



Clover Times



El Paso County 4-H
March 2008

A community of young people across America who
are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



Festival of Events

4-H and Cloverbud artists, cooks, instrumentalists, bakers, actors, photographers, dancers, and vocalists are encouraged to compete in this wonderful event! Great speeches and demonstrations, creative cooking and cake decorating contestants, beautiful posters and photographs will be on display.

Come join us and show your talents at Skyview Middle School on April 12. If you are unable to attend on that day, you can submit a baked good, a photograph, or a poster for judging. If you are chosen as champion in your age group in demonstration, instrumental or vocal, dance, creative cooks or cake decorating, you will be able to perform at the State Fair. Senior Champions in speech will perform at State Conference. Snacks may be purchased from Angel Fire 4-H Club. Registration forms and more information are available at <http://elpasoco.colostate.edu> or at the Extension Office. Entries are due at the Extension Office by March 21st. No late entries!



We are looking for 4-H members to help with announcing contestants and assisting judges. We are also looking for parents and leaders to help with registration the morning of the event, giving directions and assisting members to where they need to be, and with ribboning and displaying projects after they have been judged.

Please consider helping this year. It is a wonderful learning opportunity for 4-H members and adults. Contact Gay (gay-leighcamp@elpasoco.com or 636-8922) if you have questions about Festival or would like to assist (indicate which role you would like to help out with). Please plan to arrive at 7:45 a.m. for instructions on April 12th. Thank you for considering volunteering for this event.

Directions to Skyview Middle School: take Powers Blvd to Stetson Hills Blvd and go east. Take the 1st left on Tutt, drive north to Snowy River, turn right on Snowy River. You will see the back of the school down several blocks. This address is 6350 Windom Peak Blvd.

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A Sad Farewell to Gary Hall

As many of you know February 29, 2008 will be Gary Hall's last day as Director of Extension for El Paso County. Many of you have had the opportunity to work with Gary and have appreciated his leadership and dedication to improving Extension. We sincerely wish him the very best in his future endeavors!

In appreciation of Gary's service, the El Paso County Extension Advisory Council has invited us all to a farewell on Wednesday, March 5, at the Phantom Canyon Brewery (2 E. Pikes Peak Ave.) from 6-7pm on the second floor. If you can join us, please rsvp to lindasmith@elpasoco.com

Sheila Barry, the Extension Office Family and Consumer Science Agent (and 4-H parent) will serve as the Interim Director of our office until mid April. Please feel free to contact her at 719-636-8944 or sheilabarry@elpasoco.com

**Festival of Events
will be held on
Saturday, April 12 at
Skyview Middle School ~
Entries due by March 21!**

Leader's Lounge

E-Postcard Update

The E-Postcard is now available. Since we operate on an October 1 - September 30 fiscal year, our 4-H club filing deadline will be February 15, 2009. More information is available on <http://www.colorado4h.org/communications/update/2008/080215.shtml>

Leader's Council

Leader's Council will be held at the Extension Office at 6:30 pm on Thursday, March 20. Leaders and parents are always welcome to attend.

Small Animal Update

Rabbit Project

The following clinics will be held at the Ellicott Community Center in Ellicott: March 30, 2008 at 1 pm - Breeding and Meat Pen/Fryer Information; March 30, 2008 to follow breeding and meat pen clinic - Rescheduled Mandatory Record Book Clinic; April 27, 2008 at 1 pm - Showmanship (bring rabbit); May 18, 2008 at 1 pm - Mandatory Record Book Clinic (must attend if didn't in March).



On the fairground in Calhan: July 12, 2008 at 8 am - Mandatory Barn Clean Up.

Fast Tracks

Consumer Bowl

Please save the date of Saturday, March 29 on your calendar. The Northeast FCS/4-H Agents will host the Northeast Colorado Consumer Choices Invitational. It will be in Brush at the Fairgrounds with judging classes in the morning and consumer bowl/challenge in the afternoon. More details will be available shortly. This will be set up as an event perfect for orientation for new Consumer Choices participants. The goal is to make it fun - not threatening.

