

HUERFANO COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Colorado State University
Extension 

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MARCH 2018

4-H CALENDAR

MARCH

- 3 Market Beef Weigh-In and Breeding Rabbits Check-in, La Veta
- 8 Basic Nutrition for Beef Projects, Pueblo
- 11 4-H Council Meeting, Walsenburg
- 16 4-H Ambassador Program Applications Due
- 16-18 South Central 4-H District Retreat, Divide, CO
- 23-24 Hunter Safety Class-Time TBA
- 23-25 Pueblo County Shooting Sports Workshop
- 27 Fair Board Meeting, La Veta
- 27 Meat Quality Assurance Training (mandatory for some members, see following article for more Info.))
- 30 Operation Easter Bunny

APRIL

- 1 4-H Foundation Scholarship Applications Due
- 2 ABSOLUTE FINAL DEADLINE TO GET ENROLLED FOR THE 2018 4-H YEAR – ENROLLMENT IN 4-HONLINE MUST BE COMPLETED AND FEES MUST BE PAID**
- 7-8 National 4-H Conference
- 8 4-H Council Meeting, Walsenburg
- 8 Spaghetti Dinner, La Veta
- 9 Market Beef Nomination Due to Extension Office
- 9-13 Mega Meeting 2018-Breckenridge (Carl Beeman gone all week.)
- 23-27 Southeastern Colorado AgFest (Carl Beeman gone all week.)
- 24 Fair Board Meeting, La Veta

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating.
Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Greetings! Hope everyone is getting into the swing of another 4-H year. Fair will be here before you know it so make sure that you are keeping up with things. There are several really important things coming up that everyone needs to pay attention to. Please read the newsletter carefully and make sure you pay attention to the items that specifically pertain to you.

We still have members who either haven't actually enrolled in 4-H through 4-HOnline or haven't paid their fees. If you don't take care of these things by April 2 you will be ineligible to participate in 4-H for this year. Since the re-enrollment date for returning members was actually December 13th this is a deadline extension that will be strictly adhered to. (Next year, the December 13th re-enrollment deadline is going to be strictly enforced).

One final thing and I think you have probably all heard this before – Livestock record book grading after the county fair is over is one of my least enjoyed activities of the year because so many of you do such a poor job of record keeping. Please, please, please start your record book when you start raising your animals and add receipts, expenses, dates, pictures, etc. as you go through the year. Doing this will make completing your record book in August much easier.

Good luck with your projects, hope to see everyone in the near future.

MEMBER-IN-GOOD STANDING REQUIREMENTS AND CONSEQUENCES

It has recently been brought to my attention that we have quite a few members who seem to have no clue that we have a member-in-good-standing requirement to participate in Huerfano County 4-H and especially to participate in the Huerfano County Fair. So, just to reiterate –

All 4-H members in Huerfano County are required to meet Member-in-good standing status if they want to continue their membership and participate in the fair. As of right now, the biggest issue is meeting attendance. Member-in-good-standing rules state that members must attend at least 50% of all club meetings. And, since our enrollment deadline for returning members is December 13th, you must attend 50% of meetings including January – August and September through December if you enroll prior to the December 14th deadline. New members must attend 50% of all meetings after they enroll.

Example – You are a returning member who re-enrolls Dec. 12th, just in time to meet the deadline. Depending on which club you belong to, you probably already missed the December meeting so it doesn't count and neither do the September, October or November meetings since you weren't actually a member when those meetings occurred. However, now that you have enrolled, you must attend 50% of the January, February, March, April, May, June and July meetings and an August meeting if your club has one. That means that you are a member for 7 or 8 meetings and you must attend 4 meetings to maintain your member-in-good-standing status.

Since I do not attend all of the individual club meetings, I have to rely on the individual leaders to keep accurate records of meeting attendance and to report members who fail to meet member-in-good-standing requirements. If a club leader tells me that a member has failed to meet member-in-good-standing, I will take their word for it without question and back them up without question. The Huerfano County Fair Board has also stated that club leaders will be supported in any decisions.

