FFA SHEEP DEPARTMENT

Supervisor of Exhibits - Jon Davis, ISU
Supervisor of Breeding Sheep - Scott Smalley, ISU
Supervisor of Market Lambs - Kurt Veldhuizen, Webster City FFA
Supervisor of Carcass Lambs - Adam Davis, Gilbert FFA
Assistant Supervisors - Amber Greiman, Hawkeye Community College; Katelyn Grein, Ogden FFA; Chandler Jahner, Pleasantville FFA; Eric Davis, St. Ansgar FFA; Jenna Tlach, East Union FFA
Computer Specialist - TBA

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 12

7:00 a.m.	Sheep may arrive
7:30 - 10:30 a.m.	Commercial, Market & Carcass check-in and turn in weigh cards
10:00 a.m.	Sheep must be in
Noon	Exhibitor Meeting (Sheep Barn)
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Breeding check-in *Note new time
2:00 p.m.	Showmanship (east ring)
TBA	Carcass Lamb Ultrasound Evaluation

Thursday, August 13

8:30 a.m.	Market Lamb Show

Friday, August 14

8:30 a.m.	Breeding Sheep and Commercial Ewe Show
3:00 p.m.	Awards Presentation
After Show	Sheep released
6:00 p.m.	Sheep must be out

If you have questions, please contact the Iowa State Fair Entry Department at 515-262-3111 ext. 246 or ffa@iowastatefair.org.

DEPARTMENT RULES

1. General rules, regulations and health requirements listed on the Iowa State Fair website and in the FFA section apply in this department, with special emphasis on the following sections: Member Eligibility, Supervision and Lodging, Good Conduct Policy, Medication and Drug Testing, and Showing and Fitting Ethics.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** Nomination fee for Market, Carcass and Commercial is $5 per nomination. There is no nomination fee for Registered Breeding. All market/carcass lambs and commercial ewes must also provide a DNA (hair) sample to the Entry Office on or before May 15.
3. All market/carcass lambs and commercial ewes must be identified by the following methods at nomination time:
   a. FFA Issued Ear Tag *
   b. Hair Samples to be used for DNA testing
   c. Sex
   d. Scrapie Tag

   * Commercial yearling ewes may use the prior year's official Iowa State Fair FFA tag. A DNA sample and fee of $5 per nomination are still required.
4. All sheep must be owned by the nomination due date by the exhibitor, or in a partnership, school sponsored cooperative or a corporation. Ownership must be maintained from the nomination date through the exhibition date of the Iowa State Fair. See FFA Rules and Regulations section.
5. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is $10 per head.
6. No tack or bedding is allowed in the barn before noon on Tuesday, August 11. Sheep tack may be temporarily stored in the west show ring on Tuesday. Exhibitors arriving early will be removed from the barn and premiums will be forfeited.
7. Health certificates for FFA Registered Breeding Sheep must contain all individual identification including the official scrapie tag for sexually intact sheep. Health certificates for FFA Commercial Ewe Lambs, Commercial Ewes and Market/Carcass Lambs must contain all individual identification including the FFA tag and official scrapie tag for sexually intact sheep.
8. Exhibitors of FFA Sheep must arrive by entering Fairgrounds lot at the corner of Dean Avenue and East 34th Street and proceed through the health check. All lambs will be inspected by a veterinarian. Lambs found to have evidence of club lamb fungus or ringworm will be unable to be shown and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. **A non-washable marker will be used to identify FFA sheep excused from exhibition.**
9. All market, carcass and commercial ewes may be re-checked by a veterinarian before the selection of the champion.
10. All FFA sheep must be penned as assigned unless written permission is granted by the FFA Sheep Supervisor. FFA sheep penning in the Open Class section of the Sheep Barn will be disqualified from the FFA show.
11. Only natural bedding may be used in animal pens. No fiber carpets may be used in animal pens. Rubber mats may be used.
12. All market lambs, carcass lambs and commercial ewes **must be slick shorn** upon arrival to the Fairgrounds. Animals which are not slick shorn will not be allowed to stall or enter the check-in line. Suggested fleece length for purebred breeding sheep is 1/4 inch with 3/4 inch maximum, with the exception being for wool breeds which have no maximum length.
13. **No electric or battery operated clippers can be used on any commercial ewe, carcass lamb or market lamb on the Iowa State Fairgrounds**.
14. **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 market and commercial lamb 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. Lambs not weighing within 7 pounds (+ or -) of its official weight will be disqualified. All market lambs and commercial lambs are subject to be selected to be weighed.
15. **No halters will be allowed in the FFA Sheep show ring. No cable halters allowed in any sheep shows at the Iowa State Fair.**
16. White/Speckle faced lambs will be identified at check-in time. The white/speckled face division for both market and breeding lambs must have speckles on TWO of the three areas: face, ears and legs. The face will include the top of the poll down to the lower jaw line of the animal. Leg wool and wool caps are not considered part of the coloring; hair color only is allowed. This decision will be made at the scale by a designated show official.