Postal Service Military Discount

If your club is planning to send care packages to military service members abroad there is a new discount available after March 3. Refer to <http://www.colorado4h.org/communications/update/2008/080215.shtml>



Parliamentary Procedure Contest

The parliamentary procedure contest will be held following Festival of Events on April 12th at Skyview Middle School. This year there will be a small entry fee into the contest \$25 per team. It will start approximately 15 minutes following the conclusion of Festival of Events and usually lasts about 3-4 hours depending on the number of teams who wish to participate. If you are interested in participating please contact Jonathan at the Extension Office via email jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com.

You may enter the contest on the same form used to enter Festival of Events. Rules for the contest are on the web site with a registration form included in the Festival of Events information. All clubs are encouraged to enter their officer teams and an adult leader to supervise. Participants will test their skills at running meetings and handling different situations. The contest also includes a written test based on the parliamentary procedure handbook that officers receive during officer training. This should be a great hands on learning experience and a lot of fun. Teams are made up of six members. If your club has a small membership you may combine with another club in order to field a team. One member of each team will be designated as the chair and another as the team's secretary.

June 4th Summer Fest 2008 Day Camp

Senior 4-H'ers who would be interested in presenting a workshop at this event for junior and intermediate 4-H'ers please go to our website at <http://www.elpasoco.colostate.edu> and fill out a request to present form and mail it in. Topics can be on anything but a suggestion would be to do something on an aspect of a 4-H project or 4-H which you feel comfortable with and think you can help everyone in attendance improve at. Workshop proposals are due by April 4th. There is only room for 12 presentations. The sub-committee will select the presentations to be given from those submitted and you will be notified by April 18th. If you have questions please contact Jenni at 337-7907. Junior and Intermediate 4-H'ers mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend as the senior 4-H'ers will be passing on what they have learned and it promises to be fun and exciting for everyone!

County Fair

Fairground Improvement and Clean-up Days

The following dates have been set aside for clubs and or individuals to come out to our fairgrounds to help make improvements. There will be a lead volunteer to help supervise and lead the projects. The dates are March 1st, April 13th and May 3rd in addition to our normal fair clean-up/set-up day of July 12th. Work times will be from 9:00-3:30 each day. Parents of children younger than 12 should plan to stay and participate. Please bring a sack lunch and something to drink. Everyone who wants to gain some volunteer hours and community service is encouraged to participate regardless of project areas. Although these dates are set aside for this activity, clubs that have work/improvement projects that they are interested in spear heading or working on are still welcome to contact the fairgrounds (520-7881) or Tim Stickle at 499-9882 to set-up additional dates and times as needed.

Scholarships

CAF Scholarship

The Colorado Association of Fairs and Shows Scholarship Application and Guidelines are now available at the 4-H Office. Applications can be faxed to you, they are not available electronically. Applicants must be active in the local county fair, an active 4-H member, and have a "B" average. Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 2008. In 2007 two \$500 scholarships were awarded.



Lewis Schwartz Memorial Scholarship

The East Colorado Springs Rotary Club is again making this scholarship available to 4-H'ers. Applications are now available in the 4-H Office and are due April 1, 2008. Applicants must be a graduating high school senior currently enrolled in either a market beef, a market sheep, a market swine, or a market goat 4-H project and will tag a project animal at the 2008 livestock weigh-in. Applicants must also have participated in the Jr. Livestock Sale at least 3 previous years. One scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded.

State Scholarships

State 4-H scholarship information is posted on <http://colorado4h.org>. The deadline is April 8, 2008.

Foundation Scholarship

All senior 4-H members who wish to apply for the Foundation scholarships, please pick up the application packets from the 4-H Office. Complete ALL the information and return to: El Paso County 4-H Foundation, c/o Mary Giesecker, Treasurer, 1524 Zaiger Place, Colorado Springs, CO 80925.

Applications are due March 21, 2008 to the above address or at least postmarked no later than March 21, 2008.

