

DIVISION D - SHEEP

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The fitting and preparation of all animals for exhibit is the responsibility of the Exhibitor. Exhibitors may receive guidance only from immediate family members, Maryland 4-H/FFA Members and appointed UME Volunteers/FFA Advisors; however, all fitting, care, and preparation should be primarily done by the 4-H member. In the case where assistance is by someone other than those listed above, the animal and youth maybe both be disqualified.

Division Rules & Regulations:

1. Exhibitors and their exhibits must comply with the "General State Fair Rules & Regulations", "General 4-H and FFA Rules & Regulations", "Animal Rules & Regulations", the "Maryland 4-H Code of Animal Science Ethics", the "MD Department of Agriculture Health Regulations for Livestock Exhibited in Maryland", these "Division Rules & Regulations" and the applicable "Section Rules & Regulations".
2. **Entries:** Entries for this division will be received on Thursday, August 24, 2017, from 7 am – 2pm in the Sheep Barn. **All animals must be in place by 2PM on Thursday.** Animals will be released on Sunday, August 27, 2017. Do not bring tack before Thursday.
Pre-entry is required. **YOU MUST USE THE INTERNET ENTRY SYSTEMS FOUND AT www.marylandstatefair.com** Internet entries are due **July 31st** Please see the "General Rules" section of the Maryland State Fair website for full information on 2017 Entry system. Exhibitors without internet access should contact their County Extension Educator for assistance. All release forms are to be completed via the online entry system at the time of registration. Reminder you must have completed your Quality Assurance to be able to exhibit your animals. Check with your county to make sure you are up to date with this requirement.
3. **Ownership:**
 - a. 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 full name of the exhibitor only** by July 1 of the current year. Initials are not acceptable; full names must be shown on all paperwork. 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. **Only Purebred Registered animals will be shown in registered breed classes, all others will be shown in Other Recognized Breeds.** Commercial Breeding animals **must be tagged with a MD 4-H Livestock Ear Tag. All breeding animals must be owned by July 1st.**
 - b. All Market lambs must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor and registered in exhibitor's name only by June 1 of the current year. All market lambs must be tagged with a Maryland 4-H Livestock Tag prior to arrival at fairgrounds. **Lambs will be weighed on Thursday, August 24th at 5:00 p.m.**
 - c. **Bred and Owned Classes:** Exhibitors in the Bred and Owned Classes in 4-H/FFA animal divisions must be the breeder and the first and continuous owner of the animal entered. "Breeder" is defined as the recorded owner of the dam at the time of breeding/service. "First Owner" is defined as the recorded owner of the dam at the time the animal was born.
4. Substitutions: Exhibitors are permitted to substitute one animal for another in any class but substitution must be within the same breed and registered in the youth's name. Market animals must be shown in the classes to which they were assigned, based on their weight.
5. Per Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, all market lambs **MUST** be slick-shorn **PRIOR TO ARRIVAL** at the fairgrounds. This is a step to decrease problems from Club Lamb Fungus.
6. Proper 4-H attire must be worn during all shows, particularly closed-toed, sturdy footwear. No "croc" shoes will be allowed. Disqualification may result from violating this rule. Please review Animal Rules and Regulations for proper 4-H attire.
7. Bedding will be either straw or wood shavings. The initial bedding supplied by the Fair will be shavings; additional bedding is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning their pens, and the Superintendent or appointed staff person, must check out each, prior to their leaving the barn area. Prior to checking out, exhibitors must clean their pens. Anyone not cleaning their pens will forfeit all premiums.
8. Once sheep are checked in, they may NOT be removed from the grounds during the Fair without the Superintendent's permission.
9. All sheep must be properly presented for show. Market lambs must be slick shorn prior to their arrival at the fairgrounds.
10. No artificial coloring may be used on any part of any animal regardless of class. **No** muzzles maybe used. Icing of lambs is **not permitted** including cold towels.
11. Teeth requirements: Spring Lambs—All lamb teeth must be present. Fall Lambs—Yearling teeth may be present but must not have grown even with the lamb teeth at time of show. Yearling—Sheep may not have more than 4 permanent teeth showing at time of show.
12. Prolapses: Any sheep or lamb that exhibits a rectal prolapse at a 4-H activity will be ineligible for that show and will be sent home as soon as possible, by the Extension Educator, sheep superintendent, or other appropriately deemed individual. The following will be used as a guideline for making this determination: "A rectal prolapse is defined as an inversion of the rectum that protrudes 4 cm (1.6") or more outside the body and remains exterior to the body while the animal is standing." (Journal of Animal Science, 2003, Thomas et al.) If a lamb is observed with a rectal prolapse (by one of the above people) and in future is not observed with a rectal prolapse, it is still classified as having a rectal prolapse" at that event.
13. **County Groups** - A county group shall consist of 4 animals owned by 4 different 4-H and/or FFA members. Each county is limited to 1 entry. Exhibitors may show in only one county group.
14. Production (Rate of Gain) awards will be calculated by the superintendent following the official weigh-in at the State Fair. Starting weights will be those recorded with the MD State 4-H Office at the start of the project at the county weigh-ins.
15. Refer to State Fair 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale rules for additional information pertaining to market lamb sale animals. 4-H'ers may only nominate 1 animal for the sale selection process. The judge will make the sale selection.
16. Exhibitors will show their own animals (Refer to Rule No. 6 of the "Animal Rules & Regulations" found at the beginning of this catalog.) Helpers will be permitted only in group classes.
17. **Mandatory Orientation: Thursday August 24th at 6pm after weigh-in of market lambs in the sheep ring.**

