

March-April 2015 - 72nd Edition

LIVESTOCK QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAININGS

Livestock Quality Assurance (LQA) is required to show livestock at the county fairs in the RVED. All beef, swine, sheep, and goat exhibitors are **required** to attend at least one class. Bucket calf, horse, and dairy exhibitors are **strongly** encouraged to attend. This year a showing and fitting clinic will be incorporated into the training. The showing and fitting portion is not required, but highly encouraged to attend. We have chosen one specie per location (except the Washington location having both Beef and Dairy). 4-H/FFA members are invited to attend the showing and fitting clinics at all locations, but will only be required to participate in one LQA training. The showing and fitting clinics will take place following the LQA training. You may attend the training of your choice even if it is not the location of your home county. Parents are encouraged to join us as well. **Please RSVP to Katelyn Brockus 785-325-2121 AT LEAST one day prior to the training.**

Clay Center Fairgrounds: Tuesday, March 17, 1:00pm-2:00pm: LQA Training

Clay Center Fairgrounds: Tuesday, March 17, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Sheep Showing and Fitting Clinic

Washington Fairgrounds: Thursday, March 19, 1:00pm-2:00pm: LQA Training

Washington Fairgrounds: Thursday, March 19, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Beef and Dairy Showing and Fitting Clinic

Belleville Fairgrounds: Saturday, April 11, 1:00pm-2:00pm: LQA Training

Belleville Fairgrounds: Saturday, April 11, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Meat Goat Showing and Fitting Clinic

Concordia Fairgrounds: Sunday, April 12, 1:00pm-2:00pm: LQA Training

Concordia Fairgrounds: Sunday, April 12, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Swine Showing and Fitting Clinic

4-H REGIONAL CLUB DAY

4-H Regional Club Day will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at Clay Center Community High School. If you received a Top Blue at District Club Days, please let the Extension Office know by **March 6, 2015** whether or not you will be going on to regionals. The goal is to have great representation from the River Valley District in all divisions!!! If you can not attend, the alternate top blue winners will be given a chance to compete. So, please call the Extension Office as soon as possible! **If you are willing to be a room monitor, please contact the Extension Office for a scheduled time.**

KSU LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Are you interested in enhancing your leadership skills and advancing your knowledge in the livestock industry in conjunction with its importance in the global food system? K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy is a great opportunity for high school students with a passion for the animal science industry to further develop leadership skills and their knowledge of the livestock industry. The program will offer interactive workshops, tours, and faculty mentor time with animal science professors. There will be two sessions offered this year with 20 participants selected for each session. Sessions will take place June 10-13 and June 17-20. Students may apply for one or both dates. Applications are due April 1st and can be found at: <http://www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu>. Contact Sharon Breiner at sbreiner@ksu.edu with your questions or concerns.

HORSE JUDGE TRAINING

Are you an adult-19 and over, looking for an opportunity to recertify or perhaps get certified for the first time in 4-H and open class horse judging? Colby County Community College, K-State Research and Extension and Northwest Area 4-H are sponsoring a 4-H and open horse judge's certification clinic on Friday, April 17th from 9 a.m. -4 p.m. at Colby Community College Farm. Dr. Teresa Douthit, Associate Professor in Animal Nutrition at KSU, will be the lead trainer. The training will include two halter classes and four performance classes. Cost for the clinic is non-refundable in the amount of \$30 which includes lunch, snack, and training materials. Registrations are due by April 1st and can be found on-line at <http://www.colbycc.edu/athletics/teams/equestrian/horse-judge-certification/>. For additional information contact Shanda Mattix 785-460-5464 or Deryl Waldren 785-462-6281.

AK-SAR-BEN NOMINATIONS

Please contact Katelyn Brockus at the RVED-Washington office for DNA kits and nomination information. DNA kits must be ordered in advance, so please be prepared prior to weigh in dates with this information. Additional stock show information can be found at www.rivercityrodeo.com/stock-show.