Scholarship interviews will be held April 10, 2008, Peoples Bank, 5175 North Academy Boulevard, Colorado Springs. Individual interview times will be mailed to you later.

Club Reports

Plainsmen 4-H

By: Charlie Goodwin

The February meeting was held on Feb. 11 at 7 pm. Due to the weather, there weren't enough members, so we just discussed some things to vote on next time. Sammy made valentines with candy in them for the officers to present to members. We talked about the Prospect Show again. I will report on the details as we get them. Kris, our president, showed us the difference between correct and incorrect Parliamentary Procedure. There is still room in 4-H, so we were told that we can invite our friends to join. Have a great month!

High Country Kids

By: Derek Buehner

High Country Kids met 2/12 to discuss the Festival of Events scheduled for April 12 at Skyview Middle School, upcoming camps for 4-H'ers and the county fair. You can read about them all in the newsletter. The annual Barn Clean-up Day is scheduled for Sat July 12th, where our club will be cleaning up the barn we use to house our goats during the Fair. On June 7 and 8, the Goat Quad Show will take place at the El Paso County Fairgrounds. This is a great way to practice goat showmanship before the Fair. High Country Kids will be attending the concession stands during the Quad Show. For our community service project we will be attending the Improvement/Clean-up day on May 3. Mrs. Anderson presented on "what to expect as a first time 4-Her". In the spring many families from our club will be expecting baby goats, so we're getting our barns ready for the new additions. Have a great March!

Falcon Ranchers

By: Bethany George

On Friday, February 8, 2008, we began our meeting by recognizing several birthdays. And, we welcomed several visitors. We decided to put on a dog show, just like we have done in the past years. Mary Killen has dog training at the Pikes Peak Obedience Club at 8:30 p.m. on Sundays. Mary will also start up a K-9 Drill Team practice and Dog Agility practice sometime soon. K-9 Drill Team will be participating in the Colorado Springs St. Patrick's Day Parade. Scrapbook project meetings will be starting sometime soon. We also decided that we will not be selling glow sticks at a fireworks show. We are all excited about the new year, and we cannot wait to get started!

Angel Fire

By: Shelby Gillis

Angel Fire members voted to do concessions at the Festival of Events on April 12th. We will have breakfast foods and beverages. On Friday the 8th of February we had our annual Box Social at the Ellicott Community Center. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed dinner conversation. Our Parli-Pro Team has begun meeting. Anyone who would like to join our team should contact Mrs. Wheeler at 683-6524. Parli-Pro can be a lot of fun. By learning Parli-Pro our meetings go faster and are more organized. I would encourage anyone to learn and take part in a Parli-Pro Team.

Purple Circle

By: Christe Christensen

Our meeting on Wednesday February 6, as usual, was held at the Calhan school library. We went over the newsletter and made sure everyone was aware of any important upcoming dates. Weigh-in for beef on March 1, affects most of our club. Record books are now available online, that's great news! We discussed dates of the Fair and when horse stalls, camping spots, etc. will be available to reserve. February 15 there was an Open Ride at Latigo for us 'horse people'. The Horse Advisory Committee is hosting Open Rides at Latigo Trials Equestrian Center every other Friday between 6-8 PM. The first Friday was the 15th. It's only February, but with all this talk of Fair, it seems right around the corner!

DC Delegates

By: Shelby Gillis

The D.C. Delegates have been very busy. We had a lock in for all Delegates at the Ellicott community center in Jan. with some great team building games. We stayed up all night playing games then settled in to watch a movie. The chaperones had breakfast ready for us to eat before our parents picked us up. We are hoping to have another lock-in soon. Delegates have been meeting with P.R. managers to look at hosting a big event in Oct. for everyone. Keep watching the newsletter for this upcoming great event. March 5th we are doing a "Lets do Tea" fundraiser. Anyone who is interested in the Lets Do Tea please email Mrs. Gillis @ DCDelegates@aol.com. You can go to the web site to see if there is any thing you would like to order Letsdotea.com Let Mrs. Gillis know what you would like to order. Our next meeting will be March 5th Ellicott Community Center 7p.m.

