

Sheep Division Market Lambs

Superintendent: Mr. Matt Martin

Assistant Superintendents: Mr. Harry Richardson, Mr. Rodney Johnson

Judging: Sheep Arena - see Schedule of Events

Note: All sheep must have official USDA Scrapie Tags in their ears in order to be eligible for exhibition at the district and state shows.

Market Lamb Classification

Guidelines and Rules

Exhibitors will designate on the official entry form in which breed type division the market lamb will be entered. Final determination of classification will be made by the official classifier(s) during official LSU AgCenter classification held at the State Show and the classifier(s) may reclassify a market lamb to another division. This determination is based on predominant breed (visual) characteristics of the market lamb and the judgment of the classifier(s). Official classification at the State Show is not subject to protest.

Breed type Divisions will be: 1) Hampshire, 2) Suffolk, 3) Natural Colored, 4) Black Face OPB and Crosses, and 5) White Face OPB and Crosses.

Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market lambs will be selected from the breed type division champions and reserve champions.

Market Lamb Classification:

- 1) Hampshire - Must have predominant Hampshire breed characteristics such as face relatively free of wool from the eyes down; unbroken wool cap extending from the neck over the forehead; ears moderate in length, thick with dark brown or black hair and little wool; legs below the knees and hocks should be relatively free of wool; hornless and the body wool free of dark fibers.
- 2) Suffolk - Must have predominant Suffolk breed characteristics such as face completely free of wool and covered in black hair; ears that are long and bell shaped and covered with black hair; black hair on the legs (no wool below the knees and hocks); hornless and free of dark fibers in the body wool.
- 3) Natural colored - Any breed of sheep that has a predominant "blue or black tint" to the skin and wool. The body must have this predominant blue or black tint over the majority of the body in order to classify in this division. A few black or blue spots coloring of the wool, bite marks, fungus spots or scars with black or dark fiber areas will not classify the lamb in this division.
- 4) Black Face OPB and Crosses - Any other purebred black face breed of sheep (i.e. Shropshire, Oxford, etc.) and all crosses of black face breeds of sheep (including Hampshire and Suffolk cross sheep). No crosses of black face breeds with white face breeds of sheep will be classified into this division.
- 5) White Face OPB and Crosses - Any purebred white face breed of sheep (i.e. Southdown, Dorset, Montadale, Cheviot, Katahdin, St. Croix, Texel, Merino, Rambouillet, Corriedale, Finnsheep, etc) and all crosses of white face breeds of sheep with any other breed of sheep (white or black face) will be classified in this division.

Special Rules

- A. Wether and ewe lambs are eligible to show in the market lamb classes at the state show.
- B. The minimum weight for market lambs at the district shows will be 80 pounds with no maximum weight. District shows have the option of weighing only lightweight animals to enforce minimum weight rules and using a "weigh your own" system for heavier classes. This would be an option only - not a requirement.
- C. The minimum class weight for market lambs at the state show will be 80 pounds with no maximum weight.
- D. Lambs will be mouthed at the district shows. Lambs with visible evidence of the emergence of part or all of one or both of the first pair of permanent incisors (central incisors) will be classified red ribbon lambs and are ineligible to attend the state show.
- E. Each exhibitor will be allowed to exhibit a maximum of three market lambs at the show.
- F. At the state show market lambs will be classified into five breed type divisions and shown in these breed type division with weight classes within the breed divisions. An exhibitor may exhibit all lambs in any weight class within these breed divisions. The number of weight classes per breed division will be dependent on the number of lambs classified into the respective breed

