

Summary of Livestock Changes for 2025

All Livestock Fact Sheets:

Change of set up/move in pre-fair: “Exhibitors may not bring any tack, bedding, equipment, etc. to the fairgrounds until 8 a.m. the Friday before the fair.”

Addition for clarification – “Those utilizing a make-up skillathon option will complete an online, specie specific quiz. Topics for the make-up judging will be different than those noted below for the skillathon on July 17th.”

Change in dismissal time - Animals released from fair – Sunday, August 10th from 9 am till noon

Change to include breeding/exhibition animals – “Every exhibitor of a market, breeding/exhibition, or lactating animal will submit an online Drug Use Notification Form for each animal or pen of animals (pen of poultry or rabbits) before or during arrival/check-in at the fair.”

Beef

Change: “Beef steers under 1050#, dairy steers under 1200#, and market heifers under 1000# will be ineligible to show in a weight class. These animals can exhibit in showmanship only. There are no maximum weights.”

Change: “Dairy beef feeders can be a pure dairy type or can be dairy-beef crosses.”

Addition: “Top five will be chosen for dairy feeders. Top five will be chosen for beef feeders. Top five will be chosen for beef feeder heifers.”

Change/Addition: Grooming/fitting of animals at the Erie County Fair should primarily be done by the Junior Fair exhibitor. Assistance can be provided by current Erie County Junior Fair exhibitors, members of the exhibitor’s household, exhibitor’s grandparents, livestock species committee members, and/or that exhibitor’s 4-H club advisor or that exhibitor’s FFA advisor. Exhibitors must be present and actively engaged during the grooming of their project animal(s). Fitting of animal(s) for showmanship is optional.

Addition to #32: “Stalling assignments cannot be changed without committee approval.”

Change to #34: “Beef exhibitors must ensure their stalls are completely cleaned out before leaving the fairgrounds on Sunday.”

Swine

New swine record book and resource book in 2025!

Change weight ranges of the two divisions. Division 1, 210 -254 lbs. and Division 2, 255-280 lbs.

Llamas

No changes

Rabbit

Addition to #1 (added for clarification purposes), *Market Rabbit Project Rules & Requirements*: **Rabbits who don't make weight can be used for showmanship but cannot show in a market class. These rabbits cannot be sold through the Junior Fair Sale.**

Change to Show Order: Doe & Litter will be after Showmanship

Goat

Addition of #6, *Rules Specific to Market Goats*: Bracing is permitted. No excessive lifting of the animal will be permitted. The animal's front feet should never be more than 2 inches off the ground.

Change to #3, *Rules Specific to Pack Goats*: Proper show attire includes long pants, collared shirt, and sturdy shoes or boots appropriate for hiking.

Sheep

Addition: A sheep skillathon award will be given to the ONE individual with the highest skillathon score.

Change to #10: Exhibitors may tag 3 market lamb and can bring up to 3 market lambs to the Fair.

Addition to #11: Market lambs must weigh a minimum of 90 lbs to be eligible to show and sell. While there is no maximum weight, exhibitors will only be paid for up to 150 pounds per lamb by the packer, if a packer is available.

Addition of #20: Top five lambs will be chosen in the final drive. If an exhibitor has a lamb in the final drive, the exhibitor must show that lamb. If an exhibitor has more than one lamb in the final drive, the exhibitor must show one of their lambs and secure other Erie County Jr. Fair exhibitors to show the other lamb(s). At the beginning of the final drive first place and second place animals from each class will be brought to the ring, however other animals (3rd place, 4th place, etc.) may be brought into the ring for the final drive.

Addition: A list of 50 questions (and answers) were added at the end of the fact sheet. The committee will select ten of these questions to ask during the skillathon.

Poultry

Addition to General Exhibit Rules and Requirements- 150CM: A top ten market broiler pens will be selected.

Addition to General Exhibit Rules and Requirements - 150CE-Chicken, Exhibition: New in 2025: Exhibition chickens can be taken as a 2 year project. The same birds can be shown for a second year. The exhibit must be the same birds or the same breed birds that was entered the previous year. Hatchery papers are invalid after one year of age. The birds must be pullorum tested prior to the fair—this can be done during fair check-in on Sunday evening.

Addition to General Exhibit Rules and Requirements- 150TM: There will be a lightweight division for turkeys 12 to 29 lbs and a heavyweight division for turkeys 30 lbs and over. Each division will be judged separately. A top 5 in the lightweight division will be selected and a top 5 in the heavyweight division will be selected.

Addition to General Exhibit Rules and Requirements- 150DM: A top 5 market duck pens will be selected.

Addition: 1032M-Gamebirds, Market: Pheasants, quail, partridges. Can show 1 pair. Must be a meat type bird (an example would be a coturnix). Questions on Gamebirds can be directed to poultry key leader, Norm Bilger.

Addition: 1032F – Gamebirds, Fancy - Pheasants, quail, partridges. Can show up to 2 pair. Must be an ornamental type, NOT a meat type. When showing 2 pair, they must be different breeds. This project is for exhibition only and is not eligible for the Junior Fair Sale. Questions on Gamebirds can be directed to poultry key leader, Norm Bilger.

Addition to #3 under Meat Projects and Sale Exhibit Rules & Requirements: Meat Pen Poultry, Market Goose, Market Turkey, Market Ducks, and *Market Gamebirds* are the only poultry eligible for sale in the small project sale.