawn or garden tractors allowed.
 - a. Aesthetics – 20 points
 - b. Originality – 10 points
 - c. Mechanical – 50 points
 - d. Safety Equipment – 10 points
 - e. Documentation - 10 points
 - I. Aesthetics is to include overall appearance of tractor. This includes workmanship and finish. Items to be considered include but are not limited to metal preparation, completeness of sheet metal, paint and finish, detail and completeness of components such as wheels, tires, steering wheels, seats, decals, instrument panels, wiring harness, etc.
 - II. Originality is to include paint color, fasteners, electrical systems, fuel systems, exhaust systems, mechanical systems, original unaltered serial plates, etc.
 - III. Mechanical is to include the restoration of engine, transmission, final drive, fuel system, cooling system, cranking, or starting system, charging system, hydraulic system, steering system, etc.
 - IV. Safety equipment is to include all equipment that was original to the tractor. It also includes the provision of drip pans containing floor absorbent to collect any liquids that may drip from the tractor during display. Fuel shut-off valves under all fuel tanks must be functional, and tractors are to be exhibited with the valves closed. An ABC fire extinguisher with a minimum 2.5-pound capacity must be provided with each tractor. Tractor engines are to be started and run only at the request of Show officials.
 - V. Documentation must be typed, or computer generated and is to include a one-page description of the overall restoration project, an expense report identifying all costs of restoration, photos showing before, during, and after restoration that shows a safe working environment, and a complete description of all mechanical work performed. All documentation is to be displayed in a 3-ring binder, divided, and sequenced with a table of contents and page numbers. The National FFA Tractor Restoration Competition format and forms may be used.

17. Divisions
 1. AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT
 - a. Hay handling, spraying and tractor equipment
 - b. Hydraulic equipment
 - c. Shop equipment
 2. LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT CLASSES
 - a. Gates, livestock panels, squeeze chutes, restraining equipment, trim chutes, blocking stands, livestock crates and head gates
 - b. Feeders, self-feeders and creep feeders
 - c. Other livestock equipment
 3. TRAILER CLASSES
 - a. Utility and implement trailers
 - b. Stock trailers
 - c. Gooseneck flatbed utility and implement trailers
 - d. Towable smokers
 4. HOME AND FAMILY CLASSES
 - a. Barbeque cookers, non-towable smokers and fire pits
 - b. Furniture — metal
 - c. Furniture — wood
 - d. Miscellaneous yard items – bird houses, mailboxes, ornaments, etc.
 5. TRACTOR RESTORATION & IMPLEMENTS
 - a. Tractors (antique classification)
 - b. Implements
 6. WILDLIFE EQUIPMENT

Market Ag Mechanics Show Special Rules

1. All Ag Mechanics Show rules above apply except for Rules #2 and #4.
2. The same project may be entered in both the Ag Mechanics Show and the Market Ag Mechanics Show.
3. The Market Ag Mechanics Show requires a separate entry from the Ag Mechanics Show in order to compete.
4. The Market Ag Mechanics Show will be conducted simultaneously with the Ag Mechanics Show.
5. All projects must be awarded a blue ribbon for workmanship in order to be auctioned.
6. Projects will be judged and placed from first to last with no ribbons awarded. The superintendent will maintain the list until the conclusion of the DCYLA auction.
7. The top three (3) projects electing to sell will be auctioned in the DCYLA auction with no floor.

Creative Arts

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Superintendent: Pattie Pennington

Assistant Superintendents:

