



Livestock Skill-A-Thon Contest Memo

Date: Friday, April 10, 2026

Location: Grayson College
6101 Grayson Drive
Denison, Texas 75020

Contest: At the contestant's convenience anytime between 10:00 a.m.
and 3:00 p.m.

Registration. Each participating member is required to register on 4-HOnline and pay the district \$15.00 contest registration fee. Registration will begin on **March 4, 2026 and close at midnight March 18, 2026. No late entries will be accepted.**

Participation. Contestants must be active 4-H members enrolled in a Texas 4-H and Youth Development County program in District IV. Contestants must also be academically eligible (according to UIL rules) to compete on the day of the contest. A contestant may compete as an individual or as a member on a team.

Age. Age divisions are determined by a participant's grade as of September 1st of the current 4-H year. Age divisions for this contest are:

- Junior (3rd, 4th, & 5th grades)
- Intermediate (6th, 7th, & 8th grades)
- Senior (9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grades)

Academic Eligibility. According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H member must be deemed "eligible" to compete in an event that takes place on a weekday or weekend. All 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or home school must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility:

- Complete a "Declaration of Eligibility Form"
OR
- Name of 4-H member must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee.
- Contact your local county extension office for the process used by YOUR county.

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If a 4-H member is ineligible for a 4-H competitive event, the agent must notify the 4-H member, his/her parents, and the district office, by letter/email, of this situation. If the parent has any questions, he/she should be referred to the school administrator.

Eligibility forms will be returned to and remain in the county offices

Entries per County. Each county may enter unlimited individuals per age division listed above. This is not a state qualifying contest.

Contest Format. Participants will answer questions using a multiple-choice answer sheet that will be provided.

Suggested materials to bring for contest. Clipboard, blank paper, pencils, and calculator. The contestants may not bring books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area.

Awards. 1st through 5th place individual awards in each age division will be presented.

Participants with Disabilities. Any competitor who requires auxiliary aids or special accommodations must contact the District Extension Office or Denita Young at djyoung@ag.tamu.edu or note when registering on 4-H Online, at least 2 weeks before the competition to request such needs.

Contest Rules. District IV follows the rules outlined in the Texas 4-H Livestock Skill-A-Thon Contest.

Classes may consist of the following:

Identification:

- Livestock Equipment Identification
- Livestock Breed Identification
- Retail Meat Cut Identification
- Feed Sample Identification

Judging

- Hay Judging Class
- Wool Judging Class
- Retail Meat Judging Class

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Quiz

- Quality Assurance Quiz
- Industry Quiz

Resources

This list is just some of the potential resource information available. Please feel free to utilize other sources as you deem appropriate.

Texas 4-H Roundup Contest Guide

[General Rules and Information](#) | [Project Page](#)

Swine Resources

- National Swine Registry Skill-a-thon Training <https://nationalswine.com/resources/resources-main.php>
- Texas A&M Swine Skill-a-thon study guide <https://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestockspecies/swine/skillathon/>
- Oklahoma State Swine Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/swine>
- National Pork Board: <http://www.pork.org/youth-and-education/skillathon-quiz-bowl/>

Beef Resources

- Texas A&M Beef Skill-a-thon <https://beefskillathon.tamu.edu/>
- Iowa State Beef Skill-a-thon <https://www.ans.iastate.edu/beef-skillathon>
- Oklahoma State Cattle Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle/>

Sheep & Goat Resources

- Sheep and Goat programs – <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestock-species/sheep-goats/>
- Iowa State Sheep Skill-a-thon <https://www.ans.iastate.edu/sheep-skillathon>
- Oklahoma State Sheep Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/sheep>
- Oklahoma State Goat Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/goats>
- Maryland Small Ruminant Page - <https://www.sheepandgoat.com/skillathon>

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Meat Judging and Identification Resources

- <http://www.meatscience.org/students/meat-judging-program/meat-judging-resources/>
- <http://aggiemeat.tamu.edu/meat-identification-pictures/>
- <https://aggiemeat.tamu.edu/example-classes/>

Equipment Identification

- Nasco - <https://www.enasco.com/>
- Valley Vet - <https://www.valleyvet.com>
- Sullivan's Supply - <https://www.sullivansupply.com/>
- Weaver Livestock - <https://www.thewinnersbrand.com>

Feed Sample Identification

- <https://quizlet.com/22837845/feed-stuff-identification-flash-cards/>
- <https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P2834.pdf>
- http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/400/400-011/400-011_pdf.pdf

Wool Judging

- <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Judging-Wool-and-Mohair.pdf>

Hay Judging

<https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/files/library/19/Hay%20Judging%20Resources.doc><https://extension.msstate.edu/sites/default/files/publications/publications/P2834.pdf>

- <https://cherokee.agrilife.org/4-h/hay-judging/>

National Livestock Skill-a-Thon

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- <http://www.livestockexpo.org/educationContests>

Texas FFA Livestock Quiz Question Bank

- https://www.texasffa.org/docs/2017-21%20Livestock_QBank_Export_Key_71269.pdf

Contest Superintendents. Questions regarding the District IV 4-H Livestock Skill-A-Thon Contest can be directed to Cody Maxwell at Cody.Maxwell@ag.tamu.edu.

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