

4-H SWINE DEPARTMENT

4-H Swine Team

Superintendent - Dr. Jodi Sterle, Ames

Assistant Superintendent - Mike Fay, Clive; Jake Sterle, Ames

SCHEDULE:

Saturday, August 15

1:00 a.m. Swine may arrive
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Swine Show Rings - Pick up exhibitor t-shirt/exhibitor number, sign up for showmanship, turn in animal care disclosure form
9:00 a.m. Swine must be in the barn
2:00 p.m. All declared weight cards must be submitted
3:00 p.m. Substitute showmanship forms must be submitted online

Sunday, August 16

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Swine Skillathon Competition - Swine Barn Show Ring
Noon - 1:00 p.m. Exhibitor's Meeting - Swine Barn Show Ring
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Swine Showmanship Contest - West Show Ring, Intermediates; East Show Ring - Seniors followed by Juniors

Monday, August 17

8:30 a.m. Breeding Gilt Show (commercial gilts will be shown first)
Following Breeding Show Breeding Gilts released (following completion of their class)

Tuesday, August 18

8:30 a.m. Market Swine Show
Ring 1: Market Gilts, Purebreds
Ring 2: Market Barrows
Following Market Show Market Swine released (following completion of their class)
9:00 p.m. Swine must be out of the barn

Saturday, August 22

2:00 p.m. Sale of Champions - Cattle Barn Penningroth Sale Ring

ENTRY DEADLINE - JULY 1 through FairEntry (4hOnline)

GENERAL SWINE RULES

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations, 4-H General Rules and Regulations and 4-H Livestock Rules and Regulations apply in this department.
2. Market swine, purebred hogs and commercial breeding gilts are to be farrowed on or after December 1, 2025 and must be enrolled as a 4-H Swine Project.
3. All 4-H market and breeding swine must have been ear notched, tagged and identified, as well as had a DNA ear punch sample taken from nominated animals. All information must be in 4hOnline by May 15.
4. All market and breeding pigs entered in the purebred classes must be identified as purebred pigs in 4hOnline.
5. Pedigrees will be required for all purebred market and breeding swine. The registration paper must be presented at check-in time. Electronic registration papers will be accepted if accessed directly from the breed registry's website. No faxes or copies will be allowed. The registration paper must be in the 4-Her's name or show a logical family relationship. (For example, Jon Smith can have pigs registered under Smith Farms, but not under SMJ Farms or Cedar Valley Farms). Litter registrations from the National Swine Registry will be accepted. Information in 4hOnline MUST match the registration paper.
6. The entry fee is \$10 per head and must be paid at time of entry. **No refunds.**
7. **Entry Limits.** Exhibitors may enter and show a maximum of **eight** pigs total. An exhibitor is limited to a maximum of 5 animals per division.
8. **Check-in Process.** 4-H'ers will report to the show ring on Saturday to review their class entry cards, complete declared weights, present purebred registration papers, sign up for showmanship, turn in the Animal Care & Management Drug Disclosure Statement, and receive their exhibitor number and t-shirt.
9. Pens will be assigned by the Superintendent. All swine must be penned in the designated 4-H section. Due to the constraints of pen space, exhibitors should be prepared to use fewer pens if necessary. Please refrain from preparing sleeping quarters in pens. 4-H exhibitors must clean stalls before departure. Failure to clean stalls before departing will result in exhibitor forfeiting premium money.
10. **NEW IN 2026:** No pig movers or portable pens on wheels are allowed.
11. No portable fitting pens allowed in the Swine Barn.
12. All market pigs and commercial breeding gilts must submit declared weight cards at the scheduled time.
13. The 4-H Swine Show will be non-terminal; there will not be any swine loaded out for harvest. The only exception will be for the following which are scheduled to be processed at a harvesting facility designated by the Iowa State Fair Authority: Grand and Reserve Grand Champion 4-H Market Hog. Exhibitors should have a good biosecurity plan for returning home.
14. **EXHIBITOR APPAREL** - Exhibitors shall wear the 4-H participation t-shirt. If these are not available, a white t-shirt or blouse may be worn.
15. **Pigs may NOT be entered in corresponding Open Classes.**
16. There shall be no paints, powders or dyes used on hogs. Pigs in violation will not be allowed to show.
17. Due to industry standards, it is strongly recommended that pigs are not clipped. Hair should not be shorter than 1/2 inch. **Reminder: NO** clipping on the Fairgrounds.
18. The judge and show officials will have the authorization to disqualify any pigs that are severely unsound or exhibit any of the following abnormalities:
 - a. Pigs with serious injury, evidence of stress susceptibility or other heritable defects.
 - b. Pigs that are structurally unsound.
 - c. Pigs that exhibit cryptorchidism or objectionable traits that appear to be the result of management practices.
19. For both the market and breeding divisions, should a first placed animal be disqualified after winning its class, the second and third place animals will move up to first and second in the class and compete for champion. If a second place animal is disqualified, the third place animal will move up.

