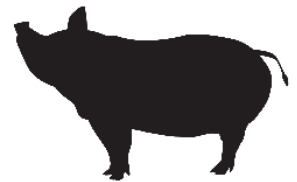




2026 FLORIDA AGRICULTURE & WILDLIFE EXPO SWINE SHOW & SALE RULES AND REGULATIONS



Entry Due: November 14, 2025

Initial Tag-in: December 6, 2025

Ethics Course Completed by: January 31, 2026

Record book due: March 6, 2026

Final Weigh-in: March 18, 2026

Show date: March 19, 2026

Sale Date: March 21, 2026

Mandatory Clean up: March 22, 2026

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, events will occur at:

Rock Lake Cattle Demonstration Area, 8132 Croom Rital Rd, Brooksville, 34602.

Registration must be completed (including payment) on the Showman App website by **midnight November 14, 2025**. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted. **One backup project may be registered but MUST have a separate entry submitted – Only one entry fee required per species per exhibitor.** Any animal registered as a backup project may only be used by exhibitors of the same family registered in the event with the same home address.

There are additional rules listed as GENERAL rules for all FAWE livestock projects. All exhibitors are responsible for those in addition to these species-specific rules. By completing registration, all youth exhibitors and guardians agree to abide by all posted rules and understand the consequences of all violations.

1. INITIAL TAG-IN: Exhibitor must be present and participate.

- a. A Single tagging and tattooing event will be held for 2025-2026. Swine registered are required to be tattooed and ear tagged on Saturday, December 6, 2025 beginning at 4:00pm (in line by 6:00pm)
- b. Entries may be barrow or open gilts (no boars or stags)
- c. Recommended beginning weight of swine at initial tagging is 100pounds.
- d. All swine will be tagged at initial weigh-in. If an ear tag is lost, the exhibitor must notify their FFA Advisor, or 4-H Leader in writing. The Advisor or Leader must contact FAWE and advise them of the missing ear tag.
- e. Exhibitors will be issued an official record book which must be completed by the exhibitor and submitted to Ranch Hand Feed Depot (21029 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville, FL 34601) by March 6, 2026 at 5:00pm. Estimated final weights will be used. Hard copies and electronic copies will be provided. **Record books not deemed to be complete by at least 75% will result in disqualification of the exhibitor and animal from all final events.** *Current year versions must be used.*

2. POST INITIAL TAG-IN TO FINAL ENTRY:

- a. The FAWE Board would like to emphasize general care, grooming, cleaning of stalls/pens, and feeding of projects are the responsibility of the exhibitor with assistance only from FFA Advisor, 4-H Leader, Parent/Guardian or fellow exhibitor.
- b. All swine must weigh at least 220lbs at the March 18, 2026 final weigh-in.

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- c. All exhibitors must attend a state fair association or Hernando UF/IFAS approved ethics course. Due date for completion of this course is Friday, January 31, 2026. Failure to complete an approved course will result in disqualification from all events. Proof of completion must be emailed to: notify.fawexpo@gmail.com by 5pm on January 31, 2026.
- d. The FAWE Board reserves the right to visit the swine within a reasonable amount of time at the location disclosed as their place of housing with at least 24-hour notice to exhibitor and parent/guardian. Notice will be in writing to the email address listed on the entry form. Refusal may result in disqualification of exhibitor and animal. Death of any animal registered to exhibit in the Florida Agriculture and Wildlife Expo must be reported to the FAWE Board within 24 hours. FAWE Board reserves the right to verify the death of any registered animal.

3. FINAL WEIGH-IN:

- a. Final weigh-in: March 18, 2026 beginning at 4:00pm. YOU MUST BE IN LINE BY 7:00pm. **There will be a brief MANDATORY meeting immediately after check in is complete, approximately 7:15pm. Any exhibitor not in attendance will be disqualified from exhibiting their project.**
 - i. Swine weighing more than 320 pounds will be sold at 320 pounds.
 - ii. **LIGHTWEIGHT SWINE:** Swine not meeting minimum weight requirements of 220 lbs will be referred to as Lightweights. Lightweight swine are eligible for record book and showmanship competitions and will be sold at the end of the auction.
- b. During final weigh-in, no equipment/tack/supplies will be unloaded until after the final swine is weighed in. Exhibitors having supplies that must be removed to unload their animal will be sent to the end of the line. All equipment must be kept in their designated areas for the duration of FAWE. Each club/chapter can only have one trailer in the designated area (*an additional trailer may be allowed for those with a higher number of participants but must be requested*); *any unauthorized vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense*. If the trailer your animal is riding in is ready to be unloaded and you are not present, your animal will go to the end of the line.
- c. Health Regulations are subject to the Florida Department of Agriculture regulations in effect at the time. The FAWE Board will keep you informed of these regulations. No animal showing visible signs of illness or infestation will be accepted at the FAWE grounds. Any animal displaying external parasites at either initial check in or final weigh-in will not be permitted off the trailer (unless approved by a veterinarian or designee) and will be refused entry into the FAWE. Animals will be inspected prior to unloading. All withdrawal times must be observed for any medication given to a market animal.
- d. No swine may be exhibited in competition that cannot be effectively managed by the exhibitor. If an animal is unmanageable in the show arena, the animal may be dismissed at the discretion of the judge or FAWE Board member. Once a judge or FAWE Board member excuses an animal from the arena, or is dismissed during the show, that animal will not be permitted to return for showmanship.
- e. Pen spaces will be assigned as club groups at random by the FAWE Board. **Exhibitors must stay in pen assigned and can not relocate to a vacant pen without approval of the FAWE Board.**