HORSE ID PAPERS

All horses that are planning to exhibit at County Fairs or District Horse Show must be identified by May 1st. Horse and owner information must be completed on the 4-H Horse Identification Certificate (P1039). This certificate can be found at the local extension office. This form requires member, parent, owner (if leased), and Extension Agent signature. Attached must be a color profile picture that includes 4 feet/legs and the horses head turned towards the camera. Previously enrolled horses can be rolled over to the current year with Extension Agent's signature if informed by the 4-Her.

DISTRICT HORSE SHOW

The 2015 District Horse Show is set for July 1, 2015 at the Saline County Expo Center. Online entries are due by June 1st. Check in is available the evening of June 30th. No late entries! Horse level testing must be completed by entry time to compete at the District Horse Show and State Fair.

4-H BUCKET CALF PROJECT

The Joint Fairs Committee has agreed upon a few small changes for the 2015 showing season. There will be two divisions Junior (7-9 yr) and Intermediate (10-12 yr). Bucket calves must be born between Jan 1st, 2015 and April 30, 2015. You must own your calf by May 1st, 2015. Bucket calves will need to be tagged and pre-entered using the 4-H Bucket Calf Identification form.

Bucket calf exhibitors will participate in interviews before ring showmanship. Calves may or may not be required (this will be at the superintendents discretion). No show sticks will be allowed in the bucket calf show. Show halters are ENCOURAGED!

The second year bucket calf project calves (that were shown as 4-H Bucket Calves last year) may be shown in market or breeding heifer classes if they qualify. Second year bucket calves must follow the ownership and tagging/identification requirements of the other beef animals. Second year bucket calf exhibitors participate in beef showmanship with their respective age division. Second year bucket calf exhibitors (both heifers and steers) will compete against each other in the ring for an overall second year bucket calf award.

Any additional questions can be directed to Katelyn Brockus in the Washington office.

BEEF WEIGH-IN DATES

March 8, 2015- Belleville, 81 Livestock, 1:00-3:00pm

March 8, 2015- Concordia, Cloud County Fairgrounds, 4:30-5:00pm

March 14, 2015- Washington, Animal Health Center, 9:00-10:30am

March 14, 2015- Clay Center, Salava Vet Clinic, 9:00-10:00am

You do not have to weigh-in at your respective county fair location. These are the only check-in times available for beef market animals. If your animal is not tagged at county-weigh in, they will NOT be eligible to show at county fair. Don't forget Commercial Breeding Heifers will need an EID tag for state livestock show nomination! Feel free to bring your Commercial Breeding Heifers to a county weigh-in for tagging!

Cost per tag is:

- Bucket Calves & Breeding — \$2.00 per tag,
- eID for Market Beef & nominated heifers -\$3.00 per tag.

SHEEP AND GOAT WEIGH-IN

April 22, 2015- Washington, Washington County Fairgrounds, 4:00-6:00pm

May 2, 2015- Belleville, Republic County Fairgrounds, 9:00-10:30am

May 2, 2015- Concordia, Cloud County Fairgrounds, 12:00-1:00pm

May 2, 2015- Clay Center, Clay County Fairgrounds, 2:30-3:30pm

You do not have to weigh-in at your respective county fair location. In order to participate in the rate of gain contest, all market sheep and meat goats need to be tagged with an official 4-H EID tag and weighed at county weigh-ins to be eligible. All market animals must be tagged at a county weigh-in to be eligible to show in their county fair.

SWINE WEIGH-IN CHANGES

Due to the risk of diseases prevention, swine projects will **NOT** be weighed in and tagged at any of the locations this year. EID tags and applicators will be available for pick up at your local extension office. After the 4-H/FFA pig is tagged, a picture must be provided with the readable EID tag inserted into the ear. This picture must be submitted via e-mail to kbrockus@ksu.edu by **MAY 2nd**. Feel free to contact Katelyn Brockus in the Washington office with questions or concerns (785-325-2121).

