

DEPARTMENT 4C – SHEEP & LAMBS

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Livestock Department, Section, and Class Specific Rules & Regulations. These rules and regulations are in addition to the “General Rules and Regulations Applicable to All Exhibitors and Exhibits”. All Exhibitors must comply with all Washington County Ag Expo & Fair rules and regulations. Failure to comply may disqualify the entry and require that it be removed from the fairgrounds.

Department 4C – Sheep & Lambs

- 1) General Rules & Regulations
 - a) Commercial Cross Bred Breeding Sheep
 - i) Eligible for all breeding classes.
 - ii) Animals will be shown slick shorn
 - b) Wool Fleece – Any producer may enter one fleece per breed provided the exhibitor owned the sheep at the time of shearing.
 - i) The fleece must have been shorn in the current year.
 - ii) The fleece must be tied with paper twine.
 - iii) Yearling fleece may have 12 months’ growth.
 - iv) Fleece must be entered by breed.
 - v) The fleece should be shorn from a sheep clearly representative of that breed.
 - vi) Preparation – Fleece should be rolled properly, flesh side out and tied with paper twine in such a way as to allow adequate handling, yet not affect the character or attractiveness. Each fleece must be tagged with the following: Name and address of exhibitor, breed, sex, number of month’s growth, and weight at fleece.
 - vii) 4C-14-1 – Purebred, Medium Wool – Chevoit, Corriedale, Dorset, Montdale, Hampshire, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk
 - viii) 4C-14-2 – Commercial White – May include wool from long wool purebreds which are not shown at Washington County and long wool purebreds that are shown at the State Fair (Romney, Boarder Leicester, Ramboulet, etc.)
 - ix) 4C-14-3 – Natural Colored, Medium Wool – (48-60) If fine wool fleeces were entered, they would be put in this class.
 - x) 4C-14-4 – Natural Colored, Long Wool – (36-28) If coarse wool fleeces were entered, they would be put in this class.
- 2) Registered 4-H/FFA – Department 4C
 - a) All market lambs must be tagged with a Maryland Livestock Tag.
 - b) All market lambs will be placed in designated area one-half hour prior to show. They will remain in this designated area for the duration of the show. The area will be restricted to 4-H/FFA exhibitors and superintendents only.
 - c) Tail Docking Policy
 - i) The 2011 Maryland 4-H Tail Docking Policy remains virtually unchanged from 2005. 4-H lambs should be docked no shorter than the distal end of the caudal tail fold. The caudal fold is a flap of skin attached to the underside of the tail near the rectum and is clearly visible when the tail is lifted.
 - ii) Lambs docked in this manner will have a minimum tail length of 0.7 inches at the time of show. Purchased lambs (market and breeding) should have a minimum tail length of 1.4 inches at the time of “weaning.” This gives a high probability that the lamb’s tail will measure a least 0.7 inches at the time of show. 4-Hers should use the DeTail device to select lambs that have been properly docked.
 - iii) In 2011, compliance with the Maryland 4-H Tail Docking Policy will be VOLUNTARY. Lamb tails (docks) will not be officially measured at Maryland 4-H activities. No lambs will be disqualified from showing due to tail length, unless the short dock results in a rectal prolapse.

- iv) Lambs with purse-string sutures are ineligible for exhibition at 4-H shows.
 - v) Any sheep or lamb that exhibits a rectal prolapse at a 4-H activity will be ineligible for the activity and sent home by the Extension Educator, Sheep Superintendent, or other appropriately deemed individual. The following will be used as a guideline to determine occurrence of a rectal prolapse: "A rectal prolapse is defined as an inversion of the rectum that protrudes 4 cm (1.6 inches) or more outside the body and remains exterior to the body while the animal is standing."
 - vi) If a lamb is observed with a rectal prolapse (by one of the above people) and in the future is not observed with a rectal prolapse, it is still classified as having a rectal prolapse. This was the criteria used in the 2003 multi-year study published in the Journal of Animal Science that established a scientific link between tail length and the incidence of rectal prolapses in lambs fed concentrate diets.
 - vii) Questions about Maryland's 2011 4-H Tail Docking Policy should be directed to Susan Schoenian at (301) 432-2767 x343 or sschoen@umd.edu.
- d) Showmanship
- i) Exhibitor may use a market lamb or breeding sheep for this class.
- e) Breeding Sheep
- i) All breeding sheep must be the bona-fide property of the exhibitor and must have been owned and registered with the breed association in the name of the exhibitor only by May 1 of the current year. A bill of sale is not acceptable. Registration papers and ear identification of animals will be checked by the superintendent. No joint ownership will be allowed.
 - ii) Ear tags must be in all breeding sheep upon arrival.
 - iii) Breeding animals must be shown in proper age category. Lambs may not be moved up.
 - iv) Exhibitors are permitted to make only two entries in each breeding sheep class. Include ear tag and registration number on entry blank.
 - v) Exhibitors will be permitted to substitute a breeding animal within the same breed for another animal, either in the same class or in a different class.
 - vi) Senior ram and ewe lamb birth dates for all breeds will be between September 1 of the previous year and before December 31 of the previous year.
 - vii) Junior ram and ewe lamb birth dates for all breeds will be after January 1 of the current year for early lambs and after February 16 of the current year and on or before May 1 of the current year for late lambs.
 - viii) Rams may be brought in on the day of the show and will be released immediately after the show.
- f) Market Lambs
- i) Exhibitors may tag 4 market lambs, show 3 market lambs, and sell 2 market lambs.
 - ii) All market lambs must weigh a minimum of 90 pounds and not more than 150 pounds to be eligible for the show and sale. Re-weighs will not be permitted - **Must be slick sheared and dry when weighed.**
 - iii) Only ewes and wither lambs may be shown in market classes. All wither lambs must be completely healed. A show appointed veterinarian will examine any wither showing signs of testicle presence, unhealed scrotum, or other stag characteristics and will have the final decision in determining the eligibility for show.
 - iv) Grand & Reserve market lambs cannot be used in 4C-12-4 – Pair of Market Lambs.
 - v) All market lambs must be born after January 1 of the current year.
 - vi) Country bred lambs must be bred, born and purchased in Washington County.
 - vii) 4C-12-1 – Market Lambs will be weighed and divided into a maximum of classes of approximately equal weight distribution. See above rule for minimum and maximum weights.
- g) Shepherd's Lead Contest
- i) The sheep (Market lamb or a breeding animal) must be fitted and trained to show at halter.
 - ii) The entrant will be judged on mode of dress selected.
 - (a) The outfit must be attractive and lend elegance to the contest.
 - (b) The garment must be made of at least 60% wool.
 - (c) Entrants must furnish their own garment.
 - (d) Previously entered garments are not acceptable.
 - iii) The judges will use the following guide for judging:
 - (1) Wool outfit made or purchased. Credit will be given for home-sewn garments, hand-knitted, crocheted, or hand-woven.
 - (2) The contestant's own presentation and overall appearance (poise, fitting, etc.)