Horticulture – Lynda Harvey

Crafts/Clothing/Environmental Science – Mary Stockard and Diana Hatch

Junior Foods – Laurie Pelzel

Senior Foods – Terry McNutt

Arrival: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 - 8:00am – 11:00am

Judging: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 - 1:00 pm for all

Release: Friday, April 3, 2026 - 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all rules.
2. The building will be closed during the judging and will not re-open until Thursday, April 3rd at 8:00am. No results will be available until that time. **NO EARLY RELEASE OF ITEMS. ITEMS NOT PICKED UP WILL NOT BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DCLA.**
3. Each entry must be the work of the exhibitor. All entries must have been made within the past year.
4. An individual may enter one item per class, per department. All entry fees for the clothing, food and craft departments are \$15 per first entry and \$5 for any additional entries. Entry fee must accompany the entry. See General Rules II for Eligibility 2 for payment of fees.
5. **Once entry items enter the building, no modifications may be made to presentation. Items must be show ready at the time of entering the building. When the entry comes into the building it must be in container appropriate for the class. Clamshell containers and/or clear plastic containers are allowed for all items. Foil pans with clear lids are also allowed. No overlapping of items, MUST lay flat. Any item not show ready will not be accepted. No mini loaves, must be full loaf size.**
6. An Overall Grand and Reserve Champion in the Foods Division will sell at the live auction. The Junior Champion and Reserve Champion and the Senior Champion and Reserve Champion will be judged for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion. Remaining two will go through the live auction
7. Any item that makes the Silent Auction must sell unless exhibitor has another project or item in the sale. Exhibitor must declare which item will be sold within 30 minutes of completion of the steer show. Exhibitor must communicate with one of the Creative Arts Superintendents if they are not going to sell the silent auction item.
8. All food items must be cooled to room temperature upon arrival.
9. All entries not complying with the rules will be disqualified.

DEPARTMENTS

Food Department

All entries will be judged in the category entered.

1. Decorated cakes will be judged on appearance only. Entire product must be edible. Each contestant is asked to bring a sample (4" x 4" minimum) cake for judges to taste
1. No mixes of any kind will be allowed except for classes 1, 10, 12, 16.
2. Recipes must **be typed on letter size (8.5 x 11) sheet of paper and submitted** with entry by Feb. 15, 2025. Recipes must also be typed on letter size (8.5 x 11) sheet of paper and attached to food item when entered with no name on entry.
3. There will be a Junior (grades 3-8) and a Senior (grades 9-12) division for each class. An exhibitor may enter one item in each food class.
4. Food entries must comply to general rules.
5. Sale items must be sold by exhibitor only, see exhibitor rules. Contact will be made to exhibitors that make the silent auction by Friday afternoon.
6. No added decoration of any kind on containers for judging.
7. Pies and sheet cakes must be in disposable aluminum pans covered with clear plastic wrap or foil pans with clear lids.
8. All junior and senior foods must be checked in at the front table to be classified.
9. No alcohol permitted in recipes. Violation is grounds for disqualification.

CLASSES

1. Decorated Cakes: (must be a cake – may use a mix). Entire product must be edible. Each contestant is asked to bring a small (4"X4" minimum) cake for judges to taste. .
2. Sponge Cake – Soft light cake, made from a batter containing eggs which have been beaten into a foamy consistency, air to stabilize. EX. Angel Food, Chiffon Cake, etc.
3. Butter Cake – made with butter/shortening, flour, eggs, baking soda/powder, etc.; creamed together with sugar. EX. Chocolate, White, Yellow, Italian Cream, Carrot, etc.
4. Quick Bread – made with baking powder/soda, (no yeast), flour, cornmeal made into a batter with little mixing. EX. Muffins, vegetable, or fruit breads, coffee cakes, cornbread, scones, etc.
5. Sweet Yeast Bread – (bring 6 dinner rolls or 1 loaf) Yeast must be used as a leavening agent. EX. loaf of bread, dinner rolls, sourdough, white, wheat, rye, etc.
6. Savory Yeast Bread - bring 6 dinner rolls or 1 loaf) Yeast must be used as a leavening agent. EX. loaf of bread, dinner rolls, sourdough, white, wheat, rye, etc.

7. Sweet Roll – (bring 6 rolls or 1 loaf) Roll or loaf made with yeast sweet dough, may contain spices, raisins, nuts, fruit, etc. EX. Cinnamon Rolls, fruit filled Kolaches, Lattice loaf with fruit filling, etc.
8. Candy – (bring 6 pieces) made with concentrated sugar or other sweeteners, usually small shaped pieces with flavor, chocolate, nuts, etc. EX. fudge, nuts coated with sugar, toffees, caramels, etc.
9. Cookies – (bring 6 cookies) small cake, typically round and flat, having a crisp or chewy texture. EX. Chocolate Chip, Sugar, Lemon, Oatmeal, etc.
10. Bars & Squares – (bring 6 bars) Sweetened baked goods made from dough/batter and cut into rectangular or square shapes. EX. Brownies, Lemon, Pumpkin, etc.
11. Cupcakes - (bring 6 cupcakes) may make from scratch or use a cake mix.
12. Pastries – dough of flour, shortening/butter, water, and other ingredients as a base covering a baking dish, such as a pie. Pies must be in a disposable aluminum pie pan, covered with clear plastic wrap or clear lid. EX. Pie, Tart, Turnover, Puff, Danish, French Pastries, etc.
13. Creative Cake – must use a recipe where cake mix is an ingredient – minimum of 5 ingredients. Must be a cake.
14. Canning - (2 sealed like jars) May enter jam, jelly, preserves, pickles, picante sauce, relish, etc.
15. Sheet Cake – a large flat rectangular cake, covered with icing in a disposable aluminum cake pan covered with clear plastic wrap
16. Home Products – (Honey or Molasses) Bring 2 like jars.
17. Cake Pops – Bring 6 pops on a stick for judging placed on a foil covered piece of cardboard covered with clear plastic.