American Prairie

By: Jaclynn Pocchiari

This upcoming year certainly has the American Prairie 4-H Club looking forward to what 2008 has in store. The December 4-H party was fun and entertaining, including the club members having a pot-luck dinner, gift exchanges, and plenty of fun and games. The January meeting was a success as well. The club discussed whether or not we should create a theme for each meeting to make them more interesting. The *Clover Times* was passed out, the current fund-raising project was updated, and a community service opportunity was brought forth. The club was also reminded ahead of time that they would need to sign up for their project demonstrations later on in the year. All in all, the meeting went smoothly, and we can't wait for next month's meeting. Unfortunately, the February meeting had to be cancelled due to so many people being sick, but we hope to have everyone well enough to be able to meet in March!

4-H Wildcats

The Wildcats ended last year with a successful food drive and donations for Toys for Tots. The first meeting for 2008 included birthday presentations, demonstrations on the rising powers of yeast, the tools needed for knitting, and knitting on a loom. We discussed our participation in Festival of Events and the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Items are being collected to send cookies and supplies to our troops both at home and abroad. Other scheduled community service includes donations for Care and Share and Ronald McDonald House. We are paddling down the path to fair as we help our community, have fun, and learn from each other.

Country Style

By: Delaney Kochan

This month we tried twice to get together for our meeting, but were snowed out both times! So I don't have much to report from our meeting, but we still had many fun activities planned! For starters, we held an open ride on the 15th, followed by our reigning clinic and open ride the next day. What an awesome opportunity; it was very informative! The parli pro team practiced to prepare for upcoming competitions, and there was a new member orientation night. On the 24th of February, we had Horsemanship and Equation / Dressage clinic, my personal favorite and it was so much fun! Lastly, another open ride on the 29th to keep our ponies in shape!!

Horse Program News



Invitation to Participate in Fundraiser

The Southern Division of the Colorado Arabian Horse Club is holding a Tack Sale on April 12 & 13, 2008. They are extending an invitation to 4-H groups to participate in the days activities any way they would like. You can simply have a "Garage Sale" in conjunction with the Tack Sale and last year there was a group that had a Bake Sale. They already have a Boy Scout Troup that is going to cook lunch and have a refreshment stand with us. They will not charge the 4-H groups anything to use our venue/facility. The location is at the Meadowlake Airport (east part of Colorado Springs just off of Power Road) in the building that used to be the restaurant. It is very large with windows all around for great atmosphere/viewing. Please contact Liz at 303-660-9521 or lizw37@aol.com

Hurry it's not to Late to Get Involved!!!! in Horse Bowl and Hippology

It's not too late to join the Hippology or Horse Bowl Team but you definitely want to get started now!!!! The primary objectives of Horse Bowl and Hippology is to provide, in a friendly and competitive setting, an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge of equine science and management, and in particular, the practical application of this knowledge and skill.

The Hippology and Horse Bowl activities are open to any 4-H member eight years or older who is interested in learning about horses. You do not need to be enrolled in the horse project to participate. Horse Bowl and Hippology are a great way for members enrolled in the horse project to study for level tests and improve their test scores at horse shows. Both junior and senior teams will have the opportunity to compete at the county level. Dedicated seniors may also earn the privilege of competing at the state and national levels.

Upcoming practices will be from 5-7 pm contact Lisa Wermuth (244-7352 or email Ljwermuth@comcast.net) or Jackie Mead (494-1764) for questions and practice dates and location.

IMPORTANT Levels Testing Information!

- Levels 3 & 4 Written Tests Taking Opportunity
Jonathan will offer those interested in taking Levels 3 & 4 Written tests an opportunity on March 18th and again April 29th at 7:00 p.m. right before the Horse Advisory Committee meeting on the 18th and again right before the County Council meeting on April 29th. Both meetings are held at KCRC. Please call or email Jonathan at jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com to let him know if you plan to take the written test that night. Further test taking opportunities will be announced in future newsletters for the spring.
- Level 3 & 4 Riding Test Taking Opportunity
There will be a levels riding test taking opportunity on April 25th at Latigo Arena during the open riding held that night. You must contact Jonathan at jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com to register and schedule your ride time. Space is VERY limited so register ASAP. There is a \$20 fee for each test.

