A Little About Livestock

Here in South Carolina, Fall becomes a very busy time of year for youth livestock programs. The Fall season is fair season! Since many of you will be traveling to shows with your animals, now is a good time to be thinking about biosecurity.

Biosecurity refers to the things you do to prevent a disease or illness from entering your herd or group of animals. Any time there are groups of animals from different premises brought together (like at a show) there is a potential for disease transmission. It is your job to minimize the possibility of your animals getting sick and of you bringing home a disease to be introduced to your other animals.

Here are a few tips you can follow at shows and fairs to keep your animals safe:
- Keep as much distance between animals from different farms as possible.
- Avoid direct contact between animals.
- Do not share equipment (grooming tools, feed and water troughs), if you loan out your equipment disinfect it before allowing your animals to use.
- Do not use a community water trough, take your own bucket to the water spigot and fill it for your animal to drink from.
- If your animals becomes sick at an event, isolate that animal immediately and contact the vet.

These are just a few guidelines, for more information visit the Clemson University’s Livestock Poultry Health website.
http://www.clemson.edu/public/lph/ahp/index.html

Extension Field Day

The Annual Clemson PSA Field Day held in Pendleton, SC on Saturday, August 23rd offered a wide variety of topics for the general public to attend. Beef production and management, fencing, small ruminant health and wellness, equine, forage production, technology in agriculture, crop production, insect control, and beekeeping are just a few of the topics covered.

There was also a youth session while the adults were attending other sessions. During 4-H Youth Livestock session the Cut Above Beef 4H Club led a hands-on activity about the importance of weighing feed, different processing methods, and various types of feedstuffs. All in attendance learned a lot and got to take home their very own feed mixture!

If you missed this event, be looking for it next August!
**Jr. Beef Round-Up**

A great big THANK YOU goes out to the many volunteers who helped out this year with Round-Up. It was a great weekend celebrating the 28th year! We had 148 junior exhibitors, their families and friends, and 255 head of cattle from 5 states at the Garrison that first weekend in August!

Junior exhibitors participated in many activities throughout the weekend. Friday night was the Sales Talk Contest. Saturday were the Scholarship Contest, Beef Ambassador Contest, Jr. Cattlemen’s Contest, and Showmanship. Sunday were the Breed Shows. The results of these weekend competitive events were awards totaling over $5,000 in college scholarships and over $3,500 in other awards and prizes. There were also many non-competitive activities like the sponsored hamburger supper on Saturday night and the worship service on Sunday morning.

To view the full listing of results along with other great information visit the Jr. Beef Round-Up website!

Some of the many Extension Agents and volunteers who helped during Round-Up.

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**Dairy Heifer Project**

With 22 project members in the 2014-2015 and 25 in the 2013-2014 Dairy heifer project, there are a lot of dairy heifers out across the state!

**13-14 Project Members:** If you have not sent in your Breeding Information Sheet you need to do so ASAP! The catalog is being compiled now and we need that information!!!! Any questions contact me!

**14-15 Project Members:** If this is your first year at the SC State Fair, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions! There is a lot going on and it can be scary and confusing. Just give me a call at (864) 656-0496!

**ALL Project Members:** We will be having a short meeting and project photo taken at the State Fair on Thursday, October 9th at 4:00 pm. Please make every effort to meet at the bleachers in the main show ring at this time.

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**SC 4-H/FFA Rabbit Project**

A pilot curriculum for the SC 4-H/FFA Rabbit Project has been created. All items WILL be available on the website for use. We are asking anyone interested in participating in a rabbit project to give this new curriculum a try and at the end of the year provide us with some feedback so we can continue to improve upon the project.

The new curriculum is based on an advancement level model to allow for plenty of customization.

I’ve tried to explain how it is supposed to work on the website and in the instructions but if you have questions don’t hesitate to call Robin Long (864) 656-0496.
SC State Fair: Scholarships

If you are interested in applying for one of the many scholarships given out during the junior livestock shows at the South Carolina State Fair then you need to be aware of the various deadlines and criteria for each one. Here are a few guidelines to know, but please check the website for full details!

**Swine**
Registration Due: September 13, 2014
Contest Date: October 14, 2014
Contact: Mr. Jesse Eargle (803) 531-3139

**Dairy**
Registration Due: September 29, 2014
Contest Date: October 10, 2014
Contact: Ms. Robin Long (864) 656-0496

**Beef**
Registration Due: October 17, 2014
Contest Date: October 17, 2014
Contact: Mr. Stan Clements (864) 993-1248

2013 Swine Scholarship Winner Shelby Holliday

Speak to Impress
You may have a great resume and know your stuff about livestock but if you can’t clearly communicate, knowing your stuff alone won’t land you that scholarship. You have to not only know what to say but you must be able to say it well. Here are a few tips to help you prepare for your scholarship interviews:

**PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE**

Small talk is okay. When you walk in, talk to your interviewers. Let them get to know your personality and how you communicate with people.