- F. Ear tags (association number or flock number) must be in the ears of the Registered (Purebred) Breeding Sheep.
- G. Commercial Ewes will be provided official LSU AgCenter ear tags that must be applied to commercial ewes at validation. (State Fair Tags will be allowed as long as the ewe is officially validated for the LSU AgCenter show.)
- H. The code of ethics as listed in General Rule 14 of this catalog lists areas of concern in the grooming of sheep.
 - 1. Dyeing or coloring an animal to alter its natural coloration or to cause it to be classified in a different breed or show class.
 - 2. All breeding sheep including commercial ewes must be shown slick sheared (no wool allowed above the hocks/knees including the head). In recognized wool breeds, wool will be allowed. Definition: Slick sheared is defined as no more than 1/8 inch of wool on the body of the sheep.
- I. Registered (Purebred) Sheep Breeding Classes
 - 1. Ram lamb
 - 2. Champion Ram
 - 3. Reserve Champion Ram
 - 4. Champion La. Bred Ram
 - 5. Reserve Champion La.-bred Ram
 - 6. April and After Ewe Lamb
 - 7. March Ewe Lamb
 - 8. February Ewe Lamb
 - 9. January Ewe Lamb
 - 10. Yearling Ewe (Two to Four Tooth)
 - 11. Champion Ewe
 - 12. Reserve Champion Ewe
 - 13. Champion La.-bred Ewe
 - 14. Reserve Champion La.-bred Ewe
 - 15. Best Pair of Ewes (One Exhibitor-one ewe lamb and one yearling ewe)
 - 16. Best Flock (One Exhibitor-One ram lamb, one ewe lamb and one yearling ewe)
 - 17. Parish Group (Four Breeding sheep with two exhibitors represented)
- J. Commercial Ewe Classes
 - 1. Ewe Lambs
 - 2. Yearling Ewes (Two to Four Tooth)
 - 3. Champion Ewe
 - 4. Reserve Champion Ewe
 - 5. Champion La.-bred Ewe
 - 6. Reserve Champion La.-bred Ewe
 - 7. Best Pair of Ewes (One exhibitor - ewe lamb and yearling ewe represented)
 - 8. Parish Groups
- K. Classes will be numbered and shown as follows:
 - Class 101-117Suffolk
 - Class 201-217Hampshire
 - Class 301-317Dorset
 - Class 401-417Southdown
 - Class 501-517AOB
 - Class 601-607Commercial Ewes

NOTE: Last two digits denote individual class numbers.

L. **Selection of Supreme Champion-** Breed champions from each of the above listed breeds will compete for supreme champion at the conclusion of the breeding show. A supreme champion ram and ewe will be selected.

- M. For all classes in sheep breeding (except Champion and Reserve Champion), the following premiums will be paid at the state show:
 - 1st-\$20, 2nd-\$18, 3rd-\$14, 4th-\$12, 5th-\$10
 - Best pair and Best Flock 1st thru 3rd (La.-bred animals placing in the money are eligible for La.-bred premiums.)
 In the Commercial Ewe classes the following premiums will be paid: 1st-\$20, 2nd-\$18, 3rd-\$16, 4th-\$14, 5th-\$12, 6th-\$10, 7th-\$10, 8th-\$10, 9th-\$10 and 10th-\$10 (La.-bred animals placing in the money are eligible for La.-bred premiums)

Sheep Showmanship

- A. Co-sponsored by LSPA and LCES.
- B. Open to all 4-H and FFA members with entries in the market lamb, breeding sheep and/or commercial ewes divisions.
- C. Exhibitors must show their own animals.

D. Showmanship sign up time will be from 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Saturday, February 11, 2012. Sheep Showmanship will be judged at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11, 2012. January 1, 2012, will be the date for determining the exhibitor's age.

E. Showmanship classes for sheep exhibitors are as follows: (Also show order)

1. 17 years old & older
16 years old
15 years old
Senior Champion Showman
2. 14 years old
13 years old
12 years old
Intermediate Champion Showman
3. 11 years old
10 years old
9 years old
Junior Champion Showman

*Each age classification will be split after sign-up to make two classes for each age category if the number of exhibitors deem it necessary to fit the arena space. Classes will be posted prior to the showmanship contest.

F. LSPA will pay the following premiums for each class (based on possibility of two classes per age category):

1st	\$8	3rd	\$4
2nd	\$6	4th	\$2