GENERAL REMINDER: Please do not block access to the barn or loading areas at any time. Use these areas only for loading/unloading, and do NOT leave vehicles and trailers unattended. MD State Fair officials reserve the right to tow unattended vehicles that block those areas at the owner's expense.

SHOWMANSHIP – Friday, August 25, 2017 at 2pm

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. Internet pre-entry is required. Internet Entries due to State Fair by July 31st. Exhibitors compete according to their 4-H Age (age as of 1/1/17). Previous Grand Champions may not compete in Fitting & Showing except in the Dean's Champion Challenge (refer to "4-H & FFA Fitting & Showmanship Regulations").
2. Halters will not be permitted unless pre-approved by superintendent.
3. Judging criteria: Performance in the show ring (60), Knowledge (30), and Personal Appearance (10).
4. Showmanship Grand Champion will be eligible to participate in the All-Star 4-H Showmanship Contest on Sunday August 26, 2017 @7pm. See Division X Section XV All-Star Showmanship Contest for rules

CLASSES

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| D1 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Ages 17-18) | D10 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 8) |
| D2 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 16) | D12 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Jr Champion Rosette |
| D3 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 15) | D13 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Int Champion – Rosette |
| D4 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 14) | D14 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Sr Champion – Rosette |
| D5 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 13) | D15 Award Class - Showmanship Grand Champ - Rosette & Trophy |
| D6 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 12) | D18 Dean's Champion Challenge (previous year's champ and prior Grand Champs who are still of 4-H age are invited to compete) |
| D7 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 11) | D19 Award Class -Champ Challenge Grand Champ-Rosette & Special Award |
| D8 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 10) | |
| D9 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 9) | |

BREEDING SHEEP – Sunday, August 27, 2017 at Noon

Section Rules & Regulations: Ownership Deadline – July 1.

1. Exhibitors are permitted to make 2 entries in each breeding sheep class. Include ear tag, flock number, and registration number on entry blank.
2. Breeding animals must be shown in proper age category. Lambs may not be moved up to a different category.
3. Spring Lamb birth date for all breeds will be January 1 of the current year. Fall Lambs cannot be born before September 1, 2015.
4. **The Sheep Breeding Show will be divided into 3 divisions, Meat Breeds, Wool Breeds, & Hair Breeds. The Meat Breeds are: Dorset, Hampshire, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk, Tunis, Other Registered Meat Breeds, and Commercial Breeding Sheep (Must be tagged with a MD 4-H Livestock tag prior to arrival at the fair and have met ownership date guidelines). Wool breeds are: Fine Wool - Merion and Rambouillet; Medium Wool - Columbia, Corriedale, Jacobs, and Montadales; Long Wool – Leicesters, Lincoln and Romney; and Other Registered Natural Colored Wool Growers Association or American Black Sheep Registry. Hair Breeds – Dorper, Katahdin, and St. Croix.**
5. All breeds that do not meet the minimum criteria of 3 exhibitors and 15 entries will be placed in the "Other Breeds" classes.
6. 4-H'ers will be responsible for setting of their sheep's feet.
7. Leased animals must have signed copy of lease at registration check.

