

# KSU Youth Livestock Program Update

www.YouthLivestock.ksu.edu

April 2024



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## We're Social!



Facebook:  
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## What's Been Happening in the YLP?

The KSU Youth Livestock Program is off to an exciting start in 2024! We were honored to have some fantastic speakers, volunteers, and participating families join us for the last K-State Junior Beef and Sheep Producer Days hosted in Weber Arena. As we celebrated those two historic days, it is also exciting to look forward to what's in store for the future! It is also wonderful to see youth excited about their projects, while meeting lifelong friends they'll see in the barn throughout their show careers. We appreciate the support and enthusiasm of youth, parents, agents, and project leaders who are involved in our program. The spring and summer are packed full of events and activities, and we can't wait to see everyone over the next few months! Good luck with your 2024 livestock projects...and Go Cats!

## Program Recaps

- ◆ K-State Junior Beef Producer Day
- ◆ K-State Junior Sheep Producer Day

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ KASLA
- ◆ Discovery Days
- ◆ "Champions" K-State Livestock Judging Camp
- ◆ Horse Judging Camp
- ◆ Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
- ◆ Social Media
- ◆ YQCA
- ◆ State Livestock Nominations
- ◆ Livestock Sweepstakes

## Important Dates

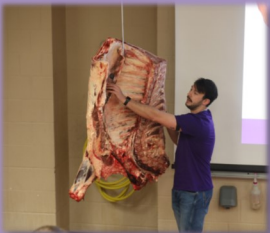
- ◆ May 1 - Market Beef Nominations Due
- ◆ June 15 - Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer Nominations Due



## The YLP Offers:

- Jr. Producer Days
- KASLA
- 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- State Livestock Nominations
- Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
- ASI @ Discovery Days
- Local Show & Clinic Links
- Educational Materials

*Check out the materials posted on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website!*



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## Junior Beef Producer Day

Over 525 youth, parents, and project leaders from 85 Kansas counties and one from Michigan participated in junior beef producer day on March 2, 2024. K-State Alum, Callahan Grund, kicked off the program with a presentation on beef project selection. Next, families chose breakout sessions that most closely fit their interests, including meat science with Meat Science Grad Student, Mason Prester, nutrition presented by Dr. Jaymelynn Farney, daily hair care and grooming, as well as clipping and fundamentals led by members of the K-State Livestock Judging Team. Following lunch, families selected three breakout sessions from cattle health with Dr. Bryan Weaver, from the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine, beef reproduction with K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry Professor, Dr. David Grieger, showmanship with Cagney Effling Schotte, and a presentation by the KSU ASI Mentors on “Becoming a Wildcat and Finding Your Pathway at K-State”. Lexie Hayes shared about the state livestock nomination process at the conclusion of the program for those interested in showing at the state fair or KJLS, while 4-H Agent Jacob Schmeidler and Ag Sciences Specialist, Kelsey Nordyke, offered an instructor-led YQCA training. The event was sponsored by the Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, the Kansas Beef Council, Fink Beef Genetics, K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. Educational materials from previous beef producer days are available on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website, under [Educational Resources](#).

## Junior Sheep Producer Day

Almost 225 youth, parents, and project leaders from 41 Kansas and Nebraska counties attended Junior Sheep Producer Day hosted March 16, 2024, in Weber Arena. Guest speaker for the day, Chris Bauerle, kicked off the program with a presentation on sheep project selection. Then, families selected two breakout sessions to attend from nutrition with Instructor and K-State Livestock Judging Team Coach, Dr. Payton Dahmer, a discussion on facilities and equipment with K-State Sheep & Meat Goat Center students Katrina Turner and Elaine Cockroft, and a presentation on the Kansas Sheep Association Starter Flock Program with Chris Bauerle and Lora Larison. During lunch, high school students in attendance had the opportunity to meet with Emily Grund and the KSU ASI Mentors to learn about “Becoming a Wildcat and finding their pathway at K-State”. Dr. Leslie Weaver from the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine shared information about sheep health to open the afternoon program. To round out the day, families attended three afternoon breakout sessions including showmanship with Chris Bauerle, a clipping and grooming demonstration with K-State Sheep and Meat Goat Center employees Lauren Fry and Logan Ohlde, a presentation on meat science with K-State Meat Science Graduate Student, Lauren Frink, and a workshop on wool by Matt and Amy Benz. Lexie Hayes offered an optional session over the state livestock nomination process after the program concluded, while extension agent Charlene Miller taught an instructor-led YQCA class. The event was sponsored by the Kansas Sheep Association, Kansas Sheep Council, Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, DuraFerm by BioZyme, Inc., Silver Smith Genetics, the K-State Sheep & Meat Goat Center, Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. The K-State Sheep & Meat Goat Center also provided a tour of the unit. The K-State Sheep Show Guide and resources from previous junior sheep producer days are posted under the [Educational Resources](#) tab of the website.

