

Ownership, Possession, and Care Rules for Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding and Market Livestock Projects

In addition to providing youth an opportunity to learn about animal selection and evaluation, nutrition and feeding, health and daily care, reproduction, and marketing, another of the important purposes for 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding and Market Livestock Projects is to facilitate learning the valuable life skills of responsibility, hard work, critical thinking, and decision-making. Achieving each of these purposes is best accomplished when the 4-Her or FFA member has personal ownership of their project and responsibility for the continuous daily care of their livestock or dairy project under the oversight of the youth's parents or legal guardians, the local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher, and (or) the volunteer local leader.

To help provide a framework where the above mentioned purposes can be achieved, the following rules pertaining to ownership, possession, and care of 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding and Market Livestock Projects shall be applied. These rules apply to all 4-H/FFA beef, goat, sheep, and swine breeding and market animal projects (includes beef heifers, beef cows, beef bulls, market steers, market heifers, breeding does, market goats, breeding ewes, breeding rams, market lambs, breeding gilts, and market hogs).

Ownership, Possession, and Care Rules:

1. The ownership and possession deadlines for 4-H/FFA youth livestock projects are as follows:
 - a. **June 1** of the current project year for beef heifers, beef cows, beef bulls, breeding does, breeding ewes, and breeding gilts.
 - b. **March 26** of the current project year for market steers and market heifers.
 - c. **May 28** of the current project year for market goats, market lambs, and market hogs.
2. Adult/youth partnerships are acceptable for breeding animals (beef heifers, beef cows, beef bulls, breeding does, breeding ewes, breeding rams, and breeding gilts) providing each partner's full name is on the registration certificate. Animals registered in a farm only are not allowed.
3. Co-tagging (joint ownership) of market animals with K.U.I.P. tags is only permitted among siblings, except in special cases (legitimate county or club co-ops, special needs, etc.) where a waiver may be granted.
 - a. For special circumstances where exceptions to this rule may be needed (e.g., legitimate county or club co-ops, special needs, etc.), a typed application for a waiver may be applied for. The application for waiver must outline in detail why a waiver is needed. **The application for waiver must be submitted by February 15 for market steers and market heifers and by April 15 for market lambs, market hogs, and market goats.** Waivers will only be granted for legitimate circumstances where a special need is identified. Applications for waiver should be sent to: Zach Bartenslager, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, 603 W.P. Garrigus Building, Lexington, KY 40546-0215 or emailed to Zach at zach.bart@uky.edu.
4. It is expected that a 4-H/FFA member's livestock project (breeding or market) be in the physical possession of and under the continuous daily care of the 4-H/FFA member and (or) their parents/legal guardians. Physical possession of the livestock project is defined as the following:
 - a. Animals must be housed and maintained within the boundaries of the state of Kentucky, *AND*
 - b. Animals must be housed at either:
 - i. The residence of the 4-H/FFA member, *OR*
 - ii. The residence of the 4-H/FFA member's parent(s), legal guardian(s), or grandparent(s) that is either **(1)** within the county of residence of the 4-H/FFA member, or **(2)** within a