CRAFTS/ CLOTHING DEPARTMENT

ALL ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED IN THE CATEGORY ENTERED.

1. Entries are subject to the general rules.
2. There will be a Junior (grade 3-8) and a Senior (grade 9-12) for all classes.
3. Every entry in craft or clothing may bring a 3" x 5" index card with information on what the project is, how it was made, and if from a kit or made from scratch. Index card is optional.
4. All entries need to be finished in whatever manner appropriate for them.
5. All clothing must be clean and in good condition.
6. **NO entry can be larger than 24" X 24" x 36" and must sit on table top, except clothing entries.**
7. No entries associated with alcohol, firearms, weapons, or drug materials will be allowed.

CLASSES

1. Needlework – Items may be any form of needle work, including, but not limited to crochet, knitting, embroidered, crewel, etc. All items must be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item.

2. Cross Stitch – Items may be regular cross stitch or counted cross stitch. All items must be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item.
3. Personal Accessories – Something used to accessorize garment or person. Items may include but not limited to jewelry (earrings, necklace, bracelet, pin, etc.), purses, totes, etc. All items must be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item.
4. Photography – May be 5" x 7", 8" X 10", or 11" X 14" and must be finished by matting, mounted or framing. May enter more than one entry.
5. Creative Photography – Bring 4" X 6" original print to show what you have edited/enhanced. Includes, but not limited to, enhanced photography, digital photos printed by members must be finished by matting, mounting, or framing. May enter more than one entry.
6. Leather Craft – Any type of project made with leather. All entries need to be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item.
7. Wood Craft – Any type of project made of wood. All entries need to be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item.
8. Home Décor/Improvement – Any item used in the home to enhance home or room that does not have another named category. All entries need to be finished in whatever manner appropriate for item. Items may include, but not limited to candles, soaps, silk flower arrangements, wall hanging, etc.
9. Ceramics – Any ceramic piece. All items need to be finished in whatever manner appropriate to item.
10. Holiday Decoration – Any decoration made to decorate for any holiday throughout the year.
11. Paintings – Paintings must be finished by matting, mounting, or framing.
12. Drawings – Drawings must be finished by matting, mounting, or framing.
13. Open Art & Crafts – An item that is not qualified to be entered in any of the above classes may enter this class.
14. Trash to Treasure – Item made from recycled items and must sit on a tabletop and fit within size requirements (see Rule 6)
15. Clothing
 - A. Dresses Skirts, Blouses, Shorts, Slacks
 - B. Open (any accessory item)
 - C. Machine quilts

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLASSES:

16. Nature Collection
17. Dried Plants. Open & Educational
 - a) Wildflowers
 - b) Cultivated plants
 - c) Woody plants (Trees & Shrubs)
 - d) Grasses
 - e) Forbs
 - f) Native Plants – following other rules for dried plants
18. Open
 1. Seashells
 2. Rocks and minerals
 3. Other Nature objects
19. Educational
 1. Must include some specimens