Congratulations to the El Paso County 4-H Horse Judging Team!

Senior members of the El Paso County Horse Judging Team represented Colorado 4-H at the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Judging Contest February 23 in Scottsdale Arizona. Congratulations to our Horse Judging Team members Kellie Ashby and Katie Ashby who combined with Jordan Owens of Boulder County and past El Paso County Team member Samantha Gagas now of Fremont County and finished in 1st place as a team in Reasons, Halter and Overall winning the Contest for the second year in a row. Individually Kellie Ashby finished 2nd in Halter, 10th in Performance, 5th in Reasons and 2nd Overall. Katie Ashby finished 10th in Halter, 8th in Reasons and 16th Overall, Past El Paso County team member Samantha Gagas was 1st in halter, 8th in performance, 2nd in Reasons and 1st Overall. Each member of the team received a check for \$250 and Samantha got an additional \$500 for being high individual and Kellie received an additional \$250 for being 2nd high individual. In addition, past El Paso county team member Lisa Wermuth, who has now aged out of 4-H and is one of our current Hippology/Horse Bowl coaches, competed in the college division as an individual and finished 7th in Halter, 2nd in Performance, 1st in Reasons and 5th Overall. She also received won a free pair of Ariat Boots. All the members have much to be proud of and have represented our 4-H program extremely well.



The Horse Judging program is open to all youth enrolled in 4-H in El Paso County. Youth do not have to own a horse to participate. For more information contact Jonathan Vrabec at jonathanvrabec@elpasoco.com. The upcoming March practices are as follows (all practices are from 6:30- 8:30 pm):

- Wednesday 5th Northern location contact Jonathan for directions
- Wednesday 12th Extension Office
- Thursday 20th Extension Office
- Thursday 27th Extension Office

The full team is preparing for their first contest of the year which will be held March 15th in Douglas County. Please wish them luck!

Horse Speech and Demonstration Practices

All individuals wanting to learn about or participate in the horse speech and demonstration program are invited to attend practices. You do not have to participate in these practices in order to compete in the contest which will be held April 12th, but you may find them helpful. The next practices will be held on March 7 and April 4. All practices will be held from 6-8 pm. For more information and directions please contact Spencer Wilkison: twinkletoes88@earthlink.net or (719) 481-1010.

Open Riding at Latigo

Open Riding will once again be offered at Latigo, thanks to the generosity of the Pikes Peak Range Riders Foundation. The scheduled is as follows: March 14, April 11 and 25. Please take advantage of these riding opportunities especially during the winter months. This is a great opportunity for your club to come out and have a project meeting or for your project leaders to work with you on showmanship or riding horsemanship patterns or even for you to just get your horse out for some exercise to start gearing up for the show season. You could even arrange to have someone come and give you your levels riding tests if you need to or are wanting to test up. Please take advantage of this great chance for you to get out and ride in an indoor area out of the weather. There will be a Horse Advisory Committee member at the arena each of these nights for minimal supervision. Ride times will be from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. At least one of these nights will be used for a level 3 and 4 riding test taking.

Living with Livestock

Livestock Advisory Committee

At the February meeting, final plans were made for the Weigh-In / Blow N Go show on March 1st and breakfast and lunch concessions fundraiser supporting the Large Animal Achievement awards. Gary Fillmore was appointed to be Asst. Beef Superintendent for this year's county fair. After discussion about last year's Select Sale prices, the committee decided to raise the floor prices to \$175 for swine and lambs and \$125 for goats. It is hoped the higher floor will encourage sellers to bring their higher value animals to the EL Paso County Select Sale April 13th, and help buyers be more competitive across state events. Note that the County Fair Premium List includes a Catch-It-Lamb contest this year, similar to the Catch-It-Calf contest. The next Livestock Advisory Committee meeting to adopt premium list changes for the 2008 EL Paso County Fair will be held on March 13th at 7 PM in Swink Hall at the El Paso County Fairgrounds. Reminder: These meetings are open to the public so feel free to attend.