17. **Each FFA member shall take responsibility for caring for and grooming his/her own animal(s). If assistance is needed it should be intended to help the FFA member learn new skills. FFA members can be assisted by an immediate family member, fellow active Iowa chapter member and/or chapter advisor in fitting and grooming their lambs. FFA members will be disqualified if they have professionals fit their lambs. Family members include and are limited to: parent/legal guardian, brother, sister or step-siblings.**
18. Exhibitors are expected to care for their lambs in an acceptable manner. NO MUZZLES OF ANY TYPE ARE ALLOWED! Any abusive care including slapping or excessive modification of lambs will be grounds for disqualification at the discretion of the show officials.
19. Any animal exhibiting a rectal prolapse is subject to veterinary inspection and may be ineligible to show and may be disqualified from exhibition.
20. All lambs must have four feet on the floor in the show ring at all times. Lifting feet off the ground or placing them on any support or altered ring surface is not acceptable. Exhibitors will receive one warning if they are found lifting or slapping lambs. Second offenses will result in automatic exhibitor disqualification from the FFA Sheep Show.
21. There will be no coloring agent or paint used on any animal. All animals giving evidence of being colored will be barred from exhibition.
22. No artificial alternations or stimulants of any kind may be applied or administered to animals (icing, electric shock, alcohol/formaldehyde baths, etc.). All animals showing evidence of such treatment will be barred from exhibition.
23. Any artificial means of removing or remedying physical defects of conformation in animals exhibited will be considered as fraud and deception. **No unnatural means of providing animal feed, water or other fluid (i.e. stomach pump, drench gun, IV) will be allowed**. All animals giving evidence of such treatment will be barred from exhibition.
24. No drugs or medicants or medical treatment of **any kind** may be administered except by the order of the Official Iowa State Fair Veterinarian. All animals are subject to drug testing. All animals giving evidence of being medicated without prior approval will be barred from exhibition.
25. **Only purple ribbon winners can be named Champion of a show/division/class.**

MARKET LAMBS - DIVISION 870

SPECIAL RULES

1. Market lamb exhibitors must follow FFA Sheep Department rules listed on previous pages, with special emphasis on the **fitting and grooming rule**.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** Nomination fee is $5 per nomination. A maximum of 25 head may be nominated (includes market, carcass and commercial).
3. **All market lambs shall have hair samples (DNA) collected at nomination time**. DNA samples must be postmarked to the Entry Office on or before May 15. Market lambs will be subject to DNA testing at time of exhibition.
4. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is $10 per head. Each exhibitor may **show a maximum of five** market lambs.
5. Entries open to purebred, crossbred or grade lambs, either wethers or ewes. Lambs may be owned in partnership with parent or guardian.
6. Lambs born prior to January 1, 2026 are ineligible. All market sheep should be shorn for maximum rate of gain.
7. Lambs shown in market classes cannot be shown in breeding classes.
8. There must be a minimum of 5 white faced lambs for a separate class; if less than 5, white faced lambs will show with speckled faced lambs.
9. Market lambs must be slick shorn prior to arrival to the Fairgrounds.
10. Lambs to be shown **MUST** weigh 100 pounds or over.
11. **Market lambs will be shown by weight and sex classes. There will be approximately 25 lambs per class with no class having fewer than 20 animals (at supervisor's discretion). Champion and Reserve Champion Wethers and Ewes will show for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb.**
12. **There shall be no coloring agents, powder or oil used on any sheep. Sheep in violation will not be allowed to be in the show**.
13. A purple, blue, red or white ribbon will be awarded to each entry. Champions and Reserve Champions of weight divisions will be selected in both wethers and ewes, provided they were awarded a purple ribbon.
14. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be $20, 10, 5.
15. The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Lambs will not be eligible to show in the Open Jackpot Lamb Show.