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SPECIAL RULES

- a) Exhibits are to reflect part of exhibitor's learning experience in the entomology/nature collections project.
- b) Exhibitors may enter as many classes as they would like but may exhibit two entries per class.
- c) *Specimens in the collection should be properly labeled for identification with both common and scientific names clearly legible, with date and location collected.*
- d) Collections are to be placed in a shadow box not to exceed 24" x 36". Dried plant collections may be exhibited in a shadow box or in a binder.
- e) Specimens in a collection may be carried over from year to year, as long as they are in good condition and mounted properly. As the project moves from one phase to another, a substantial number of new specimens should be added.
- f) Specimens in plant collections should be dried, pressed and mounted on a heavy sheet of paper of a size sufficient to accommodate the entire specimen. As many plant parts as possible should be included: foliage, flowers, roots, seeds, and fruits. Fruits and seeds may be displayed in envelopes of suitable size attached to the specimen sheet. Stems should be folded and glued on the paper in a zigzag pattern to reduce the specimen size and allow the use of as small a specimen sheet as possible. Expose both sides of leaves and flowers to display as many plant details as possible. Avoid using more glue than necessary to attach the specimen. Credit will be given for neatness of presentation and specimen condition. Classes may be broken further depending on the species entered, and may include grasses, forbs, cultivated plants, wildflowers, and woody plants. Only one specimen of a given species should be entered in any given plant collection.
- g) Dried plant arrangements may be exhibited in a vase or other container.
- h) Credit will be given to all nature collection exhibits for completeness of information provided, such as where the specimens were found, date collected, site conditions, etc.
- i) Collections may consist of any number of items, but credit will be given for larger collections which have a broader and more complete representation of the class: for example, all other things considered equal, a collection of 12 wildflower specimens representing 12 different families would be judged higher than 12 wildflower specimens representing only five different families. Credit will be given for the quality of specimens exhibited.
- j) Educational entries may include exhibits showing life cycles of insects, life cycles of plants, effects of pesticides on insect pests, artistic use of insects, bees, honey, spider collections, etc. In any case, actual insect/plant specimens or other nature objects must be included. Posters, signs, and pictures may be used to supplement the exhibits. NOTE: Spiders are NOT insects and may only be included in educational exhibits.
- k) Emphasis in judging will be placed on the overall variety of specimens represented in the collection, accuracy of identification, skill and technique acquired in mounting of specimens and overall arrangement and appearance of the collection.
- l) Insect specimens grouped within order.

HORTICULTURE

Superintendent: Lynda Harvey
dyfhorticulture@gmail.com

Assistant Superintendent: Peggy Fox

Entry, Arrival, Judging and Release dates and times – Refer to Creative Arts timetable.

Department A - Plants

Validation - **Saturday, February 21, 2026 9 a.m. – Noon**

Location: **North Texas Fair & Rodeo – Fair Hall**

2217 N.Carroll Blvd, Denton, TX 76201

Department B - Floral Arrangements (no prior validation required)

Rules

1. **Entries are subject to all general rules.** The Validation plant is the same plant at Show. Entry class at Validation is the same class at Show. Each Horticulture Guide with Entry Number given at Validation must be submitted with each Plant at Show.
2. Maximum cubic display area for Plants at Validation and Floral Arrangements at check-in is 24 inches long, 24 inches wide and 36" high to be exhibited on a tabletop. Projects will be measured by a 24' x 24' x 36" framed box at check-in. Projects exceeding the maximum size will not be allowed to enter the contest. Validation.
3. Containers or display features may not use alcohol, firearms weapons or drug materials.
4. The building will be closed during the judging and will not re-open until judging and results are completed. Entries for all departments will be released at the same time as Creative Arts entries. **ITEMS NOT PICKED UP WILL NOT BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DCLA.**
5. Each Department has two divisions:
Junior (3rd - 8th Grade)
Senior (9th - 12th Grade)
6. The first-place winner will receive a rosette in each class for their department and will be judged for Grand and Reserve Champion of the department in each age group. Best of class or blue ribbon winners may sell at Silent Auction on Saturday.
8. The Overall Horticulture Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected from the Grand and Reserve floral arrangement and Grand and Reserve plants. The horticulture Grand and Reserve Champions are eligible for the Live Auction sale.

Department A - Plants

1. All plants must be living. No artificial plants will be accepted.
2. All entries must be in the possession of the exhibitor on or before Validation date.
3. Entries will be photographed at Validation. You do *not* need to bring a photo with you.
4. All entries must be grown and cared for by the exhibitor.
5. All plants should be watered prior to entry.
6. Plants should be insect and disease free. Any infested plants will be subject to removal from the Show.
7. Plants may be repotted after Validation to compensate for growth except for Class 9 and Class 10 which refer to a container style/technique. Repotted plants and containers must follow the maximum size rule at check-in.