Do NOT use slang, acronyms, or colloquialisms. Simply speak professionally using complete sentences.

Let the interviewer lead the discussion, don’t ramble, interrupt, or divert the conversation.

Avoid filler words. Words used to fill gaps and pauses. “Um,” “ahh,” “so,” “like,” and “you know,” are all filler words that can reduce your credibility and hurt your score.

Be aware of your use of filler words, when you know you are about to use a filler word, pause for a moment to gather your thoughts.

Pause, think, and breathe. It’s okay to think for a moment before talking. This helps you keep control and answer thoughtfully. It also helps you slow down. Be careful not to talk too fast.

**PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE**

Bottom line: Slow down, speak clearly, no slang, be yourself, and remember, no interview goes perfectly!

State Fair: Youth Livestock Display

The Youth Livestock Program is working on setting up a display to put up at the State Fair in the front section of the Cattle Arena.

If 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters or Individuals would like to display posters or other educational material that would be beneficial for the general public to view contact Robin Long for details.

We are also looking for anyone interested in woodworking that would be interested in working with us to build a display setup to showcase our program and its amazing youth! Again, any interested parties contact Robin Long.

Help us make 4-H and FFA a HUGE part of what the general public remember from their visit to the SC State Fair!

Poultry Judges Training Workshop

For anyone with an interest in poultry, do you think you might like to judge youth poultry shows? Serving as a judge is not as scary as it may seem and it’s a great way to impact and encourage youth, spread the word about the poultry industry, and you might be able to make a few extra dollars.

The South Carolina Youth Livestock Program will be offering a poultry judge’s training on the Saturday, November 15th for anyone with an interest in judging county fair poultry shows. This event will meet the needs of beginners (adults and teens) that want to judge small 4-H, FFA, county shows, or as a way to begin preparing for professional poultry judging certifications.

The location, time, agenda, and further details will be announced later as soon as they are finalized.
Activity Idea
Create a poster that illustrates your farm/club/group’s biosecurity plan and why it is important. Display your poster at the next fair or show for the general public to view and teach visitors about why and how you work hard to keep all your animals healthy!

Upcoming Workshops/Events

**Livestock Business Principles**
September 19th
Clemson University
Clemson, SC
Assisting livestock owners handle their legal, accounting, lending and insurance needs.
$75 (lunch and materials)
Kristine Vernon (864) 656-4028

**GA National Fair: Jr. Invitational**
Steer & Heifer Show
October 11-12, 2014
Perry, GA
Entry Deadline: Sept. 20th
Heather Shultz (706) 542-8892

If you have any events coming up in December, January, or February that you would like to add, send the details to Robin Long (rlong2@clemson.edu).

South Carolina 4-H/FFA Livestock Show Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round-Up</td>
<td>Aug. 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crescent FFA</td>
<td>August 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laurens</td>
<td>August 21-23</td>
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<td>Greenwood</td>
<td>Aug. 30-Sept. 1</td>
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<td>Newberry</td>
<td>September 4-6</td>
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<td>Abbeville</td>
<td>September 5-6</td>
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<td>York</td>
<td>September 5-6</td>
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<td>Goat Craze</td>
<td>September 13</td>
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<td>Saluda</td>
<td>September 16-18</td>
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<td>Anderson</td>
<td>Sept 19-21</td>
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<td>South Greenville</td>
<td>September 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orangeburg</td>
<td>Sept. 28 – Oct.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foothills Heritage Fair</td>
<td>Sept. 30 – Oct.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Carolina Ag Fair</td>
<td>October 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piedmont Interstate Fair</td>
<td>October 6-12</td>
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<td>Sumter County Fair</td>
<td>October 7-12</td>
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<td>SC State Fair</td>
<td>October 8-19</td>
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<td>Union County Ag Fair</td>
<td>October 14-18</td>
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<td>Georgia-Carolina Fair</td>
<td>October 17-26</td>
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<td>Western Carolina</td>
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<td>Aiken</td>
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<td>Goat Project Oct. 25</td>
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<td>Coastal Carolina</td>
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<td>Ladson</td>
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<td>Goats Nov. 1</td>
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View the full schedule on the South Carolina Youth Livestock Program website.

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/kids_families/projects/agriculture_and_animals/livestock.html