CLASSES

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| D20 Yearling Ram - Born between Aug 31, 2015-Aug 31, 2016 | D34 Spring Ewe Lamb - Born on or after Jan 1, 2017 |
| D21 Fall Ram Lamb - Born between Sep 1- Dec 31, 2016 | D35 Award (Fair Use Only) - Ewes - Breed Champ (Each Breed) - Rosette |
| D22 Spring Ram Lamb - Born on or after Jan 1, 2017 | D36 Award (Fair Use Only) - Ewes - Breed Res Champ (Each Breed) - Rosette |
| D23 Award (Fair Use Only) - Rams - Breed Champ (Each Breed) - Rosette | D41 Award (Fair Use Only) - Ewes - Grand Champion - Rosette |
| D24 Award (Fair Use Only) - Rams - Breed Res Champ (Each Breed) - Rosette | D43 Flock--1 Ram under 2 years, 1 Ewe Lamb & 1 Yearling Ewe |
| D29 Award (Fair Use Only) - Rams - Grand Champion - Rosette | D44 Award (Fair Use Only) - Flock Champion – Rosette |
| D31 Yearling Ewe - Born between Aug 31, 2015-Aug 31, 2016 | |
| D32 Fall Ewe Lamb - Born between Sep 1-Dec 31, 2016 | |
| D33 Pair of Lambs | |

MARKET LAMBS – Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. Per Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows and the Maryland Department of Agriculture, all market lambs **MUST** be slick-shorn **PRIOR TO ARRIVAL** at the fairgrounds. This is a step to decrease problems from Club Lamb Fungus.
2. Exhibitor may enter, weigh-in and show a max of 5 market lambs. Re-weighs will not be permitted. Market lambs will be shown by weight and not by breed. Lambs may be moved to the next higher weight class only when the exhibitor has more than 2 lambs in a class. Only ewes and wether lambs may be shown in market classes. All market lambs must be tagged with a MD 4-H Livestock Tag prior to arrival at fair. Market lambs must be owned by June 1 of the current year. Counties have the right to require earlier ownership. Exhibitors may show 1 animal in the Bred & Owned class according to their 4-H age.
3. All wether lambs must be completely healed. A show-appointed veterinarian will examine any wether showing evidence of testicular tissue, signs of testicle presence, unhealed scrotum, or any stag characteristics. The veterinarian will have the FINAL DECISION in determining the eligibility for show. Ewe lambs shown in a breeding class are not eligible to be shown in market lamb classes.
4. Market Lambs must weigh a minimum of 90 pounds. Lambs less than 90 pounds may participate in showmanship and market exhibition only. All animals will be weighed and divided into classes at the superintendent's discretion. Number of classes may vary from year to year. A maximum of 5 market lambs can be entered and shown by an exhibitor but not more than 2 in the same weight class. **Market lambs must have an average rate of gain of .35 lbs./day while on project, to be eligible for the 2017 Show and Livestock Sale. Any market lamb that does not gain an average of .35 lbs./day while on the project (from county weigh date until weigh time at the State Fair) cannot be sold at the MD State Fair. Market Lambs not making average rate of gain may still be used for showmanship and market exhibition classes only. See General Rules & Regulations- Animal section rule #10 for details.**
5. The fitting and preparation of all animals for exhibit is the responsibility of the Exhibitor. Exhibitors may receive guidance only from immediate family members, Maryland 4-H/FFA Members and appointed UME Volunteers/FFA Advisors; however, all fitting, care, and preparation should be primarily done by the 4-H member. In the case where assistance is by someone other than those listed above, the animal and youth may be both be disqualified.

CLASSES

- D45 Market Lambs
 - D46 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Grand Champion Market Lamb—Rosette, Trophy and Banner
 - D47 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb—Rosette
- D52 Bred and Owned- Junior Division (4-H ages 8-13)
- D53 Bred and Owned- Senior Division (4-H ages 14-18)
 - D54 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Bred & Owned Junior Champion - Rosette & Trophy
 - D55 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Bred & Owned Senior Champion - Rosette & Trophy

PREMIUM SCHEDULE	Classes	1st Place	2nd – 20th Place
	Showmanship Classes & Bred & Owned	\$20	\$15
	Breed Classes & Market Classes	\$17	\$12
	Group classes (Paid to County 4-H Program)	\$35	\$25, \$20, \$15
	Rate of Gain -	Excellent (\$7), Very Good (\$6), Good (\$5).	
	<i>Note: Premiums will not be paid on the following class: Dean's Champion Challenge</i>		

Rate of Gain Production Awards & Premiums

Rate of Gain for each market lamb will receive one of the following ribbons: Excellent-Blue, Very Good-Red or Good-White according to the following schedule:
 Excellent (.61+), Very Good (.46-.60), Good (.35-.45).

- D48 Award Class (Fair Use Only) Market Lamb Rate of Gain
- D49 Award Class (Fair Use Only) Market Lamb Rate of Gain Champion - Rosette & Trophy