Deciding what to show at County Fair

Freestone County 4-H Erin Davis

Market Animal Options Market Lamb •Market Goat Market Swine • Broilers Market Rabbits

Market Lamb

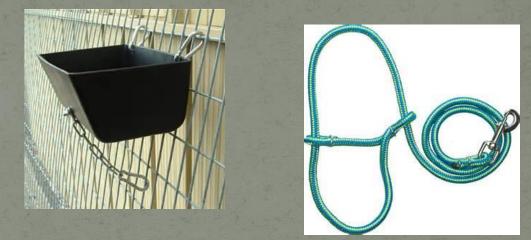
- Can be either a female (ewe) or a
- castrated male (wether)
- Cost \$500 +/-



- Minimum weight at fair 70lbs
- Should be 6+ months old at county fair (November born would be ideal)
- Breed: Suffolk, Hampshire or a cross between the two
- Not many breeders close to Freestone County
- Must tag in April 1st 7-9am at Fairgrounds
- <u>20 make the sale Last year there were 31</u>

Market lamb supplies needed

- Clip on feeder
- Water bucketHalter



• Pen size (20 square feet per lamb) should be at least 42 inches tall, so they don't jump out and have a covering or shade

Exercise area for walking/running

Market Goat

• Can either be a female (doe) or a castrated male (wether)

• Cost \$600 +/-

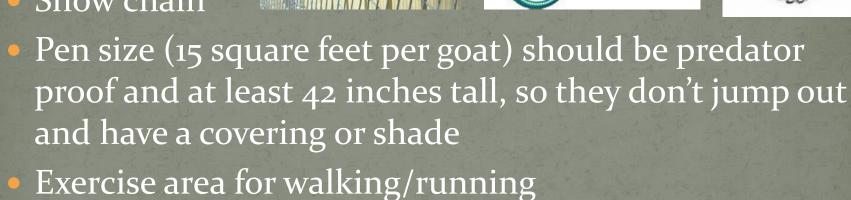


- Minimum weight at fair 55lbs
- Should be 5-6 months old at county fair (December or January born) No older than October Born
 Breed: Boer
- Many breeders located close to Freestone County
- Must tag in April 1st 7-9am at Fairgrounds
- <u>30 make the sale last year there were 44</u>

Market goat supplies needed

- Clip on feeder
- Water bucket
- Halter
- Show chain





Market Swine

- Can either be a female (gilt) or a castrated male (barrow)
- Cost: \$450 +/-



- Minimum weight 220 lbs, maximum weight 295 lbs
- Should be no older than mid October born (November born is ideal)
- Breed: Hampshire, Yorkshire, Crossbred
- Would require some travel to locate
- Must tag in April 1st 7-9am at Fairgrounds
- 35 make the sale last year there were 61

Market swine supplies needed

• Clip on feeder

Practice

Automatic watererShow stick





Pen size (30 sq feet per pig), should be covered, should have both concrete and dirt if you can
Larger pen for exercise and showmanship

Broilers

• Everyone must order from the Fair (more details on this will come later) Provided by Texas A&M Poultry Department • Cost per pen (25) is around \$44 • Can order as many pens as you'd like • Can only show 3 at county fair • Must be diligent with feeding and water and temperature control • Receive chickens last week of April (have them for 6 weeks) 10 make the sale last year there were 15

Broiler supplies needed

- Temperature controlled environment
 *Very Important
- Automatic feeder
- Automatic waterer





- Cage for transportation
- Portable scale (optional)-to manage weight gain and feed conversion
- No validation necessary, pens based on wing band numbers at pick up

Market Rabbits

- List of breeders available
- Cost \$20 +/- per rabbit



- Need to contact breeder in February so they can breed for our Fair
- Show best 3 at fair, but need to purchase at least 5
- Each rabbit must weigh between 3 to 5.5lbs
- Breed: Must be a market breed; Californian, New Zealand
- Validation dates will posted at a later date (Mid May)
 <u>10 make the sale</u> last year there were <u>32</u>

Market Rabbit supplies needed







- Cage for all or separate cages for each rabbit
- Automatic waterer
- Feeder

- Fan and/or Air conditioner
- Temperature controlled environment *very important*
- Portable scale with ounces (to check weight)

Breeding Animals

- All Breeding sheep, swine and goats must be validated. At the same time as market animals April 1st 7-9am at Fairgrounds Any female: sheep, goat or swine can be shown in both the Breeding show and the Market show
- No Breeding rabbit show—NEW: Single Fryer Show (best single market rabbit that is not part of your pen of 3)
- No breeding chicken show
- No Halter horse show
- Heifers: Can be registered or non-registered to show at county fair, Must own by April 1st.

Project Clinics & important dates

- Freestone County Classic Steer & Heifer Show-May 20th at the Fairgrounds in Fairfield
- Swine Clinic: TBD
- Sheep/Goat Clinic: April 2nd 4pm at the Fairgrounds (Will count as the Fairfield 4-H meeting on this date)
- Check 4-H minute for updates
- Contact Erin at 903-389-3436 if you need help finding a project
- Erin will conduct Project visits prior to county fair-sign up for help!
- Lots of Handouts and resources available
- Will be posting weekly Livestock project resources via Remind

Fair Information

- Can be found at:
- Fair Entry information will be coming out soon!
- Updated rule book will be coming out soon!
- Market & breeding sheep, goat, swine tag in April 1st 7-9am at Fairgrounds
- Order Broilers in March (be on the lookout for date)
- Rabbit Validation will be Mid May (be on the lookout for the exact date)
- All entry fees for breeding and market entries are \$25 per entry for 2023.

• Any Questions?