CLASS

1 Individual White Face Market Lamb Ewes .....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

2 Individual White Face Market Lamb Wethers.....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

3 Individual Speckled Face Market Lamb Ewes.....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

4 Individual Speckled Face Market Lamb Wethers....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

5 Individual Market Lamb Ewes .....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

6 Individual Market Lamb Wethers.....Premiums top 3, Ribbons
First place in each weight class.....Ribbon

Ewes - Division Champions & Reserves.....Rosette
Champion Ewe.....Banner and $25
Reserve Champion Ewe.....Banner and $15
3rd, 4th & 5th Place Ewe.....Banner

Wethers - Division Champions & Reserves .....Rosette
Champion Wether .....Banner and $25
Reserve Champion Wether.....Banner and $15
3rd, 4th & 5th Place Wether .....Banner

Grand Champion Market Lamb.....Trophy and Banner
Reserve Grand Champion.....Trophy and Banner

MARKET SHEEP CHAPTER AWARD

THE SUPREME MARKET SHEEP EXHIBITOR'S AWARD recognizes the cooperative efforts of a chapter. The banner/ribbons are awarded to the chapters with outstanding over-all exhibits of live carcass and market lambs. No entry form or entry fee will be required. The awards are based on a point system. A committee will tabulate the results during the progress of the show.

Chapter Award: 1st - Banner; 2nd through 10th place - Ribbons

BREEDING SHEEP
REGISTERED RAMS AND EWES - DIVISION 871
SPECIAL RULES

1. Breeding sheep exhibitors must follow FFA Sheep Department rules listed on previous pages, with special emphasis on the **fitting and grooming rule**.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** A maximum of 20 head may be nominated.
3. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is $10 per head. Not more than two entries may be shown in any one registered class by the same exhibitor.
4. Registered ewes and lambs of either sex may be entered in the breeding classes and must be recorded and **carry identification according to breed registry guidelines**.
5. Lambs born prior to August 31, 2025 are ineligible to show in lamb classes and only lambs showing lamb teeth can show. Yearlings shall be born between September 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025.
6. All breeding sheep should be completely sheared with the regular comb in the latter part of May. At show time the fleece on the breeding sheep should be 3/4 inch or less, except the wool breeds which have no limitations.
7. All classes of breeding sheep will be split (at supervisor's discretion) into classes of 20 or more if entries are greater than 40.
8. Pen of two lambs may be made up of any animals properly entered and shown individually from the ram and ewe classes. Only the holders of the animals are allowed in the ring; no leg setters are permitted. Pair of lambs and ewes must be designated at check-in.
9. Suffolk will be shown as an individual breed. There must be at least three exhibitors in a breed show (not entry) to have a separate division. Therefore, other breeds may be shown if a breed has three or more exhibitors (i.e. Hampshire, Columbia, Dorset, etc.). When a breed has fewer than three exhibitors in the show, these sheep will be shown in two divisions: Meat Breeds and Wool Breeds. Meat Breeds include Cheviot, Dorset, Hampshire, Oxford, Montadale, Shropshire and Southdown. Wool Breeds include Columbia, Corriedale, Polypay and Rambouillet. Entries should be made according to Meat or Wool.
10. A purple, blue, red or white ribbon will be awarded to each entry.
11. Champion and Reserve Champion ewes and rams will be selected in Suffolk; other specific breeds when there are at least three exhibitors in the show; Other Breeds Meat and Other Breeds Wool with ribbons awarded.
12. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be $20, 10, 5.