So, if you are a 4-H member who has been failing to attend club meetings regularly, you really need to pay attention to this. You are in definite danger of not being allowed to exhibit your animal and/or participate in the Huerfano County Fair. If your club leader reports that you have not met member-in-good-standing requirements the week before the fair or any other time, you will not be allowed to participate, no matter how much money or time you have invested in your animals or other projects.

Also, as long as I am on my soap box, there is another rule that will start being strictly enforced next year. We have a re-enrollment deadline of December 13th for all returning 4-H members. Starting this fall, if you fail to re-enroll and pay your annual fees by the December 13th deadline, you will not be eligible to participate in 4-H for the year. I realize that strict enforcement of this rule might result in a drop in 4-H enrollment, but rules are rules and we have way too many members who fail to abide by rules and deadlines. Allowing those people to slide by on the rules is not fair to the people who make the effort to follow all the rules and meet all of the deadlines. We will make sure that deadlines are publicized well in advance, but it will be up to you to follow through.

FROM 4-H MANUAL:

Huerfano County 4-H - Member in good standing

Requirements –

Attend at least 50% of club meetings

Participate in at least one county activity –

Operation Easter Bunny

Put baskets together and go to hospital to deliver them

Talent show participant (not just attend)

Spaghetti dinner (helper)

Parades (help with float construction)

1 club approved community service activity

1 fair grounds clean-up

At least one demonstration during a regular club meeting

ATTENTION ALL MARKET RABBIT EXHIBITORS –

There are some changes to the rules and operating procedures that will be followed during and leading up to the 2018 Huerfano County Fair. These rules have been discussed and approved by the Huerfano County Fair Board and will be enforced for the 2018 Huerfano County Fair season.

1. There is an approved list of rabbit breeds that will be accepted as Meat Rabbits. You must exhibit a rabbit of one of these breeds to qualify as a meat rabbit and show and sell as a market rabbit at the 2018 Huerfano County Fair. Crossbred rabbits that have been bred using at least one of the approved breeds will be accepted as long as the exhibitor knows what rabbit breeds were used to produce the crossbred rabbit.
2. A meat or market rabbit must weigh at least 7 pounds at the County Fair weigh-in to qualify for the market rabbit competition. Any rabbit weighing less than 7 pounds will have two options – either show as a fancy rabbit or not show at the Huerfano County Fair at all.
3. No rabbit that weighs less than 7 pounds will be eligible to sell at the Huerfano County Fair Sale.
4. For Huerfano County Fair purposes, we will use the terms “meat” rabbits and “fancy” rabbits. The rabbit industry typically uses the term “meat” rabbit instead of the term “market” rabbit.

Meat Rabbits

Any rabbit weighing 7 plus lbs will be considered a commercial rabbit.

BREED

WEIGHT

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1. American Sable | 9-10 lbs |
| 2. Chinese Angora | 9-10 lbs |
| 3. English Angora | 5-8 lbs |
| 4. French Angora | 7-10 lbs |
| 5. Giant Angora | 9-10.5 lbs |
| 6. Angora Satin | 8-9 lbs |
| 7. Californian | 9-10 lbs |
| 8. American Chinchilla | 9-12 lbs |

9. Giant Chinchilla	10-16 lbs
10. Flemish Giant	14 plus lbs
11. Himalayan Large	9-12 lbs
12. Mini Lop	7-10 lbs
13. English Lop	10-11 lbs
14. French Lop	10-11 plus lbs
15. New Zealand	9-12 lbs
16. Rex	7-10 lbs
17. Mini Rex	7-9 lbs
18. Satin	7-9 lbs
19. Silver Fox	9-12 lbs
20. Florida White	

