

Barnyard Scoop

Lafayette Parish 4-H

Introduction

Several 4-H and FFA animals that participated in the Acadiana District Livestock Show qualified to attend the LSU AgCenter State Livestock Show in Gonzales, LA **February 14th -21st**. We are in the final stretch of preparations and want to give you a few updates and reminders about this year's State Show.

All shows will be conducted at the LAMAR DIXON EXPO CENTER in Gonzales as per the schedule listed on our website:

[2026 Livestock Show Catalog](#)

State Livestock Show Information

All 4-H and FFA exhibitors attending the State Show, no matter the age of the exhibitor, must have ADULT supervision. We will assume this to be parents. Any exhibitor who does not have parental supervision must have another adult responsible for the exhibitor while in Gonzales.

It is important to provide youth the opportunity to feel physically and emotionally safe while actively participating in a group. Creating a safe environment that fosters a positive relationship with youth learners is a goal of the program. Parents are expected to be responsible for chaperoning of exhibitors. All rules pertaining to conduct, behavior, etc. that apply to other 4-H and FFA functions also apply at livestock shows. Please help us to provide quality educational activities that are free from the potential issues. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

All State Show ENTRY FEES will be collected when entries/animals are checked in at the State Livestock Show @ Lamar Dixon Expo Center (Check or Money order ONLY).

2026 State Livestock Show entry fees are **\$20 per animal checked in** at the State Show. No payments will be collected online for the State Show. All check in times and locations are listed in the show schedule.

LIVESTREAMING:

Beef, dairy, goat, sheep, and swine show rings will be streamed or shared through these Facebook pages:

- [LSU AgCenter State Livestock Show Beef/Dairy](#)
- [LSU AgCenter State Livestock Show Goat/Sheep/Swine](#)

We have made substantial investment in equipment and cameras to provide this viewing option for our Show. Streaming will be as listed in the show schedules. Poultry shows will not be streamed as the show format is not suitable. **These pages will also post last-minute updates from Show Management.**



February 2026

Lafayette Office
1010 Lafayette St., Ste. 325
Lafayette, LA 70501
Phone: (337) 291-7090
Fax: (337) 291-7099
www.lsuagcenter.com

Dates to Remember:

February 14th –21st - State Livestock Show
@ Lamar Dixon Expo Center, Gonzales, LA

February 27th – Records Books Due to 4-H Office

Inside this Issue:

[State Show Information Continued](#)

[Poultry News](#)

[Teamwork is Important!](#)

[Animal Sale Information](#)

[School Excuses](#)

[Livestock Advisory Committee...](#)

[Record Books Due February 27th](#)

[Office Status & Agent News](#)

Attachments:

2026 General Rules

2026 State Show Schedule

Lamar Dixon Map

Exhibition Poultry Showmanship

State Broiler Showmanship

Lafayette 4-H Agents:

Camden Oglesby

Camden Oglesby
Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H

Nicole Gerard

Nicole Gerard
Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H

CHARLES HEBERT

Charles Hebert
County Agent/Parish Chair, 4-H

State Show Information Continued

COOKING/TENTS

There will be absolutely NO COOKING and/or TENTS allowed under or adjacent to any livestock barns. There will also be NO PARKING adjacent to barns 1-8, all vehicles should be parked in designated parking areas away from livestock STALL/PEN barns. (towing in these loading/unloading zones is enforced)

There will be no cooking and/or tents allowed under or adjacent to any of the Livestock Pen/Stall/Tie Barns. If a person chooses to bring a tent for cooking purposes, they will need to be located on the exterior perimeter of the parking areas away from barns. No power or water is accessible in those areas, so plan accordingly.

ALCOHOL POLICY:

The LSU AgCenter adheres to a zero-tolerance policy concerning the possession or consumption of alcohol during livestock shows and other associated events sponsored or cosponsored by the LSU AgCenter.

Absolutely no alcohol is allowed in any of the livestock barns during the State Livestock Show.

This policy applies to all events. Our faculty and staff have been asked to make a concerted effort to enforce this policy, which prohibits possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages. We ask all agents, FFA advisors, club leaders, and parents to join us in this effort.

Please help us provide quality educational activities that are free from the potential problems and dangers associated with alcohol. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

SHAVINGS SALES (Lamar Dixon)

The Lamar Dixon Expo Center NO longer sells SHAVINGS on the show grounds. State Show facilitators are working with Tri Parish COOP to have shavings for sale at the show. They will be in the REV BUILDING. Final details will be posted on the Facebook pages prior to the Show.