Classes:

1. Foliage
2. Flowering
3. Succulents
4. Trailers / Vines
5. Bulbs
6. Herbs
7. Ferns
8. Texas Native Plant (Texas Native determined at <https://www.wildflower.org/plants-main>)
9. Dish Gardens (one or more plant species) Must be in same container at Validation for Show.
10. Terrarium (one or more plant species) Must be in same container at Validation and at show.
11. Fruit / Vegetable (a plant that produces a fruit or vegetable, or can be eaten itself).
12. Seed / Cutting (a plant started from seed or a cutting between January 1 of the current year and Validation date. Must be in soil / medium at Validation).

Plant Department judging criteria. Judging is done by independent horticulture specialists.

Plants are scored on the following qualities:

- a) Potting: size is appropriate for plant(s) with appropriate potting medium (soil).
- b) Growth: shows growth, but not past prime. Blooming or fruiting, if appropriate.
- c) Condition: free of insect, mechanical, weather, or other damage. Groomed to remove spent blooms, browning leaves, or pinched back as needed. Maintained moisture – not over or under watered.
- d) Specimen: Color is true to variety and age. Form and fullness with symmetry, pleasing spacing, vigorous foliage.
- e) Distinctiveness: the unique nature of the plant or difficulty of care.

Department B- Floral Arrangement

1. All flowers and plant materials must be fresh. Foliage and accents such as branches, grains, and plumes must be natural (organic). No artificial flowers or foliage will be accepted.
2. Oasis, floral tape, putty, wiring, etc. are not required, but may be used to secure arrangements.
3. All entries must be designed and prepared by the exhibitor.

Classes:

1. Vase Arrangement
2. Container Arrangement (not vase). Examples: bowl, bucket, basket, cup, or any non-traditional container.
3. Mono-color – one floral color. Optional foliage may be a different color.
4. Holiday themed arrangement
5. Floral Wearable – examples: corsage, crown, boutonniere, floral jewelry
6. Bouquet – hand-held bouquet including nosegay or tussie-mussie.
(Bring a container for upright display.)
7. Texas Theme – container, accents, design, and/or floral materials reflect Texas Heritage. May contain native Texas flora.

Floral Department judging criteria. Floral Arrangements are scored on the following qualities:

- a) Condition: flowers and foliage are fresh, at ideal degree of development. Colors are bright, clear, and attractive.
- b) Composition: container and flowers are in good proportion. Well-weighted balance of flowers and other specimens. Spacing clearly shows specimens.
- c) Interest: component parts blend in harmony. Has rhythm where eye moves smoothly through arrangement. Draws attention from textures, color contrast, size variation, or bloom stages.
- d) Design: displays creativity and imagination.
- e) Distinctiveness--the unique nature of the arrangement or difficulty creating.

Public Speaking Contest

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Superintendent:
Assistant Superintendent:

Contest: Judging: March 31, 2026, 10:00 am
*** Times slots to be assigned – Goat Exhibitors will go first**

Rules

1. Entries are subject to all general rules.

Time slots will be assigned 30 days before competition, and will be confirmed one week prior to competition.

2. Entries will be divided into these age divisions:

- a) Juniors: 3rd – 5th Grade
- b) Intermediate: 6th – 8th Grade
- c) Seniors: 9th – 12th Grade
- d) Team Division: Made up of 2 - 4 individuals

Participants may compete individually and as part of a team, but the subject matter of the presentations must be different.

3. Contestants will be judged on the following as set forth by the 4-H public Speaking Guidelines at <https://texas4-H.tamu.edu/projects/public-speaking>. **Contestants should be prepared to answer questions concerning the subject matter of their presentation.**

4. All speeches will have a 5–8-minute time limit. Topics for speeches must be turned in at entry and are suggested to be of agricultural nature due to judges backgrounds.

5. Note cards can be used, but no props/posters, etc., in individual competitions. Audio/visuals, posters, props, and other visual aids may be used in the team competition only. No podiums allowed.

6. Awards will be presented following the contest

- a) 1st & 2nd in each division: Plaques
- b) 3rd thru 6th in each division: Ribbons

Scholarships: Will be awarded to the following: Scholarship amounts to be determined by Superintendent based on solicited funds. DCLA DOES NOT FUND SCHOLARSHIPS.

Judges will have a 3 minute time limit for questions.