LIVESTOCK PREMIUM SALE QUALIFICATIONS

In order to qualify for the Fair Livestock Premium Sale, qualifications have been put into place. Please be sure to plan ahead and make sure that you meet these qualifications **prior to July 1st**.

4-H members must attend a minimum of 3 club meetings (this does NOT include: Project Meetings, 4-H Council Meetings, Jr. Leader, or Ambassador Meetings), complete Youth Livestock Quality Assurance training, and participate in 3 approved activities listed on the RVED Fair Livestock Premium sale form (for details on the approved activities contact your local extension office). Activities **MUST** be completed within the current 4-H year (October 1-June30). Each 4-H member is responsible for completing his or her form and returning it to their Club Leader by **July 1st** in order to be eligible to participate in their County 4-H/FFA Livestock Premium Sale or Project Auction.

FFA exhibitors must attend a minimum of 3 chapter meetings, complete the Livestock Quality Assurance training, and complete 3 of the approved activities listed on the RVED Fair Livestock Premium Sale form (for details on the approved activities contact your local extension office). Activities **MUST** be completed within the current FFA year (September 1-June 30). Each FFA member is responsible for completing his or her form, having it signed by the FFA advisor/instructor, and returning it to their local extension office by **July 1st** in order to qualify and participate in the Livestock Premium Sale or Project Auction.

KANSAS STATE FAIR AND KJLS NOMINATIONS

Electronic ear tags (EID) will be required for ALL market and commercial breeding animals in the nomination of state livestock shows. In order to ensure commercial breeding animals be tagged, bring those animals with you to an official county weigh-in. Market beef nomination deadline is May 1st. Commercial Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, KSF Market Hogs, KJLS Barrows, Commercial Breeding Gilts, Market Goats, and Commercial Does nomination deadline is June 15th. A nomination form and declaration form is also required and can be found at www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu. These forms and DNA envelopes will be provided at county weigh-ins.

4-H COUNCIL MEETINGS

April and May

CLAY COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

Monday, April 6, 2015

7:45 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

CLAY COUNTY JR. LEADERS

Monday, April 6, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

CLAY COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADORS

Monday, April 6, 2015

6:30 P.M.

Extension Office Meeting Room

CLOUD COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

Monday, May 18, 2015

7:00 P.M.—Executive Board

7:30 P.M. — Council Meeting

Courthouse Meeting Room

WASHINGTON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

Monday, April 13, 2015

7:30 P.M.

First National Bank, Washington

**PLEASE REFER TO THE
4-H EVENTS DATE BOOK
FOR DATES OF MONTHLY MEETINGS**



TRACTOR AND MACHINERY SAFETY TRAINING OFFERED

Federal Law requires youth ages 14 and 15 to participate in a Hazardous Occupations Training and become certified in order to work for hire for anyone other than their parents. Youth must pass a safe tractor and machinery operation program to be certified. To meet this requirement the RVED will conduct a district-wide Hazardous Occupations Trainings/Tractor and Machinery Safety Training in May. The training provides trainees with knowledge of tractor, machinery, and other farm hazards to reduce the farm accident rate. It also provides sufficient information to pass a written examination and an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to pass a safe tractor driving examination.

The training will be Saturday, May 9, 2015 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at CTI John Deere in Concordia.

Youth must pre-register at any RVED office by Monday, April 27th. Cost of the course is \$20 and includes materials and refreshments. You must provide, name, address, date of birth, and contact information as well as pay the fee at registration time.

Youth must complete assignments before coming to class, must attend the entire day, and then must complete a driving requirement in order to receive certification.

Contact Kim Larson with any questions.

2015 RIVER VALLEY 4-H AMBASSADORS

Congratulations to the following 4-Her members who will be serving as the 4-H Ambassadors across the River Valley Extension District for 2015.