# K State Youth Livestock Program Update

## Helpful Handouts

Handouts and project show guides from Junior Producer Events can be found on the Youth Livestock Program website:

[www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu](http://www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu)

These handouts provide knowledge of how to care for and maintain your youth livestock project. Please refer to these resources for the beginner showman who needs guidance with their project as well as experienced showmen looking to learn new things.



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## K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

The K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry is currently accepting applications for the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA). The program will be hosted June 5-8 on the K-State campus. Students will participate in tours and workshops, have mentor time with faculty, and evaluate current events within the industry. Participation is limited to high school students. The program is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) Inc., with the goal to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field. Applications are due April 15. The forms and details are available under the [K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy](#) tab of the youth livestock program website. For further details, contact Sharon Breiner at [sbreiner@ksu.edu](mailto:sbreiner@ksu.edu).



## Animal Science at Discovery Days



Come join the #KSU ASI party in June during Kansas 4-H Discovery Days! Several animal science-related sessions will be offered at Discovery Days, from livestock project selection, to reproduction, companion animal nutrition, to meat science and chuck wagon cooking. Check out the course catalog for opportunities to join us at KSU ASI!

## K-State "Champions" Livestock Judging Camp

The K-State Livestock Judging Team recently released their annual "Champions" livestock judging camp dates for this summer. Camp sessions will be June 3-5 and June 10-12. In addition to evaluating livestock, this camp focuses on reason development and presentation, as well as incorporating performance data into the decision-making process. It is open to youth 14-18 years old and participation is filled on a first-come, first-served basis, until each camp is full. Prior livestock judging experience is necessary for this camp. Visit the [K-State Judging Camps](#) webpage for additional details and registration forms. Camp registration opens April 1.



## K-State Horse Judging Camp

The K-State Horse Judging Team is planning a one-day camp on June 13. Additional details and registration information will be released soon and posted on the [K-State Judging Camps](#) webpage, as well as Facebook. Stay tuned for more details!



# KSU Youth Livestock Program Update

## Save the Date!

**April 15**

KASLA Applications Due

**April 20**

Market Beef DNA Envelope Orders Due

**May 1**

Market Beef Nominations Due

**June 5**

Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer DNA Envelope Orders Due

**June 5-8**

KASLA

**June 15**

Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer Nominations Due

**July 12-13**

Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

**July 15**

Grand Drive Entries Due

**August 1**

Livestock Sweepstakes Registration Due

**August 15**

KJLS Entries Due

**August 17-18**

Livestock Sweepstakes

**September 6-8**

Kansas State Fair Grand Drive

**September 27-29**

Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS)



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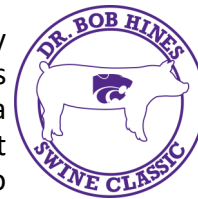
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## Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2024 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic will be hosted July 12-13 at the Riley County Fairgrounds in CiCo Park in Manhattan. This two-day event is comprised of educational opportunities, including a swine skillathon, photography contest, showmanship, and a prospect and market hog show. All Kansas youth ages 7 and older are invited to exhibit. Entries must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m. on June 24.

Payment needs to be postmarked by June 24 as well. Show details and the entry link may be found on the [Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic](#) page of the [Youth Livestock Program](#) website later this spring!



## KSU YLP Social Media

The KSU Youth Livestock Program uses a variety of social media platforms to make announcements, release program information, distribute updates, and share photos. Make sure to “Like” us on [Facebook](#), and “Follow” us on Instagram and Twitter.