- (3) Condition and overall appearance and attractiveness of the sheep (fitting, etc.)
- (4) How well the sheep is halter trained and behaves in the show ring.
- iv) Narratives are required and should include but not be limited to:
 - (1) A description of the outfit.
 - (2) Information about the animal being exhibited (name, breed, etc.)
 - (3) Other activities and interest of the exhibitor.

Premiums for Department 4C

1st – \$13.00	2nd – \$12.00	3rd – \$10.00	4th – \$9.00
5th – \$8.00	6th – \$7.00	7th – \$6.00	8th – \$5.00
9th – \$4.00	10th – \$3.00	11th & Up – \$3.00	
Champion – Rosette		Reserve – Rosette	

SECTION

001 – Showmanship

Classes

- 0001 Junior, Ages 8-10
- 0002 Intermediate, Ages 11-13
- 0003 Senior, Ages 14-18
- 0004 Championship

SECTION(S)

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 002 – Dorset | 003 – Hampshire | 004 – Montdale |
| 005 – Romney | 006 – Shropshire | 007 – Southdown |
| 008 – Suffolk | 009 – Natural Colored | 010 – All Pure Breeds |
| 011 – Commercial Cross Bred | | |

Classes

- 0001 Ram, Under 2 Yr
- 0002 Ram Lambs, Sr.
- 0003 Ram Lambs, Pair Sr.
- 0004 Ram Lambs, Early Jr.
- 0005 Ram Lambs, Late Jr.
- 0006 Ram Lambs, Pair Jr.
- 0007 Champ & Reserve Lamb
- 0008 Ewe, Under 2 Yrs
- 0009 Pair Yearling, Ewes
- 0010 Pair Yearling, Both Sexes, (Both Sexes Must Be Represented)
- 0011 Ewe Lambs, Sr.
- 0012 Ewe Lambs, Pair Sr.
- 0013 Ewe Lambs, Early Jr.
- 0014 Ewe Lambs, Late Jr.
- 0015 Ewe Lambs, Pair Jr.
- 0016 Twin Lambs
- 0017 Pair Lambs, Any Age Both Sexes, (Both Sexes Must Be Represented)
- 0018 Champ & Reserve Ewe
- 0019 Pen, 4 Lambs Both Sexes, (Both Sexes Must Be Represented)
- 0020 Flock, (Ram Under 2 Yrs, Yearling Ewe, & Ewe Lambs)

SECTION
012 – Market Lambs

Classes

- 0001 Weight Classes, (See Rules & Regulations)
- 0002 Market, Champ
- 0003 Market, Reserve Champ
- 0004 Market, Pair Lambs
- 0005 Market, Pair Champ
- 0006 Market, Pair Reserve
- 0007 County Bred
- 0008 Jr. Shepherd, Ages 8-13, (Bred & Owned)
- 0009 Sr. Shepherd, Ages 14-18, (Bred & Owned)

SECTION
013 – Shepherd's Lead Contest

Classes

- 0001 Junior, Ages 8-10
- 0002 Intermediate, Ages 11-13
- 0003 Senior, Ages 14-18

SECTION
014 – Wool Fleece

Classes

- 0001 Purebred, Medium Wool, (See Rules & Regulations)
- 0002 Commercial, White, (See Rules & Regulations)
- 0003 Natural Colored, Medium Wool, (See Rules & Regulations)
- 0004 Natural Colored, Long Wool, (See Rules & Regulations)