River Valley - Clay County - Anndalee Anderson, John Benfer, Adam Ebert, Hayden Heigele, JaelAnn Hoover, Martay Van Wey, and Regan Wichman. Advisor, Judy Stitt.

River Valley-Cloud County - Joe Cool, Rope Dorman, Jenna Fredrickson, Brianna Hake, Lane Martin, and Sadie Mosher. Advisor, Ronda Wilson.

River Valley- Republic County - Lasondra Aurand, Jaycee Blazek, Hannah Hall, Trey Kuhlman, Nicholas Piroutek, Brandon Shrader, and Brett Stindt. Advisor, Stacia Piroutek.

River Valley- Washington County - NicholeDiederich, Courtney Moore, Claire Ohlde, Scott Romeiser, Morgan Zabokrtsky, Tori Zabokrtsky, and Scuyler Zenger. Advisors, Jake Pannbacker and Miranda Meenen.

Thank you to the Advisors for the time and effort you give to the Ambassador program!

4-H CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION

Nine River Valley District 4-Hers recently participated in the 4-H Citizenship in Action event in Topeka. The 4-Hers attended a banquet with their guests Representative Susie Swanson and her husband Vern, Representative Susan Concannon and Senator Elaine Bowers.

The 4-Hers were able to participate in mock Legislative Sessions, debate on four different bills on the House of Representative and Senate floor, observe a committee meeting, and meet and visit with our legislators. 4-Hers attending from the River Valley District were: Mackenzie Bartlett, Joseph Cool, Lane Martin, Zoe Auld, Lauren Taphorn, Emma Smith, Natalie Vesta, Regan Wichman and JaelAnn Hoover. JaelAnn was part of the Kansas 4-H Youth Council that organized the event. Chaperones for the event were Deanna Turner, District Agent and Karen Langvardt, 4-H Program Manager.

EXPAND YOUR FAMILY'S HORIZONS - HOST A JAPANESE YOUTH THIS SUMMER

Looking for some unique fun and excitement? Host a new friend from Japan in your home this summer, July 23 – August 18. Kansas 4-H International Exchange Programs are offering hosting opportunities to 30 families this summer. We need host families who would be willing to host a Japanese boy or girl; most are aged 12 and 13, with a couple delegates aged 14 and 15. We need to make host family assignments matching each delegate with an American same-gender host sibling as soon as possible so that families and exchange delegates can communicate and get to know each other. Any Kansas family with children aged 11-14, who is interested in the Japanese culture, may host. A separate bed is required, but not necessarily a separate room from the host sibling. Delegates are 100 percent medically covered with 4-H insurance and bring their own spending money. They can go on host family vacations, camping trips, or join their host sibling for summer camps. The focus is *everyday family life*. If you have further questions, please contact **Rose Scott, Kansas 4-H Japanese Coordinator**, phone: **785-388-2009** or **785-565-3197** e-mail : **sixtykid2@gmail.com**.

Junior Leader Educational Trip

August 3-6, 2015

Houston/Galveston area

Application forms will be on the RVED website on March 16 & are due in to any RVED office April 1-8.

CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

Each year dozens of youth ages 7 through the 7th grade from around the district go to Rock Springs 4-H Center for the “time of their life” at Pioneer Trails 4-H Camp. It is interesting how often people that are “gray haired” will comment on their memories of attending 4-H Camp at Rock Springs. These memories don’t happen by accident. Well-designed schedules and activities play a key role, but when my kids were in 4-H, the camp counselor was most often the key to the success (or failure) of their camping experience.

If you are over 16 years-of-age, like working with youth, and are willing to give of your time and talents, then we need you as a 4-H Camp Counselor.



Counselor Training will be provided at Rock Springs prior to the beginning of camp. Counselors will train from 4:00 pm on Thursday, June 11 through early afternoon on Friday, June 12, 2015. Counselor Training allows for a bit of time to settle in and decorate before campers arrive on mid-afternoon on Friday, June 12. Counselors are “on-duty” 24/7 through the end of camp on the morning of Monday, June 15.