Judging Criteria

Composition and Organization

1. Introduction:

- a) Attention of audience gained – 5 points
- b) Importance of subject established – 5 points
- c) Purpose clearly stated – 5 points

2. Body

- a) One central theme – 5 points
- b) Information accurate (source of information given) - 5 points
- c) Information current – 5 points
- d) Logical Sequence – 5 points

3. Summary

- a) Major points emphasized – 5 points

Delivery

1. Appearance

- b) Grooming & Dress – 5 points
- c) Poise & Posture – 5 points

2. Voice Clear & Understood – 5 points

3. Appropriate Vocal Dynamics – 5 points

4. Correct Use of Grammar – 5 points

5. Eye Contact with Audience – 5 points

6. Appropriate Use of Gestures and Body Language – 5 points

7. Uniqueness of Presentation – 5 points

8. Audience Appeal – 5 points

9. Educational Value – 5 points

10. Questions

- a) Accuracy of Answers – 5 points
- b) Poise and Self-Confidence – 5 points

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE – 100 points

Overtime penalty - _____ (2 points per ½ minute)

Tractor Driving Contest

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Superintendent: Garrett Spigner

Assistant: TBD

Contest: Friday, April 3, 2026 1:00 pm (Weather Permitting)

The Tractor Operator Contest is sponsored by Zimmer Kubota and Equipment Inc. It is designed to develop skills in operating farm tractors and equipment. Safety is a major consideration.

Rules

1. **Entries are subject to all general rules.**
2. Entries will be divided into these age divisions by March 1, 2025:
 - a) Junior: (age 12 — 14)
 - b) Senior: (age 15 — 18)
 - c) (Contestants must take a 15-question test and must pass to advance to the driving portion of the contest. The test will be about Safety, Maintenance & History of Tractor's)
3. Equipment utilized
 - a) Tractor
 - b) 3 point equipment
4. Scoring — Contestants are assessed penalty points for safety violations, time, hit markers, etc., according to the attached score sheet.
5. Judges — Judges are appointed and will rule on all questions. The judges' interpretations of the rules are final.
6. Awards — Buckles will ONLY be given to the 1st place operators in the Senior and Junior Division.

Contest Guidelines - **** Please see link below for study materials.**

The contest will consist of mounting a tractor, starting it safely and correctly, and driving the indicated course. The contest requires the contestant to drive and back a tractor with the trailer attached. Stakes or cones will outline the course.

1. Starting the tractor engine — Upon mounting the tractor, the contestant will be responsible for the following items:

The tractor will then be started and run at idling speed until the contestant is to start driving.

- a) For tractors with standard transmissions, seeing that at least one brake is set. For tractors with automatic transmissions, the selector level must be in the "park" position.
- b) For tractors with standard transmissions, seeing that the gear shift lever is in the neutral position.
- c) Seeing that the PTO is disengaged.

2. Driving the course — The contestant will notify the official when he is ready to begin driving (transmission in neutral or park, clutch engaged, PTO disengaged, and engine idling.) Timing begins when the signal to start is given by the starting official. The driver is then allowed six minutes to complete the course.

3. Stopping procedure — The course is completed when the driver has backed his tractor and trailer into the stake pattern and is satisfied with the trailer's position in relation to the stakes. After backing the trailer into the "shed" as close to the stopping stakes as possible without touching them, the driver will:

This particular sequence is not necessary as long as all operations are accomplished safely.

Timing ends when, after stopping the engine, the contestant raises both hands about shoulder height.

- a) For tractors with standard transmissions — shift into neutral and lock at least one brake.
- b) For tractors with automatic transmissions — shift lever to "park".
- c) Stop tractor engine.
- d) Scoring — Contestants will be scored upon the items shown on the score sheet.

The event will have a six-minute time limit. A penalty of 400 points will be added to the contestant's score for failure to complete the course in the allotted time. When time is called, the contestant will be stopped, and measurements will be taken. If penalties due to measurement are less than 400 points for exceeding the time limit, he will receive the lower score. In the event time is called, the penalty points received for time will not exceed 760 penalty points, (6 minutes x 60) + 400.

Two stakes will serve as the back of an imaginary shed, each located two feet in from the corner. Contestants will be penalized 20 points for each inch over two inches from the farthest stake to the back of the spreader.