We will be releasing a weekly tip for the nomination process on Tuesday evenings. Follow [#NominationTipTuesday](#) to learn more about making sure nominations are complete. There will also be Zoom sessions for families over the state livestock nomination process. On April 8, [market beef and commercial heifers](#) will be the focus. Then, on May 9, we will cover [small livestock](#) (hogs, sheep, meat goats). The sessions will include information over the process in general, tips and reminders, as well as a demo of logging in and using the ShoWorks system. Keep your eye on our Facebook page for those events! Registration is required and may be accessed by using the specie hyperlinks above. Both sessions will begin at 7:00 p.m. and be recorded.

The KSU Department of Animal Sciences & Industry also has active social media accounts, so go “Like” their page to follow all events related to [KSU ASI](#)!

The Kansas State Fair and KJLS disperse valuable information via their Facebook pages. If you are interested in those events, make sure you are following [The Grand Drive](#) and [Kansas Junior Livestock Show](#).

## Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species livestock quality assurance program that focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and life skill development for youth producing and/or showing livestock. Youth may participate in an instructor-led class for \$3/child, or complete the web-based course for \$12/child. The YQCA program transitioned to a new platform in March of 2022. All families must have an account on this platform to complete and manage certifications for children in their family. The new website is [www.yqcaprogram.org](#). **The YQCA requirement will continue for all Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and KJLS exhibitors.** Youth participating in the instructor-led course will need to complete the pre-test prior to the class. After you login, click on your username, then select “Enrolled ILT Trainings” to view the pre-test for each child. Those taking the online course are encouraged to use [Google Chrome](#) to minimize technical difficulties. Youth are encouraged to complete their certification as soon as possible. It must be completed prior to state nomination. Nominations received without a valid YQCA certificate will be considered incomplete. Families who are only showing registered breeding females will submit their number during show entry. Visit the YQCA program website or local extension office for details on class options.

# KSU Youth Livestock Program Update

## Important Dates!

### April 8

Informational Zoom Meeting for Market Beef & Comm. Heifers

### April 20

Order Deadline:  
Market Beef DNA Envelopes

### May 1

Nominations Due:  
Market Beef

### May 9

Informational Zoom Meeting for Small Livestock

### June 5

Order Deadline:  
Small Livestock DNA Envelopes

### June 15

Nominations Due:  
Swine  
Sheep  
Meat Goat  
Commercial Heifer

### July 15

KSF Grand Drive Entries Due

### August 15

KJLS Entries Due

## Resources:

- ◆ Rookie Guide
- ◆ Zoom Meeting
- ◆ 2024 Updates
- ◆ Specie Checklist
- ◆ Quick Tips
- ◆ Deadline Table
- ◆ #NominationTipTuesday
- ◆ Grand Drive Rules
- ◆ KJLS Rules

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## 2024 State Livestock Nominations & Deadlines

The 2024 state livestock nomination season has arrived! The current materials have been released and are posted on the KSU Youth Livestock website under [Nomination Information](#). We transitioned to an online nomination system in 2022. All families are highly encouraged to plan ahead and use the resources, specifically the Rookie Guide. To be eligible to exhibit in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive &/or KJLS, market animals and commercial females must be formally nominated by the appropriate deadline. Also, there is not a registered breeding doe division at either show, so ALL meat goats (wethers and does) must be nominated to be shown. State Nomination includes four major steps. No paper forms will be accepted. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will be approving nominations online. Informational Zoom sessions will also be hosted for families [April 8](#) and [May 9](#) at 7:00pm - click the date to register and receive the link!

### 4-Step Nomination Process:

1. Purchase Official DNA Envelopes in advance [online](#); Must be purchased in 2022-24.  
\* **Order Deadlines: Market Beef - April 20; Small Livestock - June 5**
2. Enter animal & exhibitor data through online system ([ShowWorks](#)) by deadline.  
\*New Exhibitors - create an account.  
\*Returning Exhibitors - use last year's password and account!
3. Mail completed & signed DNA Envelopes, with submission receipt, by deadline.
4. Online approval by Extension Agents (4-H) and FFA Advisors (FFA).