Cattle Barn Waste:

There will be limited waste carts provided around the barns, but there will be waste collection areas adjacent to each barn where exhibitors can deposit waste. This location will be located on the ends of barns closest to the West RV lot and adjacent to dumpsters. **We are asking exhibitors to bring WHEELBARROWS/MANURE CARTS to the State Show to move waste material**

from the bedding/stall areas to these collection locations.

TRAFFIC FLOW CHART/ STOCK TRAILER PARKING:

All animals must enter the facility through the Ashland Road entrance. (Ashland Road entrance will be locked during periods livestock are not due to arrive to prevent traffic from using facility as a cut through to St Landry Rd).

The general public and RVs will enter through the St. Landry Road entrance and check in at the guard shack. All Stock trailers **MUST** be parked in the designated stock trailer parking areas shown below; trailers parked in areas other than these 2 lots will be towed.

All vehicles must be parked outside of fencing surrounding barns 1-6 on beef show days (Thursday, February 19th and Friday, February 20th).

DOGS/SCOOTERS/SKATES/SKATEBOARDS/BIKES/GOLF CARTS are NOT allowed on the showground without approval from Show Management or the Lamar Dixon Expo Center. Approval will be granted for special circumstances such as service dogs and handicap exceptions.

It is impossible to enforce this without everyone helping, including agents, ag teachers, parents, and volunteers. With the number of animals and traffic we have during the State Show, having these items there creates safety hazards. Let's all pitch in and make sure our youth have a safe and fun time at this year's State Show.

Swine Parish Group

All family and friends are welcome to cheer on Lafayette Parish 4-H'ers in our Swine Parish Group at the State Show! A Parish Group is a group of six similar hogs all exhibited by the same parish. This year's theme is "Bayou Bandits of Lafayette Parish; Keeping the Bayou in Line - One Tradition at a Time".

Please note the following guidelines:

1. Appropriate music will be allowed - Parish Agents will be responsible for approving music prior to activity.
2. When the parish group enters the show ring additional 4-H and FFA members will be allowed to enter with group; however, once the group is either penned or released only exhibitors with hogs and up to 3 handlers will be allowed to remain in show ring per group.

3. No throws or candy will be allowed. We have had spectators injured in past years and the remaining remnants are hazards to hogs if not removed from show ring.

We will enforce the requirement that all dress and/or actions in or around the show ring must be appropriate for a youth event. Any group that is determined to be in violation of these guidelines will be excused and could be subject to additional penalties.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Mia Begnaud at mrg5914@yahoo.com.

State Showmanship Sign-Up: Most species require that you sign up for showmanship. Please be sure to do this if it is required. Refer to the 2026 Livestock Show Catalog (linked above) for the sign-up times.

AWARDS CEREMONY

Our awards program for Market Animal Champions, Breeding Animal Supreme Champions, Showmanship Champions, Premier Exhibitors, and other 4-H and FFA award presentations will be conducted at the **REV Center**. This is the building where the sheep, goat, and swine show ring and vendor spaces is located.

Poultry News

All poultry are housed and exhibited in the REV Center at this year's Show. Poultry exhibitors need an LSU leg band on their birds to show. Make sure you know what you entered, as you are only allowed to show what you entered. Broilers must have a health certificate from a vet. Exhibition poultry must have a health certificate from a vet and a VS-Form 9 (pullorum typhoid test). The exhibition and broiler showmanship scorecards are attached.

Teamwork is Important!

Species Representatives and parents will assist/coordinate some of the exhibits and clean aisles while at the State Show. This will include beef and swine parish groups during both splits of the show. Pen spaces will also be assigned by the Agents with the input of Species Representatives.

We will be as fair as possible to everyone when assigning pens, with assignments based on the total number of pens allocated to our Parish and District. Beef tie spaces will be assigned based on the numbers that were submitted for District. **To our best knowledge, the Show Office is anticipating higher total numbers than last year. If that is the case, we will house two (2) animals per pen.**

There is always the possibility that we could have three (3) animals per pen. We ask that you come prepared to handle these assignment scenarios with any alterations, dividers, etc. that you may want to use. Tack should not be placed in the tie bay area.

Each species tie/pen assignment will be sent in an email once we receive the State allocation.