Visit any River Valley Extension Office or go on-line at www.rivervalley.ksu.edu under the Youth Development tab to get an application. Counselor applicants must complete the volunteer screening process and be appointed by the River Valley District Board in order to be a camp counselor. Counselor applications are due to the RVED by Friday, May 15.

Camp Counselors continually report at the end of camp that it was one of the most exhausting, but most rewarding experiences of their life! Many campers and counselors remain friends for life. Won’t you be a part of this great experience?

2015 FAIR DATES

WASHINGTON COUNTY	JULY 14-19
CLAY COUNTY	JULY 15-19
CLOUD COUNTY	JULY 21-25
REPUBLIC COUNTY	JULY 28-AUGUST 1
KANSAS STATE FAIR	SEPTEMBER 11-20

SHOOTING SPORTS SCHEDULE

The schedule for the remainder of the year with all shoots at the Cloud County Fairgrounds in Concordia is as follows:

March 15-Shoot beginning at 2pm

April 12-Make-up Shoot at 2pm

April 26-Shoot beginning at 2pm

May 31-Shoot and "Fair Shoot" beginning at 2pm

June 7-Last "Fair Shoot" beginning at 2pm

It is suggested that the Washington and Clay County 4-Hers start at 2pm and Republic and Cloud at 3pm. This will help to alleviate the rush at 2pm. All 4-Hers are required to sign in with the coordinator and pick up their name badge before shooting. 4-Hers will sign in with the instructor at their discipline and return the name badge to the coordinator when they are done for the day.

Fair Shoot: There will be 2 shoots this year. 4-Hers must sign up with the coordinator for the date they want to do their Fair Shoot, provided they have attended the minimum number of shoots. 4-Hers must attend four shoots in order to participate in the Fair Shoot. May 31st will be a practice shoot or it can be the 4-Her's Fair Shoot.

In order to be eligible to be a county champion, 4-Hers are required to participate in the following :

- Seniors must do four out of five disciplines
- Juniors must do three out of four disciplines

If Shooting Sports needs to be cancelled due to the weather, notice of cancellation will be posted on Facebook, the River Valley District webpage, and announced on KNCK, KCLY, KREP, and KNDY radio stations.

RVED FACEBOOK PAGES UPDATES AND TIPS

There is a great deal of buzz about social media and the pros and cons of the various formats such as Facebook, twitter, etc. Here at K-State Research and Extension, River Valley District we made a decision several years ago to develop and utilize the River Valley 4-H Facebook page as a means to provide up-to-date information and reminders to 4-H families between newsletters as well as a means to promote 4-H and publicize the great work of our 4-Hers here in the district. Regardless of what you read every day in the news about the rise and/or fall of the various social media, Facebook remains a valuable informational tool for our program. As always, we encourage our 4-H families to follow all the rules for Facebook use, especially concerning the age of account users.

We want to take this opportunity to answer a few common questions.

***I am new to 4-H or Facebook. How do I find the River Valley 4-H page?** – If you are new to 4-H, be sure to like us on Facebook and start getting our Facebook updates on your news feed. Go to facebook.com and search for River Valley 4-H.

***I haven't seen any 4-H posts on my news feed lately. What happened?** – Facebook, like most internet based businesses, does a great job in tracking the things you like. The more you interact with someone on Facebook, the more likely any post they make will show up first in your news feed. If you never like or comment on a post or page, then over time any post made by that person or business may not show up on your page. So, to keep us a priority on your Facebook page, just hit the like button to our posts! We post something to Facebook nearly every day!

***Can I post on River Valley 4-H Facebook page?** – Only our page administrators on the River Valley District staff can post to the page. If your club would like to add something to the page, please contact your local 4-H Program Manager, our 4-H Agent, or Kim Kolman in our Belleville office, who manages our web pages.