20. PREMIUMS AND RIBBONS - Each entry will receive a ribbon (purple, blue, red or white) in each class. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be \$20, 10, 5.

**BREEDING SWINE
PUREBRED BREEDING GILTS
RULES**

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this division. Also, see general rules for 4-H Swine Department.
2. All animals offered for sale at a previous show are terminated as a 4-H project and not eligible to show.
3. Purebred breeding gilts will be shown by age. Gilts must be farrowed on or after December 1, 2025.
4. All gilts shown in purebred breeding classes must meet all registry requirements for show as established by the breed association.
5. Each exhibitor may show a maximum of **five** breeding swine (purebred and commercial gilts combined) with a maximum of eight pigs total.
6. Judging of purebred gilts, in order of breeds listed below, will start immediately following the commercial gilt judging.
7. When there are fewer than five head in any one breed, they will show as Other Breeds.
8. Placings will be by ribbon grouping; purple, blue, red or white, but placed individually.
9. All breeding gilts will return home.

CLASS

- Berkshire
- Chester White
- Duroc
- Hampshire
- Hereford

CLASS

- Landrace
- Poland China
- Spotted
- Yorkshire
- Purebreds, Other Breeds (if needed)

**COMMERCIAL BREEDING GILTS
RULES**

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this division. Also, see general rules for 4-H Swine Department.
2. Commercial breeding gilts cannot be from the same litter from which gilts are shown in purebred breeding classes.
3. Each exhibitor may show a maximum of **five** breeding swine (purebred and commercial gilts combined) with a maximum of eight pigs total.
4. No more than 30 gilts will be put in any class and classes will be divided based on declared weight.
5. All breeding gilts will return home.
6. **DECLARED WEIGHTS.** A declared weight system will be used for official weights. A weight card obtained from the superintendent's office must be filled out by all Commercial Breeding Gilt exhibitors and turned in by the designated time. The weight turned in will become the official weight. If weight cards are not turned in by the deadline those animals will not be eligible to show in their respective shows.
Scales will be provided in areas throughout the barn; such scales are unofficial and are provided for exhibitors' convenience only. Official scales will be used by Superintendents to determine official weights. No other scales will be allowed.
The top two animals in each class will be weighed immediately following their class to determine if they are eligible to return for division champions. Pigs not weighing within 15 pounds of its official weight will be disqualified. All swine are subject to be selected to be weighed.

CLASS

- Commercial Gilt

**MARKET SWINE
RULES**

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this division. Also, see general rules for 4-H Swine Department.
2. Open to barrows or gilts. Each exhibitor may show a maximum of **five** market swine with a maximum of eight pigs total.
3. Classes in this division will be made using declared weights - not more than 30 pigs per class.
4. **DECLARED WEIGHTS.** A declared weight system will be used for official weights. A weight card obtained from the superintendent's office must be filled out by all (4-H, FFA, Open Class) Market exhibitors and turned in by the designated time. The weight turned in will become the official weight. If weight cards are not turned in by the deadline those animals will not be eligible to show in their respective shows.
Scales will be provided in areas throughout the barn; such scales are unofficial and are provided for exhibitors' convenience only. Official scales will be used by Superintendents to determine official weights. No other scales will be allowed.
The top two animals in each class will be weighed immediately following their class to determine if they are eligible to return for division champions. Pigs not weighing within 15 pounds of its official weight will be disqualified. All market swine are subject to be selected to be weighed.
5. **Only market pigs weighing a minimum of 230 pounds (absolute weights) are eligible to be shown in this division.**
6. Classes will be provided for crossbred and purebred market pigs. If fewer than five head are entered for any given purebred class those entries will be shown in the Other Breeds Class. The following divisions will select a champion; crossbred market gilt, purebred market hog and crossbred market barrow. These three division winners will compete for champion in the Market Swine Division.