State Fair

The Livestock Task force committee and the Colorado State Fair management reviewed many comments and concerns we had received about the revision rule concerning the CSF Market Hog no breed show stated in your Colorado State Fair 2007 December Livestock newsletter. At this time the Colorado State Fair management has decided to retract the declaration of a no breed Market Hog show and will go forward with the continuation of our full Market Hog breed show for the 2008 Colorado State Fair.

Swine Workshop

Brett Kaysen, CSU Animal Science Specialist, will be presenting a swine workshop at Prowers County Fairground on April 19 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Registration is due by April 15. For more information contact Brooke Matthew at 719-254-7608 or Brooke.Matthew@colostate.edu

Pork Quality Assurance Recertifying Procedures

In order to renew your PQA certification the youth will need to come to the Extension Office and take a written test. They must pass the test with a 70%. If they do not pass with a 70% they may attempt to test out once more. If the two tests yield unsuccessful results, then the youth must attend an MQA class prior to being recertified. Tests will be graded once a week and you will be notified of the results. Again this is only for those renewing their PQA certification all initial PQA certifications are accomplished by attending an MQA Workshop.

Leased Livestock Procedures

4-H'ers may only lease two animals for project areas which they do not already own. For example if you already own dairy goats you may not lease a dairy goat but if you own dairy goats and would also like to try fiber goats you are allowed to lease a fiber goat. Also the developed a standardized universal lease form that will require the animal's tattoo or ear tag number listed on it. This lease form is universal and so anyone leasing an animal will need to use this form and have it on file at the extension office by May 1st. If you have additional requirements specified by the person who is leasing out their animal, you should add that info as a separate sheet, but this "universal" form must be filled out if they are leasing an animal for 4-H. These projects ideally should begin in October and go through September since only breeding animals can be leased.

State Fair Nomination Cards

There will be changes on the 2008 State Fair nomination cards. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors must have their premise ID# on their nomination cards to be accepted. This information should be completed on ALL cards at the time of weigh-in.

Stall Cleaning at the 2008 County Fair

We will once again use the bid process that we used last year. The bid should be made in the form of per exhibitor per barn. Groups or clubs interested in cleaning stalls following county fair as a fundraiser for their club or organization is must submit bid to the extension office by 4th. After that date the offer will be advertised to outside organizations/groups. If you have questions please contact Patty Woodard at 541-2309. The bid should be made in the form of per exhibitor per barn.

Beef Weigh-in & Blow and Go Show

Will be held March 1st starting at 8:30 am - 11:00 am at the El Paso County Fairgrounds. The emergency date to be used only if you are notified of a cancellation will be March 8th.

Things you need to know before coming to weigh-in:

- You must bring your animal with a halter already on before they will be unloaded or we will not weigh it! This is for your safety and for everyone else's.
- Please have your calves brand inspected prior to coming to weigh-in. Do not forget to bring your brand inspection papers.
- There will be \$3 charge per head for state fair nominations (this will also be assessed to sheep, swine and goats that are being nominated later this spring)
- If more than 6 animals of a species are weighed-in/tagged-in by a member there will be a \$1 fee per animal over 6. (this also will be assessed to sheep, swine and goats at the May weigh-in).

REMEMBER ALL ANIMALS MUST BE CASTRATED PRIOR TO BEING WEIGHED-IN & TAGGED AS A 4-H MARKET PROJECT. CASTRATION MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO ARRIVING AT THE FAIRGROUND (NOT THE DAY OF WEIGH-IN) AND HEALED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE! THIS GOES FOR ALL SPECIES OF MARKET LIVESTOCK! IN ADDITION TO THIS ALL CATTLE AND MARKET GOATS MUST BE DEHORNED.