Safe Tractor Driving Rules

The following rules are offered as a guide for safe tractor operation. Officials should be guided by, but not limited to, the scope or coverage of the following paragraphs:

1. After mounting tractor with standard transmission, set at least one brake, place the gear shift lever in neutral position, and disengage clutch before starting engine. For tractor with automatic transmission, shift selector lever to "part" position before starting engine.
2. Place PTO lever in neutral position before starting engine and keep disengaged always except when it is in use.
3. Engage clutch gently and avoid careless or sudden starts and stops which tend to "bounce" front wheels off the ground or cause rear wheels to "dig in".
4. Avoid unnecessary slipping of clutch when maneuvering in the driving course. The operator's foot may remain on the clutch, but "riding" the clutch is to be avoided.
5. Release brakes before starting to drive the tractor.
6. Keep tractor in gear when driving. Never shift into neutral or disengage clutch to coast part of the way.
7. Ride on the tractor. Never ride on drawbar or hitch of trailer or implement being drawn.
8. Reduce speed to a safe level before making a turn or applying one brake.

9. Do not permit extra riders on the tractor at any time.
10. Bring tractor to a complete stop before dismounting.
11. Do not use road gear while driving the course. Any gear which permits a ground speed of ten miles per hour or faster is considered a road gear.
12. Drive tractor at speeds slow enough to ensure safety, both for driver and for officials.
13. Wear clothing with snug fitting cuffs. Avoid loose-fitting baggy clothing.
14. Tobacco use while driving the course is NOT permitted.
15. Avoid short turns which will foul implement against tractor wheel.
16. When leaving tractor with standard transmission, shift into neutral, and set at least one brake, engage clutch, and shut off engine. When leaving tractor with automatic transmission, shift selector lever to "park", engage clutch, and shut off engine. This particular sequence is not necessary so long as all operations are accomplished safely.
17. Mount and dismount tractor properly. Use steps if provided by manufacturer.
18. Anyone intentionally operating the equipment in an unsafe manner will be removed from the equipment and banned from future Tractor Operating competitions at the DCLA Youth Fair and Rodeo.

<https://www.texasffa.org/cde-tractor-tech>

Livestock Skill-a-thon Contest

Superintendent: Steven Baringer, Zach Davis

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026

Registration: March 30, 2026 2:30 PM

Contest: March 30, 2026, 2:45 PM

Duration of the contest may be slightly altered dependent upon various conditions

Special Rules:

1. An entry fee of \$10 made payable to the DCLA is required. Entry fees must be submitted through FFA Advisors and 4H Leaders to the DCLA.
2. Eligibility: Contestants must meet the requirements found in Section I and II of the General Information and Rules 2024 Denton County Youth Fair Exhibitors Handbook.
3. Divisions: The contest will be divided into three age divisions as of 2025-2026 school year.
 - a. Juniors (3rd- 5th grade)
 - b. Intermediates (6th-8th grade)
 - c. Seniors (Ages 9th – 12th grade)
4. DCLAYF Livestock Skill-A-Thon contest will consist of:
 1. Multiple choice quiz over general animal science knowledge
 2. Breed identification
 - Cattle
 - Swine
 - Lambs
 - Goats
 3. Quality Assurance Quiz
 4. Tool Identification
 5. Retail Meats Identification
 6. Skill Check
5. Study Materials: The questions and topics will come from the following sources.
 - a. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Publications
 - b. San Antonio Livestock Show Skillathon Links
6. Results will be announced following the contest.

If you would like a copy of a study guide, please contact the contest superintendent at steven.baringer@ag.tamu.edu.

YOUTH RODEO

Superintendent: Dirk Webb

Entry Deadline: Saturday, March 21, 2026

Walk up entries accepted, IF EVENT IS NOT FULL + Additional \$25 LATE FEE

Check website for Entry form at a later date.

Rodeo: Saturday, April 4, 2026+ – 6 P.M. start time

**** Slack, IF NEEDED, Friday – April 3, 2026 – 6 pm**

North Texas Fair & Rodeo Arena

Events:

Mutton Busting

Junior Calf Riding

Intermediate Breakaway Roping

Intermediate Steer riding

Intermediate Barrel Racing

Intermediate Goat Tying

Senior Breakaway Roping

Senior Barrel Racing

Senior Goat Tying

Senior Calf Roping

Ribbon Roping

Saddle Bronc

Bareback Riding

Bull Riding

Team Roping –

Fees: Mutton Busting - \$30

Team Roping - \$120 per team

All other events \$60

Check back for more Rodeo information to be announced.