CLASS (This is not the show order)

- Berkshire Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Chester White Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Duroc Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Hampshire Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Hereford Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Landrace Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)

CLASS (This is not the show order)

- Poland China Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Spotted Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Yorkshire Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Other Breeds Market Pigs (gilts & barrows)
- Crossbred Market Gilts
- Crossbred Market Barrows

SWINE SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship will be open to all 4-H swine exhibitors. Exhibitors choosing to participate must sign up for Showmanship on Saturday, August 15 from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
2. There will be three divisions: Junior - Grades 5-6; Intermediate - Grades 7-8; Senior - Grades 9-12.
3. The Showmanship Contest will be held on Sunday, August 16 at approximately 1:00 p.m.
4. 4-H members will use their own animal in the Showmanship Contest.
5. Results will be announced at the conclusion of the contest and recipients will receive awards at that time. All exhibitors designated by the judge as outstanding will receive a purple ribbon. The Iowa State Fair will provide belt buckles for the top individual(s) designated by the judge. An exhibitor who has previously been awarded a belt buckle is not eligible to receive another one and will receive a ribbon only.

4-H SWINE SPECIALS

Additional 4-H Swine Specials offered by the **Iowa Foundation for Agricultural Advancement** are available online at <https://www.iowastatefair.org/>.

The **American Yorkshire Club** will offer \$250 to the Grand Champion 4-H Yorkshire Gilt in the 4-H Breeding Gilt Show. The American Yorkshire Club requires a photo and copy of the registration paper of the Grand Champion Yorkshire Gilt from the owner to receive their premium. This information must be submitted by October 1, 2026. Please submit to the National Swine Registry, Attn: Clay Zwilling, 2639 Yeager Rd., West Lafayette, IN 47906.

The **Chester White Swine Record Association**, PO Box 9758, Peoria, IL 61612, will award \$100 to the owner of the Grand Champion 4-H On-Foot Market Barrow providing that it is a Chester White from a recorded litter. Also, a story of the project and a picture of the animal are to be sent to the Association's office by the winner.

Featherlite Trailers will donate free use of a trailer for one year to the exhibitor of the Grand Champion 4-H Market Pig.

The **Iowa Chester White Breeders Association** is offering \$25 to the Champion and \$10 to the Reserve Champion in the 4-H Market Barrow Chester White Class. A trophy will also be awarded to the Champion. After the Fair, the winner must contact Randy Schmidt, 2471 V Avenue, Williamsburg, IA 52361 or 319/668-2546.

The **Iowa Duroc Breeders Association** will provide a \$300 buying certificate to two 4-H exhibitors of purebred Duroc market pigs or breeding gilts. The winners will be randomly selected from those exhibitors who bring their market pig or breeding gilt to the ring and participate in the show. Need not be present to win.

The **Iowa Duroc Breeders Association** will provide banners to the 4-H Champion and Reserve Champion Duroc Gilt.

The **Iowa Hampshire Breeders Association** will be offering at least \$1800 in awards to the first five (5) Hampshires not receiving VIP awards in both the purebred Hampshire market and breeding classes. Be sure to follow the IHBA Facebook page for the specific distribution of awards.

The **Iowa Hampshire Breeders Association** will award banners to the 4-H Champion and Reserve Champion Hampshire in both the market and breeding classes.

The **Iowa Purebred Swine Council*** is offering the following in the 4-H Breeding Gilt Show: Breed Champions, \$250 and Reserve Breed Champions, \$150 (breeds include Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted, Tamworth and Yorkshire). If an AOB class is formed due to a lack of participation in a breed, the premiums will be awarded to the top placing pig of the respective breed.