### Reminders:

- All state nominated animals must be tagged with a Kansas 4-H EID tag.
- Families need to have their animals tagged, new YQCA certificates downloaded, and Declaration Form complete before entering nominations into the online system!
- DNA hair samples are required for all nominated animals and must be submitted in an official DNA envelope purchased through the online system. The signatures of all exhibitors within the family & a parent/guardian are required on the DNA envelope.
- Families will be prompted to upload their completed [2024 Declaration Form](#) when each child enters their first animal into the system; use one copy of the family form for all exhibitors within the family - typed signatures will be accepted.
- [YQCA certificate](#) for each child will be uploaded into system. Get certified early!
- The Declaration Form and the YQCA certificate must be uploaded at the same time!
- **Animals will need to be entered in the system under each child in the family**, in addition to everyone signing the DNA envelopes. Otherwise, only those who have the animal listed under their name at nomination can enter and show it later.
- Nomination fee (\$12.00/animal) is paid through purchasing DNA envelopes online.
- Ear notches are required for all swine.
- Sheep & meat goats must submit full scrapie tag numbers, including flock ID & animal number (correct format: KSS0035 18151). Both parts of number are required.
- Nomination entries (tag IDs) must be submitted online and DNA samples postmarked by the listed deadline. No exceptions. Dates are strictly enforced.
- Nomination is NOT entry. After the nomination process is complete, families must officially enter each child for the show in which they would like to participate!

\*Follow each show's website for details: [Grand Drive](#) - [KJLS](#)

## Deadlines

**May 1** - Market Beef Nominations DUE (market steers & market heifers)

**June 15** - Swine, Sheep, Meat Goat, & Commercial Heifer Nominations DUE

# KSU Youth Livestock Program Update

See ya this summer!



## Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is being planned for August 17-18. This event includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and quiz bowl, all in one, action-packed weekend. In addition to being the Kansas qualifier for the national 4-H contests, sweepstakes awards will also be tabulated for teams and individuals who participate in all of the contests throughout the weekend. Registration must be submitted by the local extension office by August 1. Watch the [KSU YLP website](#) and Facebook for more details in June!

## Meet the YLP Interns

Look for these new faces at KSU Youth Livestock Program events and activities! We are excited to have Lauren Thompson and Peyton Piepho join our team as the 2024 interns. They have already hit the ground running by helping with the junior producer days, tag distribution, filling DNA envelope orders for state livestock nominations, and building graphics. We're thrilled to have them involved as we gear up for summer!



## We're Social!



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To be added to the KSU YLP email listserv, email Lexie at [adhayes@ksu.edu](mailto:adhayes@ksu.edu).

### Lauren Thompson



Lauren Thompson from Woodville, Wisconsin is currently a Junior studying Animal Sciences and Industry and Global Food Systems Leadership with minors in Leadership and Agricultural Sales. She grew up on a diversified livestock operation and found a passion for raising and showing registered sheep across the nation. Her experiences as president of the Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council, a KSU Peer Strengths Coach, Staley School of Leadership Class Leader, and Animal Science Mentor solidified her desire to combine a love of teaching with her background in agriculture. Lauren looks forward to promoting the livestock project and agriculture for the next generation. She will graduate in May of 2025 and plans to pursue additional education as she strives to become an Animal Science Professor or State Livestock Specialist.



### Peyton Piepho



Peyton Piepho, raised on a small farm near Bennington, Kansas, developed a strong passion for agriculture through her active involvement in 4-H and FFA, where she competed in showcasing cattle and horses at county and state levels. Now a junior at K-State majoring in Agricultural Education with a minor in animal science, Peyton's choice of field aligns with her family's cow-calf operation background and experiences with various agricultural organizations such as the Charolais Breed Association and K.A.B.S.U. Hands-on experience working with her county's livestock extension agent and engaging with farmers, ranchers, and youth has equipped her with valuable skills to share and promote her passion for agriculture with future generations. With plans to graduate in May of 2025, Peyton aims to pursue a career in the livestock industry, potentially as a livestock extension agent or agricultural education teacher.

