



Oconto County 4-H Sheep Project

2015

Sheep Resources

Oconto County 4-H Project

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/>

Oconto County Youth Agriculture Programs

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

Wisconsin 4-H Project Page

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinepro/sheep.cfm>

4-H Project Literature

<http://www.4hmall.org/Category/4-hcurriculum-sheep.aspx>

Recommended:

Storey's Guide to Raising Sheep by
Paula Simmons and Carol Ekarius

Oconto County Fair

<http://www.ocontocountyfair.org>

Check out the Requirements

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

Welcome to the 4-H Sheep Project

The 4-H Sheep Project provides youth a fun and hands-on learning experience that develops life skills, as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their animals.

The Sheep Project teaches youth to care for live animals while learning about animal health and nutrition, breeding, selection and marketing.

Youth also have the opportunity to develop responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communication skills through active participation in the 4-H Sheep Project.

Signing Up for a 4-H Sheep Project

Youth in the Sheep Project enroll in one or more of the following projects. To enroll in 4-H, visit the 4-H On-Line site at <https://www.4honline.com/> If you need help with the online enrollment, check with your club advisor or call the Extension Office for guidance (920-834-6845).

Sheep 1 (Grades 3 -5)

Sheep 2 (Grades 6 – 8)

Sheep 3 (Grades 9-12)

NOTE: Animal Project sign-up is done by grade, not skill level.

Best Place to Get Started?

Plan on attending Fall Project Kickoff (see calendar) to meet your project leader and pick up a January Thaw project challenge. You can access project challenges anytime at <http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/project-days/>



Sheep Leaders

Please feel free to contact your county-wide 4-H poultry leader for more information on your project.

Contact Us

UW-Extension Staff

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Looking for out-of county educational experiences*?

Area Animal Science Days

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/animalscience.cfm>

4-H and Youth Conference –For youth in 7th -10th grade

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/youthconf/index.cfm>

State Fair

West Allis, Wisconsin

**Funding for 4-H youth may be available from 4-H Leaders Association*

4-H Sheep Project Calendar

2015-16

Fall Kickoff

October 10, 2015

Gillett Schools
Gillett

Meet your project leaders and pick up a sheep challenge for January Thaw

January Thaw

January 9, 2016

Washington Middle School
Oconto Falls

Spring Fling

April 30, 2016

Washington Middle School
Oconto Falls

Summer Clinic

TBA

Oconto County Fairgrounds
Gillett

Oconto County Fair

August 18-21, 2016

Oconto County Fairgrounds
Gillett



4-H Sheep Project

Getting Started with Sheep

2015

Hint:

For a quick start in the Sheep Project, attend Fall Project Kickoff, January Thaw, and Spring Fling.

PLANNING

- Determine your goal. Are you interested in a market or breeding ewe?
- What breed of sheep best suits your goals and your experience level? Your project leader can give you great advice!
- Get your sheep before the weigh-in date (see below); must be born after January 1st for market class at the fair.
- Check out the 4-H project books on sheep, and the other resources listed in blue on the previous page.
- Plan your facilities.
- Keep track of feed records for Fair, if you hope to qualify for the Sale of Champions.
- Practice showing your animal. Your sheep leader provide you with tips to getting started.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PRACTICES

- Keep pens dry and clean.
- Wash your animal only when clipped as this practice takes out lanolin.



Disease Prevention

- Biosecurity is a set of practices designed to reduce the risk of spreading disease from sick animals to healthy ones. We recommend adding these practices to your routine:
- Restrict access to your property.
- Keep a designated pair of shoes to wear around your animals, wash clothing after caring for your animals, and use disinfectants correctly.
- Clean and disinfect equipment especially after use at fairs or public locations.
- Keep new animals separate from your flock for 30 days; quarantine returning animals from the rest of your flock after visiting a fair, exhibition or other event.
- Do not share equipment or supplies with others, but if you must, disinfect it first.
- Wash hands before and after handling animals.
- Vaccinate animals regularly to increase protective immunity.
- Accurately identify and maintain current records on all your animals.
- Look for unusual signs in your flock, such as odd behavior; sudden and unexplained deaths; large numbers of sick animals; blisters around an animal's nose, teats, mouth or hooves; difficulty rising and walking; partial to complete drop in milk production; or a large number of dead insects, rodents or wildlife. Contact your veterinarian immediately

Enrolling in 4-H and Signing up for the Oconto County Fair -- - It's Two Different Things!

When you enroll in 4-H at **4HOnline.com**, you are signing up to be a part of Oconto County 4-H. As part of the enrollment process, most youth choose one or more 4-H PROJECTS. You can do that right on 4-H online, and you can go back and do it now if you didn't before.

If you want to put an EXHIBIT in at the Oconto County Fair, you must be signed up in that corresponding 4-H project (through **4Honline.com**). This project sign-up must be completed by **APRIL 30TH**.

We share our list of 4-H youth who have signed up for projects with the Oconto County Fair. The Fair is a separate entity and has its own guidelines for exhibitors.

Each youth who is signed up in a PROJECT through 4-H, will receive a FAIR ENTRY FORM. Those Fair Entry Forms will be delivered by a Fair representative to club advisors at the 4-H Leaders Association Meeting in May.

To sign up to take an EXHIBIT to the fair, you must fill out the Fair Entry Form, using the Oconto County Fair premium book. The Fair Entry Forms are due to Stacie Pienta by the fourth Monday in June.



If you are planning on showing your sheep at the Oconto County Fair:

- April 30th: Be sure you are signed up in the Sheep project through 4-H Online.
- Make plans to attend one of the many Meat Animal Quality Assurance workshops in the county. This is required of all exhibitors to be eligible to sell at the Sale of Champions.
- Spring: Watch for the Weigh-In Date for Sheep. This will be announced by the Livestock Committee of the Fair Board.
- July: Fair Entries due. You will get them from your Club Advisor.

Look over the Premium Book for the Fair carefully. Ask your project leader or Club Advisor for help to make sure you are entering in the correct category.

- August: Watch the Friday Notes for the announcement about the Fair.
- August: Get your show box and your show clothes ready for the Sheep Show.
- Check the Fair Premium Book to find out the date and time of Sheep Check-in Day at the Fair.

→ Youth who are selected to sell their animals in the Sale of Champions at the Oconto County Fair must have 3 documented Educational Points, one of which must be MAQA training, and one must be species specific. There are plenty of opportunities to get those points at the 4-H project days (either as a participant or as a youth leader), summer workshops, and other events throughout the county and state.