The **Iowa Purebred Swine Council*** is offering the following in the 4-H Market Swine Show: Class Champions, \$500, (breeds include: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted, Tamworth and Yorkshire). If an AOB class is formed due to a lack of participation in a breed, the premium will be award to the winner of the class, regardless of the amount of breeds competing.

The **Iowa Purebred Swine Council*** is offering the following in the 4-H Market Swine Show: Breed Champions, \$1,000 and Reserve Breed Champions, \$750 (breeds include Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted, Tamworth and Yorkshire). If an AOB class is formed due to a lack of participation in a breed, the premiums will be awarded to the top placing pig of the respective breed.

The **Iowa Purebred Swine Council*** is offering the following premiums for Champion Iowa Purebreds in the 4-H Market Swine Show: \$5,000 for the Champion Purebred Market Hog (breeds include: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted, Tamworth and Yorkshire), \$4,000 for Reserve Champion, \$3,000 for Third Overall, \$2,000 for Fourth Overall and \$1,000 for Fifth Overall. In the event of a tie or same placing in a class, discretion will be left to the judge or an IPSC representative.

** In order to receive any Iowa Purebred Swine Council Award, your pig must be registered as Verified Iowa Pure (VIP). If your pig is not VIP, the placement will not be paid out. It will transfer as funds for the following year's awards.*

The Third Overall 4-H Purebred Breeding Gilt will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The Fourth Overall 4-H Purebred Breeding Gilt will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The Fifth Overall 4-H Purebred Breeding Gilt will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The Third Overall 4-H Market Hog will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The Fourth Overall 4-H Market Hog will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The Fifth Overall 4-H Market Hog will be awarded a banner sponsored by **Lane Show Pigs - Ken & Austin Lane**, Spragueville, IA.

The **National Spotted Swine Record, Inc.**, PO Box 9758, Peoria, IL 61612, will award \$100 to the owner of the Grand Champion 4-H On-Foot Market Barrow, if sired by a boar and out of a sow recorded in the Record, provided the exhibitor is a junior member. A picture and story must be submitted to the Association by the exhibitor.

The **National Swine Registry**, 2639 Yeager Rd., West Lafayette, IN 47906, will offer \$500 to the Grand Champion Animal (overall) of the 4-H Market Pig Show (live) if this animal is a registered Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace or Yorkshire. The 4-H exhibitor must have a transferred pedigree of the Grand Champion animal in hand at the time of being named Grand Champion. The exhibitor must submit this animal to a DNA verification test and the animal must meet all registration requirements to receive this special premium. A representative of the National Swine Registry must collect the pedigree and must be present at the time of DNA sampling. This special premium will be paid directly from the National Swine Registry. If this animal is disqualified for any reason, the exhibitor is not eligible for this special premium.

The **National Swine Registry**, 2639 Yeager Rd., West Lafayette, IN 47906, will offer \$250 to the Reserve Grand Champion Animal (overall) of the 4-H Market Pig Show (live) if this animal is a registered Duroc, Hampshire, Landrace or Yorkshire. The 4-H exhibitor must have a transferred pedigree of the

Reserve Grand Champion animal in hand at the time of being named Reserve Champion. The exhibitor must submit this animal to a DNA verification test and the animal must meet all registration requirements to receive this special premium. A representative of the National Swine Registry must collect the pedigree and must be present at the time of DNA sampling. This special premium will be paid directly from the National Swine Registry. If this animal is disqualified for any reason, the exhibitor is not eligible for this special premium.

The 4-H Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Spotted Breeding Gilt will be awarded a banner sponsored **in memory of Darwin Niehaus**.

The 4-H Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Spotted Market Hog will be awarded a banner sponsored **in memory of Darwin Niehaus**.

The **Poland China Record Association**, PO Box 9758, Peoria, IL 61612, will award \$100 to the exhibitor of the Grand Champion 4-H Barrow over all breeds and a trophy to the exhibitor of the Grand Champion 4-H Carcass over all breeds providing they are out of recorded Poland China sires and dams. A picture of the winning animal, barrow certificate and certification by an Iowa State Fair official must be sent to the Poland China Record Association within 30 days of show.