Breeding Sheep Registered Rams and Ewes	Suffolk	Hampshire	Columbia	Dorset	Meat	Wool
Spring Ram Lamb (Born on or after January 1, 2026)	7	15	23	31	39	47
Fall Ram Lamb (Born between August 31, 2025 and December 31, 2025)	8	16	24	32	40	48
Yearling Ram (Born between September 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025)	9	17	25	33	41	49
Spring Ewe Lamb (Born on or after January 1, 2026)	10	18	26	34	42	50
Fall Ewe Lamb (Born between August 31, 2025 and December 31, 2025)	11	19	27	35	43	51
Pair of Lambs	12	20	28	36	44	52
Yearling Ewe (Born between September 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025)	13	21	29	37	45	53
Pair of Yearling Ewes	14	22	30	38	46	54

COMMERCIAL EWES - DIVISION 872
SPECIAL RULES

1. Commercial ewe exhibitors must follow FFA Sheep Department rules listed on previous pages, with special emphasis on the **fitting and grooming rule**.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** Nomination fee is $5 per nomination. A maximum of 25 head may be nominated (includes market, carcass and commercial).
3. **All commercial ewe lambs and yearling ewes shall have hair samples (DNA) collected at nomination time**. DNA samples must be postmarked to the Entry Office on or before May 15. Commercial ewe lambs and yearling ewes will be subject to DNA testing at time of exhibition.
4. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is $10 per head. A maximum of **four** commercial ewe lambs and **four** yearling ewes may be exhibited. Animals shown in commercial ewe classes may not be shown in purebred or market classes.
5. Entries in commercial ewe classes **are not** to be registered. Ewes displaying registered tags will be disqualified. **Commercial ewes must be slick shorn prior to entering the check-in line.**
6. Lambs born prior to January 1, 2026 are ineligible to show in the lamb classes. Yearling ewes shall be born between September 1, 2024 and December 31, 2025. All breeding sheep should be completely sheared with the regular comb in the latter part of May. Commercial ewes will be shown slick shorn.
7. Entries will be divided into classes by weight for lamb classes.
8. White/Speckled Faced classes will be added for commercial ewe lambs and commercial yearling ewes. There must be a minimum of 5 white faced lambs for a separate class; if less than 5, white faced lambs will show with speckled faced lambs.
9. Commercial Ewe Lambs and Yearling Ewes will be split (at supervisor's discretion) into classes of 20 or more if entries are 40 or more.
10. A purple, blue, red or white ribbon will be awarded to each entry.

11. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be $20, 10, 5.

CLASS

55 White Face Commercial Ewe Lamb by weight.....Premiums top 3, Ribbons

56 Speckle Face Commercial Ewe Lamb by weight ....Premiums top 3, Ribbons

57 Black Face Commercial Ewe Lamb by weight .....Premiums top 3, Ribbons

Division Champion Ewe Lambs.....Plaque
Reserve Division Champion Ewe Lambs .....Rosette

58 White Face Commercial Yearling Ewe by weight....Premiums top 3, Ribbons

59 Speckle Face Commercial Yearling Ewe by weight Premiums top 3, Ribbons

60 Black Face Commercial Yearling Ewe by weight ....Premiums top 3, Ribbons

Division Champion Yearling Ewes.....Plaque
Reserve Division Yearling Ewes.....Rosette

Grand Champion Commercial Ewe.....Banner
Reserve Grand Champion Ewe.....Banner
3rd, 4th & 5th Place Overall .....Banner

BREEDING SHEEP CHAPTER AWARD

THE SUPREME BREEDING SHEEP EXHIBITOR'S AWARD recognizes the cooperative efforts of a chapter. The banner/ribbons are awarded to the chapters with outstanding overall exhibits of registered and commercial ewes and lambs. No entry form or entry fee is required. The awards are based on a point system. A committee will tabulate the results during the progress of the show.