Fancy Breed Rabbits

Any rabbit weighing less than 7 lbs will be considered a Fancy rabbit

<u>BREED</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
1. English Angora	3-5 lbs
2. Mini English Angora	3-4.5 lbs
3. Chinchilla Standard	5-7 lbs
4. Dutch	4-5 lbs
5. Havana	4.5-6.5 lbs
6. Himalayan	4.5-6 lbs
7. Dwarf Hotot	2-3 lbs
8. Lionhead	2.5-3.5 lbs
9. American Fuzzy Lop	3-4 lbs
10. Cashmere Lop	4-5 lbs
11. Miniature Cashmere Lop	3.5 lbs
12. Dwarf Lop or Mini Lop	4-5 lbs
13. Holland Lop	3-4 lbs
14. Miniature Lop	2-3 lbs
15. Miniature Lion Lop	2-3 lbs
16. Polish	1-2 lbs
17. Mini Rex	3-4 lbs
18. Dwarf Satin	1.1-3.5 lbs
19. Mini Satin	2.5-5 lbs
20. Satin Angora	6.5 lbs
21. Netherland Dwarf	1.5-2.5 lbs

2017-2018 4-H ENROLLMENT

There are still people who have enrolled in 4-H for the coming year who have not paid their fees. You will not be approved for membership and will not be allowed to enroll in events until the fees are paid. Fees are \$21 per member paid to the Extension Office and \$1 paid to your club's leader for insurance (\$2 if you are enrolled in a horse project).

4-H COUNCIL

The next council meeting will be held on March 11, 2018, at the La Veta Fairgrounds at 1:00 p.m.

HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

Craig Lessar will be teaching a Hunter Safety Class on March 23rd and 24th. The location will be announced at a later date. It is two eight-hour days and you have to be present and participating for both full days. The class will be open to 8 and 9 year olds and anyone else of any age who needs to take the class to get their Hunter Safety Card.

4-H members have until May 13th to sign up for shooting sports. Craig is certified to be the instructor for .22 rifle.

BIG R PRODUCING PARTNERS

Big R is again supporting 4-H and FFA through their Producing Partners Program. A Big R gift certificate is issued to members that are raising an animal(s) for the Fair. There is a maximum of 1 large animal and 2 small animals per person. To enroll, you must fill out an enrollment form, which specifies the amount allowed for each animal. Please contact the office at 738-3000, Ext. 131, and a form can be mailed or emailed to you. After verification has been made with chapter/club leaders, a Big R gift certificate will be issued. Enrollment begins March 1 and ends April 30.

MEAT QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING

The MQA training will be held March 27th at the La Veta 4-H building from 5:30 p.m. until everyone has completed the session. All members who meet at least one of the following criteria are required to attend MQA training.

***First year enrolled in a 4-H animal project**

***Anyone enrolled in swine must take MQA every year**

***Members taking livestock projects after not doing livestock for a year or more**

***Members whose 4-H age division has changed (if your 4-H age is 11 or 14 you have changed from junior to intermediate or intermediate to senior)**

If you absolutely cannot attend the training on this date there will be a classroom style training offered sometime in the next couple of months. Watch for additional info if you can't attend. This is a Fair requirement. If you do not complete the training, you will not be allowed to show your animal(s).

EXHIBIT REQUIREMENTS

The new exhibit requirements for 2018 have been copied and are ready for club leaders to pick up. A copy should be handed out to only those members enrolled in non-livestock projects. Requirements were copied only for those projects that members have enrolled in.

COUNTY LIVESTOCK RULES

2018 rules have been printed and are ready for leaders or members to pick up in the office.

4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

4-H scholarship applications are due April 1. Each applicant must have 2 references (other than an Extension Agent) and a recent/current photograph. The website to access the application is <https://co4hfoundation.academicworks.com/applications>.

TRUCK RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are in and leaders can pick them up at the office at your convenience.

JOANN FABRIC STORES' 4-H PAPER CLOVER CAMPAIGN

This campaign has been extended to March 31, 2018.

OPERATION EASTER BUNNY

Operation Easter Bunny will be Friday March 30th. Baskets will be decorated at the Eagles Hall on Main Street beginning at 9:00 a.m. Each family must bring a package of sugar-free cookies to put in the baskets. Following decorating, we will go to the nursing home to distribute the baskets to the residents. It is required that you attend both the decorating and the distribution to receive credit for a “member-in-good-standing”.



HAPPY

EASTER