- county that adjoins the county of residence of the 4-H/FFA member at a distance not to exceed 30 miles from the 4-H/FFA member's residence, OR
- iii. A rented or leased location that is either **(1)** within the county of residence of the 4-H/FFA member, or **(2)** within a county that adjoins the county of residence of the 4-H/FFA member at a distance not to exceed 30 miles from the 4-H/FFA member's residence, OR
 - iv. 4-H Club Farm or FFA School Farm where the youth is a member in good standing.
5. All 4-H/FFA members with market animal projects must complete the online portion of the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Market Animal Validation and Location Form* that identifies the physical location where project animals are housed. This portion of the form must be completed at the time the market animal is validated. Kentucky State Fair will email a spreadsheet of the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Market Animal Validation and Location Form* to the Division Director of KDA Division of Show & Fair Promotion, and will also email a spreadsheet of the entire *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Market Animal Validation and Location Form* to **(1)** the 4-H/FFA member's local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher and to **(2)** Zach Bartenslager, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, 603 W.P. Garrigus Building, Lexington, KY 40546-0215 within one (1) week after the validation deadline has occurred.
- a. Extension Agents and Vocational Agriculture Teachers should keep the confirmation of the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Market Animal Validation and Location Form* on file for each of their market animal exhibitors. In the event any questions arise pertaining to possession and care of an exhibitor's project animal(s), these forms will be used to determine where an animal should be located.
6. All 4-H/FFA members with breeding animal projects (beef heifers, beef cows, beef bulls, breeding does, breeding ewes, breeding gilts) must complete the appropriate online *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding Animal Project Nomination and Location Form* that identifies the physical location where project animals are housed. Completed forms must be turned in to the 4-H/FFA member's local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher by **no later than June 1**. The 4-H/FFA member's local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher must submit copies of the completed *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding Animal Project Nomination and Location Form* online (link to follow) by **no later than June 8**.
- a. Extension Agents and Vocational Agriculture Teachers should keep the confirmation of the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding Animal Project Nomination and Location Form* on file for each of their breeding animal exhibitors. In the event any questions arise pertaining to possession and care of an exhibitor's project animal(s), these forms will be used to determine where an animal should be located.

NOTE: Should the physical location where breeding or market project animals are housed change after validation deadline has occurred or the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding Animal Project Nomination and Location Form* has been turned in to the 4-H/FFA member's local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher, the 4-H/FFA member must contact their local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher and complete a *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Project Animal Location Waiver Form* prior to changing the animal's location. A copy of the completed *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Project Animal Location Waiver Form* must be sent to Zach Bartenslager, via email at zach.bart@uky.edu

NOTE: For special circumstances where exceptions to the Possession and Care Rule may be needed, a written application for a waiver (using the *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Project Animal Location Waiver Form*) may be applied for. The application for waiver must outline in detail why a waiver is needed, and must be signed by the exhibitor and (or) their parent/legal guardian and the local Supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher. The application for waiver must be applied for by no later than March 1 for market steers and market heifers and by no later than May 1 for market lambs, market hogs, market goats, and all breeding animals. Waivers will only be granted for legitimate circumstances where a special need is identified. Applications for waiver should be sent to Zach Bartenslager, zach.bart@uky.edu If the waiver is

granted, a copy of the letter granting the waiver must be attached to the exhibitor's *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Market Animal Validation and Location Form* or *Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding Animal Project Nomination and Location Form* that is kept on file by the exhibitor's local supervising Extension Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher.

7. Potential violations of the *Ownership, Possession, and Care Rules for Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding, and Market Livestock Projects* by 4-H/FFA members should be directed to the appropriate individual listed below:

- a. For potential violations related to 4-H exhibitors of beef cattle, goats, sheep, and swine (breeding or market animal projects):

Zach Bartenslager
Department of Animal and Food Sciences
603 W.P. Garrigus Building
Lexington, KY 40546-0215
E-mail: zach.bart@uky.edu
Phone: (859) 257-7544

- b. For potential violations related to FFA exhibitors of beef cattle, goats, sheep, and swine (breeding or market animal projects):

Mr. Matt Chaliff
Kentucky FFA Association
Capital Plaza Tower
500 Mero Street, Room 2121
Frankfort, KY 40601
E-mail: Matt.Chaliff@education.ky.gov
Phone: (502) 564-3472

8. 4-H/FFA members found to be in violation of the *Ownership, Possession, and Care Rules for Kentucky 4-H/FFA Youth Breeding and Market Livestock Projects* shall be subject to the following consequences:

- a. **1st violation** – the 4-H/FFA member shall be banned from participation in any 4-H/FFA youth shows within Kentucky for a period of one year.
- b. **2nd violation** – the 4-H/FFA member shall be banned from participation in any 4-H/FFA youth shows within Kentucky for life.