Chapter Award: 1st - Banner; 2nd through 10th place - Ribbons

CARCASS LAMBS - DIVISION 873

SPECIAL RULES - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1. Carcass lamb exhibitors must follow FFA Sheep Department rules listed on previous pages, with special emphasis on the **fitting and grooming rule**.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** Nomination fee is $5 per nomination. A maximum of 25 head may be nominated (includes market, carcass and commercial).
3. **All carcass lambs shall have hair samples (DNA) collected at nomination time**. DNA samples must be postmarked to the Entry Office on or before May 15. Carcass lambs will be subject to DNA testing at time of exhibition.
4. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is $10 per head. Each exhibitor may **designate a maximum of two carcass lambs**. Exhibitors must designate during check-in which two lambs are to be shown in this class.
5. Entries open to purebred, crossbred or grade lambs, either wethers or ewes. Lambs born prior to January 1, 2025 are ineligible. Lambs must have lamb teeth.
6. Lambs shown in individual market lamb classes can also be shown in this carcass lamb class with no additional entry fee. These animals are included in your maximum of two carcass lambs.
7. Carcass lambs will check in with market lambs on Wednesday, August 12 between 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.. Lambs will be scanned on Wednesday, August 12. Scanning results will be distributed Thursday afternoon.
8. Carcass lambs must be slick shorn prior to arrival to the Fairgrounds.
9. Lambs to be shown in this class MUST weigh 100 pounds or over. Carcass lambs not making weight will be the responsibility of the exhibitor.
10. Lambs carcasses are required to have a minimum of .1" backfat and a minimum ribeye area of 2".
11. Top 20 lambs from the carcass ultrasound evaluation will be exhibited in a championship class. Carcass lambs scanned not in the top 20 will be exhibited in live evaluation classes broken by percent boneless retail cut.
12. Animals must be clean but no credit will be given for grooming except for showing awards competition.
13. Placing ribbons will be presented to the top ten overall carcass lambs.
14. Carcass lambs will be placed in purple, blue, red and white ribbon groups based on the highest % boneless retail cut.
15. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Carcass Lamb will be selected by the lamb's performance in the ultrasound evaluation.
16. The following formula will be used to calculate the % boneless retail cut:
    %BRC = 50.858 + (Yield Grade * -2) + ((REA - (1.3 + (LvWt * 0.52 * 0.02))) * 10)
17. Ultrasound Evaluation Requirements:
    A. must grade USDA prime or choice
    B. must have a minimum of .1" backfat
    C. must have a minimum ribeye area of 2"
    Lambs not meeting requirements of A, B & C will be disqualified.
18. Ribeye and fat depth will be measured between the 12th and 13th ribs with ultrasound evaluation.
19. Scanning expenses will be deducted from total premiums - not individual premium money.
20. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be $20, 10, 5.

CLASS

61 Carcass Lambs

Grand Champion Carcass Lamb.....Banner and Rosette
Reserve Grand Champion Carcass Lamb .....Banner and Rosette
3rd, 4th & 5th Place Carcass Lamb .....Banner

SHOWMANSHIP - DIVISION 874

SPECIAL RULES

1. Showmanship show will take place on Wednesday, August 12 at 2:00 p.m. in the east show ring.
2. Exhibitors will sign up on Wednesday, August 12 during their check-in and weight turn-ins.
3. There will be two classes based on grade completed during the 2025-2026 school year.
4. Exhibitor must use their own animal that will be shown in the regular sheep show.
5. Classes may be broken and will be no larger than 17 head.

CLASS

62 Middle School - 10th Grade
Champion.....Banner
Reserve Champion.....Banner

63 11th Grade - Out of School Membership
Champion.....Banner
Reserve Champion.....Banner

FFA SHEEP SPECIALS

Additional FFA Sheep Specials offered by the **Iowa Foundation for Agricultural Advancement** are available online at https://www.iowastatefair.org/.

Beau Geste Farms - Joe Warrick, Oskaloosa, sponsors a recognition award for the exhibitor of the Supreme Champion Suffolk Individual.

Featherlite Trailers will donate free use of a trailer for one year to the exhibitor of the Grand Champion FFA Market Lamb.

The **Iowa Dorset Association** will present banners to the FFA Dorset Champion Ewe and Reserve Champion Ewe.

The **Iowa Dorset Association** will present banners to the FFA Dorset Champion Ram and Reserve Champion Ram.

The **Iowa Dorset Association** will present a $500 scholarship to a Dorset FFA Member. The presentation will be given at the Iowa State Fair FFA Dorset Show by an officer of the Iowa Dorset Association.

The **Iowa Farm Bureau Federation**, West Des Moines, contributes $25 to the Supreme Market Sheep Exhibitor's Award.