Blow and Go Show Rules

Once again the El Paso County 4-H Livestock Advisory Committee will be holding a Blow & Go Prospect Market Show following the weigh-in on March 1st. Out of county calves that come in just for the show and are not part of the El Paso County 4-H Program will be weighed from 11:00-11:30. The show will begin at 12:30. Exhibitors may use oil or other hair compounds on the claves. **Adhesives will not be allowed.** ANY calf with adhesive will be dismissed from the show without refund. **This year we will once again offer classes for both heifers and steers**, so here is another chance to get your breeding heifers out. Entry fee will be \$10 per head and jackpotted back. A showmanship class may be held at the discretion of the superintendent. Exhibitors may use stalls but they must be cleaned before they leave. Electricity will not be guaranteed. Wash racks will be closed so get your steers cleaned and clipped before coming to the show.

El Paso County Livestock Scholarships

The El Paso County 4-H Livestock Scholarship application form was mailed to eligible 4-H members. If a senior in high school or college freshman enrolled in livestock in 2008 does not receive an application by February 1, applications are available in the 4-H office. The application and all related materials are due by March 15, 2008. Applicants will be contacted regarding interviews. Please note the following rule change for 2008 and beyond: Applicants must have a minimum of three years of successful completions of market livestock projects to be eligible. In other words, students applying for the current year must be enrolled in a livestock project, but they do not have to be enrolled in a market project if they have completed 3 market projects in the past.

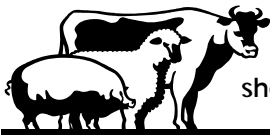
Swine, Sheep and Goat Producer Classes

What is a producer class? It's a market class for those of you who raise and show your own animals. Individuals who breed and raise their own show animals will show against one another. This class is in addition to the regular market class but does not increase the number of animals you can bring as you will still be limited to the species limit as published. In order to participate in the producer classes you must be signed up for the corresponding breeding project. The rules and nomination procedure are the same as for the other species. You will be limited to nominating 10 animals. You must be enrolled in the breeding project, the animals must still be nursing, and the animals must be tagged, notched or tattooed. Producer class animals will be shown in a Market Producer class at the county fair and must be tagged in at the weigh-in for that species under the name of the producer. They must also make weight as well as abide by all other regulations in regards to showing of 4-H market animals. Again this year main club leaders may verify nominations to assure the animal was born at your place of residence this must be done while the animal is still nursing. To nominate an animal the club leader should take a picture (preferably a digital one) of the animal with its Dam so that any distinguishing marks are visible. Please record a written description of the animal as well as sex, animal ID or tag number (some form of identification on the animal such as ear notches on swine, tattoos for goats, etc. must be used) and submit them to Jonathan at the Extension Office by April 21st in the 4-H member's name. The Champion Producer for each species will be awarded at the Large Animal Awards Night. Remember nomination verification must be completed prior to weaning. Please review a complete description of the class on the 4-H web site.

El Paso County Select Sale and Prospect Selection Clinic

The El Paso County 4-H Livestock Advisory Committee will be holding its 7th annual club lamb, show pig and goat sale on April 13th at the El Paso County Fairgrounds. If there is severe inclement weather and it must be rescheduled there will be an announcement on Jonathan's phone 636-8936 the day of the sale and the back up date will be April 20th. Preceding the sale will be a prospect selection, feeding and care clinic for lambs, goats and hogs. This will help you learn what you are looking for in a show prospect for each of these species prior to the sale. The clinics will start at 10:00 am. The sale will start at 1:00. Several County Fair Champions and Reserve Champions have been purchased at this sale each of the last several years. Don't miss this opportunity to take care of your clinic requirement and get your project for the upcoming year all in one day!

This is the only sale that benefits your El Paso County 4-H program. Once again animals from this sale will be eligible to compete in a jackpot class for prize money prior to the market classes at the county fair. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan at the El Paso County Extension office 719-636-8922.



Meat Quality Assurance

If you are a first year senior or new to 4-H and you are taking cattle, dairy, hogs, goats, sheep, rabbits, or poultry projects you must attend a meat quality assurance workshop.

