

# Montana 4-H Congress Livestock Evaluation Contest

## **PURPOSE:**

To teach Montana youth to evaluate livestock in a manner that will maximize their livestock learning experience.

## **OUTLINE:**

Classes may include: Up to 4 Beef Classes, Up to 4 Swine Classes, Up to 4 Sheep Classes, 2 classes of market/breeding meat goats and 6 Reasons Classes

Some of the classes may be keep/cull classes. Reasons will be given following the conclusion of judging of all classes. Reasons may be given at the pavilion or at a different location on campus.

Scores from all classes will be used in final tabulation for the contest. An official placing and reasons will be given for all classes. County Agents and 4-H Leaders may be asked to assist specialists in making final placings as well as taking and giving reasons.

Beginning in 2014, the Livestock Evaluation Contest will continue until approximately 2:00 p.m. on contest day. The contest will be immediately followed by a 2-hour Ag Quadrothon contest (Ag Skillathon) with mandatory attendance, but not scored.

## **RULES: NEW**

County teams must be made of 3 or 4 members, all of which must be eligible to attend the Western National Roundup in Denver. Those who have previously attended the Western National Roundup in Denver are not eligible to attend roundup **again in the same discipline** and must be entered as alternates at Montana 4-H Congress **if competing in the same discipline**. **Counties can enroll an unlimited number of alternates**. Each county must declare the members of their team when they register for congress. If counties have less than 3 members that are eligible for the Western National Roundup they may join with an adjacent county or counties (the counties must share a common border) to make an eligible team of 3 or 4. There will be no substitutions on the team that goes to Denver. Members must compete in the Montana 4-H Congress contest in order to be eligible for the award trip to Denver. All contestants must be 4-H members of the county(s) they are judging for.

## **AWARDS:**

The winning team at 4-H Congress will receive some (approximately \$1,200 per team) financial assistance to attend the Western Regional 4-H Roundup in Denver in January. Contestants must be 4-H club members in the current year. Contestants must be at least 14 years of age and must not have passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by October 1 of the current 4-H year. Contestants must not have participated in any post-secondary (university, college, junior college, or technical school) competitive livestock judging contest. Neither can a contestant be a member of a post-secondary team undergoing training in preparation for such an event. Team members cannot have been on a previous livestock judging team that has judged at the Western Roundup or any other major national 4-H judging event. Members on the team for team score cannot have attended a previous Western Regional 4-H Roundup **in the same discipline**.

## **RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Please check with MSU Extension Publications and the current 4-H Clover for the most up to date

listing of available resources. Extension specialists may also be available to assist with your preparation in this contest area.