All exhibitors attending the State Show are responsible for feeding, watering, and caring for their animals, as well as for cleaning the areas where their animals are tied, stalled, etc. **This must be done each morning prior to 8:00 AM.** We expect each exhibitor to have honor in carrying this out. Parents, we also need your help to encourage our exhibitors to keep the aisles and their areas clean.

Exhibitors and family are also responsible for getting animals to the scale, turning in weight cards, and having animals and exhibitors present at the show ring in a timely manner.

We appreciate your support, cooperation, and teamwork during this time. Let's support each other through this process and continue Lafayette's trend of excellence!

Animal Sale Information

You will soon be receiving a packet that has Sale pictures, buyer's information, and a letter from us explaining how to handle delivery of animals, pictures, and thank you notes. If you are not attending the State Show or do not receive your packet at State, please pick up the packet within the dates of **Monday, February 23rd and Friday, February 27th.**

This is a reminder that only the cost above the market animal value is tax deductible for an animal purchased at the Lafayette Livestock Sale. The market animal values per species are approximately as follows: broiler, \$1.10 per pound dressed; goat, \$1.50 live weight; sheep, \$1.50 live weight; swine, \$0.85/pound live weight; steer, \$1.25/pound live weight. If you purchased an item in the silent auction, the live cake auction, or for the parish animal, your entire amount is tax deductible. Verify all information for your own tax purposes.

Exhibitors must send a photocopy of their thank you letter to the 4-H Office. An exhibitor's check will be released after the buyer pays and we've received this photocopy in early June. Please send the thank you letter photocopy to Paula Byrd at pbyrd@agcenter.lsu.edu or mail it to Sale Thank You, C/o Paula Byrd, 1010 Lafayette St., Ste. 325, Lafayette, LA 70501. Families will be notified via email once their check is ready for pick-up at the 4-H Office.

Remember, checks will be issued to exhibitors only **after** the thank you letter **and** pictures have been "hand delivered" to buyers. Documentation can also be hand delivered to the 4-H Office as well.

School Excuses

School excuses were not sent out this year due to the 2026 State Livestock Show coinciding with the school's Mardi Gras breaks.

Livestock Advisory Committee Survey

Advisory Committees are the key to a successful program. The primary purpose of the Committee is to give the stakeholders the opportunity to express their views on the needs of the community and how Extension can best meet those needs. The Committee's overall purpose is to advise and make recommendations to the Extension staff to improve the Parish program. Furthermore, the Committee has a responsibility to assist the Extension personnel in planning, executing, and evaluating these programs.

Committee members must have the ability to communicate with others and be willing to invest their time and effort into the program. It is an opportunity to grow individually and to support our local community.

We will be conducting an evaluation survey after the conclusion of the State Livestock Show. The survey will include recommendations for the Parish, District, and State shows. It will be an electronic survey sent out to all livestock exhibitors by email. Honest feedback, both positive and negative, is valued. We would also appreciate potential solutions to any problems identified.

Record Books Due February 27th

How are those record books coming along? By now they should be close to completion. Record book guidelines can be found at [4-H Contest Rules / Forms](http://4-HContestRules/Forms) (lsuagcenter.com). Instructions were provided to all club members at the January club meetings. Here are a few things to remember:

- All record books are due to our office by Friday, February 27th, *and could be due to your school club leader prior to this date*. Many of you have been busy doing work, make sure it is recorded in your record book!
- 4th & 5th Graders - Complete the entire project book and submit to your leader.

- 6th – 12th Graders - A record book consists of project books OR activity guides and a portfolio. 4-H Project Record Sheets should accompany activity guides and are optional in accompanying project books. Submit a completed 4-H Portfolio with your books to your leader.
- The contests entered and awards won over the last three years can all be recorded in your record book. List in detail the work you did and the things you have learned. 6-12th graders — Don't forget to complete and place the portfolio record sheets with your project books!

Office Status & Agent News

The Lafayette AgCenter Office remains committed to each of you, our members, and the many volunteers that help us serve you in this program. We will continue to strive to provide excellent service to everyone we serve. Our staff and Species Reps will be in Gonzales for parts of the Show to assist exhibitor families.

Ms. Lanie: 14th - 20th

Mrs. Nicole: 18th - 20th

Mrs. Charlene: 14th – 15th; 17th – 20th

Mr. Camden: 19th - 20th

If you need something immediately, please feel free to contact us. You can also ask a show official at the Show.

We look forward to seeing each of you!

Sincerely,

Camden Oglesby

Nicole Gerard

CHARLES HEBERT