***Can I comment or ask a question on the River Valley 4-H Facebook page?** – When our Facebook page was started in 2010 we asked our 4-H families to keep the page positive! GREAT JOB! For the most part, our posts should not prompt a lot of comments unless it would be to congratulate youth/staff on good work. Those are certainly OK. We DO ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS!! Over the years we have had many of you shoot a question to us over Facebook that has allowed us to clarify for everyone! We have also had inquiries about 4-H from those interested in joining. We certainly encourage that sort of dialogue.

***Does K-State Research and Extension, the River Valley Extension District, or Kansas 4-H have Facebook pages?** They certainly do. Just go to www.ksre.ksu.edu and www.kansas4h.org and follow them on Facebook, twitter or other social media. Go to facebook.com and search River Valley Extension District and like our district page to keep up with all of our programming not related to 4-H and Youth.

***Can our Club use Facebook?** – Many clubs are successfully using Facebook as a means of communication. We suggest that clubs use a private Facebook group so that only those in your club can see the posts. It would be good to invite the local 4-H staff into those private groups as a means of keeping them informed of what you have going on in your club!



4-H CALENDAR OF EVENTS RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT



MARCH:

- 8 Beef Weigh-In, Belleville, 81 Livestock, 1-3pm
- 8 Beef Weigh In, Concordia, Fairgrounds, 4:30-5:30pm
- 14 Beef Weigh-In, Washington, Animal Health Center, 9-10:30am
- 14 Beef Weigh-In, Clay Center, Salava Vet Clinic, 9-10am
- 17 Livestock Quality Assurance Training, Clay Center Fairgrounds, 1pm
- 19 Livestock Quality Assurance Training, Washington Fairgrounds, 1pm
- 23 Cloud County River Valley 4-H Council, Courthouse Meeting Room 7:30pm, Executive Board 7pm
- 28 Regional 4-H Club Day, Clay Center Community High School
- 28 Junior Meat Goat Producer Day at KSU

APRIL:

- 1 4-H Booster Club Scholarship Applications due in Washington RVD Office
- 6 Clay County River Valley 4-H Ambassadors 6:30pm, Jr. Leaders 7pm, Council 7:45pm, Ext. Office Mtg. Room
- 11 Livestock Quality Assurance, Republic Co. Fairgrounds, 1pm
- 12 Livestock Quality Assurance, Cloud Co. Fairgrounds, 1pm
- 13 Washington County River Valley 4-H Council Meeting, 1st National Bank, 7pm
- 22 Sheep & Goat Weigh-In, Washington Fairgrounds, 4-6pm
- 22 Republic County River Valley 4-H Council, 4-H Building, 6:15pm

May:

- 1 Last day to drop or add 4-H projects—Bucket calf ownership required
- 1 Horse ID Certification due
- 1 KS State Fair & KJLS Market Beef nominations due
- 2 Swine ear tag information due to Katelyn
- 2 Sheep & Goat Weigh-In, Republic Co. Fairgrounds, 9-10:30am
- 2 Sheep & Goat Weigh In, Cloud Co. Fairgrounds, 12-1pm
- 2 Sheep & Goat Weigh In, Clay Co. Fairgrounds, 2:30-3:30pm
- 9 Tractor and Machinery Safety Training-CTI John Deere, Concordia, 8:30-4:30pm
- 15 Pioneer Trails Camper Registrations due
- 15 Pioneer Trails Camp Counselor Applications due
- 18 Cloud County River Valley 4-H Council, Courthouse Meeting Room, 7:30pm, Executive Board 7pm
- 26-29 Discovery Days

June:

- 10-13 KSU Leadership Academy
- 12-15 Pioneer Trails Camp-Rock Springs
- 15 KS State Fair & KJLS Commercial Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, KSF Market Hogs, KJLS Barrows, Commercial Breeding Gilts, Market Goats, and Commercial Doe nominations due
- 17-20 KSU Leadership Academy

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