Regardless of whether it is a market project or a breeding project you must attend a Meat Quality Assurance Workshop. *4-H'ers who are 13 and under must have a parent stay at the MQA with them.* The next MQA Workshops held in El Paso County will be on April 13th following the select sale at approximately 3:00 in the Exhibit Hall building at the Fairgrounds. The third and final MQA date will be announced in a future newsletter. Remember that if you are not able to attend a MQA Workshop in El Paso County you are welcome to attend MQA Workshops in other counties. Those counties will mail your certification to our office to show that you attended. However, Meat Quality Assurance certification must be completed 45 days prior to our County Fair. It is best to get this requirement accomplished early to avoid any unforeseen conflicts.

Livestock Judging Team

Did you know that a study in Indiana found that 93% of 4-H livestock judging team participants went on to attend college with 58% of those receiving a Bachelors degree and 30% of those going on to earn a Masters degree. Now that I have your attention it is time to start thinking about joining the El Paso County Livestock Judging Team. El Paso County currently has several past team members attending college on scholarships for their judging team participation. Contact one of the coaches for meeting details. Past El Paso County 4-H member Aaron Volosin will be assisting with the team after finishing a very successful college judging career as well as Coach Quentin Miller will be back again this year after his team won state last year and represented Colorado in Louisville Kentucky at the National 4-H competition. Judging is a great way to make friends, have fun and build important life skills. Also if you participate in Livestock Judging it will satisfy all of your clinic requirements. If you would like more information on being part of the team please contact either Quentin at 303-243-1320 or Aaron at 720-272-8650.

Horse and Livestock

Grazing Workshop

If you operate a large farm/ranch, or own small acreage in a subdivision, this grazing workshop is something you don't want to miss. The workshop is Saturday, March 8th at Elbert School at 24489 Main Street, from 8:30 am to 3:00 p.m. Participants will learn about noxious weeds, grazing and pasture management, manure management, pasture renovation, and composting.

The workshop will feature the following speakers presenting the latest technology and information:

- **Manure Management** - Kathy Dorskin, CSU Extension in Fort Collins
- **Pasture Renovation** - Don Hajar, Pawnee Buttes Seed in Greeley
- **Noxious Weeds** - Kipp Nye, CSU Extension in Kiowa
- **Composting** - Mary Sue Liss, Elbert County Environmental Health in Kiowa
- **Grazing Management** - Dan Nosal, Natural Resources Conservation Service in Franktown

The workshop is to provide landowners, large and small, with the tools they need to ensure health and vigor on grazing land.

There is no cost for the workshop. Registration includes lunch and workshop materials. Just about every aspect of grazing management and production will be covered and your questions will be welcomed. RSVP by March 3, 2008 by contacting the CSU Extension office at 719-541-2361 or 303-621-3162. For more information call the NRCS office at 719-541-2358.

Attention Livestock & Horse Project Participants

There is information at the Extension Office on the large statewide clinics and field days held in various counties. There maybe fees associated with each of these workshops and they will satisfy your clinic requirements.

Dates on these clinics are as follows:

March 8	Grazing Workshop at the Elbert School
March 8	Jr. Swine Producers Field Day Morgan County Fairgrounds, Brush, CO
March 14-16	Rocky Mountain Horse EXPO in Denver
March 15	Jr. Sheep and Mkt. Goat Producers Field Day Adams County Fairgrounds.
March 22	Jr. Beef Field Day, Morgan County Fairgrounds, Brush, CO
April 13	El Paso County Select Sale and Selection Clinics, Calhan, CO
June 7	Round-Robin Showmanship Clinic and Livestock Skillathon





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Jonathan R. Vrabec
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4-H/Ag

Dates to Remember

March
14-16 South Central District Retreat
15 St. Patrick's Day Parade
21 Festival of Events Entries Due

April
12 Festival of Events

May
3 Weigh-in for sheep, goats, swine

June
4 SummerFest Day Camp
13 County Fair Entries Due
24-27 State 4-H Conference, Ft. Collins

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and El Paso County cooperating.
Extension Programs are available to all without discrimination.

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