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4. EXHIBIT PERIOD:

a. Swine must be cared for from the time of arrival until swine are removed. No feed buckets may be left in pen. Only secured gravity waterers are allowed to be left in the swine pen. All water pails, buckets, etc must be removed. Feeding of animals must be completed by 10:00am and again by 9:00pm. If there is a show in progress, then an hour after show is completed in the evening. Swine are recommended to be exercised daily.

- i. There will be no feeding or bathing of animals during any livestock show
- ii. Additional care may be provided at the discretion of the FAWE Board

b. Feeding and Bedding: Limited bedding will be provided by FAWE. *Additional bedding supplied by exhibitors is permitted.* Feed and water must be provided by the exhibitor. FAWE Board reserves the right to stipulate the bucket type. Materials that may be dangerous, such as fences, metal pitchforks, metal rakes, hay nets, etc will not be allowed in the show or barn area. No flowers or plants will be allowed in the exhibit area, except those provided by FAWE.

i. Showboxes or other tack may not be placed in the animal pen, wash rack or show area.

ii. Each club will be designated a trailer area for supply and equipment storage

c. Medications: The administration of medication for scours or other conditions shall be done under direct supervision of a veterinarian or FAWE Board member, this includes pig calm. The livestock committee chair must be notified that such medication is being administered. Unauthorized dispensation of medications is considered unethical and may result in disqualification of the animal and/or exhibitor.

5. SHOW, SHOWMANSHIP & SALE:

a. Judging will take place March 19, 2026, beginning at 6pm. The sale of swine will take place on March 21, 2026, immediately following pullets but not beginning before 3:00pm. **No supplies or tack may be removed until March 22, 2026, between 12:00pm and 1:00pm.**

b. Final classes will be determined by weight as necessary to assure manageable numbers in each show class. Premiums will be paid in all weight classes. All blue-ribbon class winners will compete for Grand Champion. The swine standing second in Grand Champion's class will be eligible to compete for Reserve Grand Champion if earning a blue ribbon.

c. Exhibitors must line up in class order/order called. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification. Youth will be called twice as well as provided access to the written order in advance. If they do not line up immediately following the second call, they will not enter the class.

d. Showmanship participation is mandatory. Exhibitors who do not participate in showmanship will forfeit earned premiums for that species. Club/Chapter/Family entries are eligible for up to two age divisions, on exhibitor in each. Group entries must make a declaration of participation at final weigh-in when their swine clears the scale.

e. All who bid and purchase must be pre-registered and must have a buyer number. Buyers are requested to pay the night of the sale. If the buyer requires an invoice to pay, invoices will be mailed no later than 7 days after the sale and payment is expected in 30 days. FAWE will charge a late fee of 10% on any invoices not paid within 30 days, any invoices not paid within 60 days will incur a 20% late fee and any invoice remaining unpaid after 60 days will be referred for additional collection proceedings.

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- f. Buyer's gifts are highly recommended for your projects. These gifts do not have to be expensive it is the thought that counts. Examples: plants, bbq supplies, gift cards, gift baskets of anything you feel your buyer will love.
- g. ALL ANIMALS SOLD MUST GO TO A RECOGNIZED SLAUGHTERING ESTABLISHMENT. As a condition of acceptance in the sale, Exhibitor (seller) agrees that all animals exhibited must be sold and slated for processing. Animals must go straight to processor. No buyer is obligated to buy. There is no certain price per pound guaranteed
- h. All Exhibitors will pay their bills relating to their project within 30 days of checks being issued. The FAWE Board reserves the right to refuse entry into the show, or subsequent shows, because of any failure of Exhibitor to uphold their financial responsibilities relative to their project. This includes any monies owed to a farmer, rancher, individual, feed mill, or store who supplied/provided an animal, boarding, tack, feed, or hay to an Exhibitor, with the promise of payment to them, once monies were received from the FAWE, and said promise has not yet been fulfilled. The exhibitor will NOT be allowed to show any animals at the FAWE until said debts have been paid in full. The debtor must contact the FAWE to advise that said debt has been paid in full.

6. POST SALE:

- a. Loading animals after the sale will be supervised by the FAWE Board members **ONLY** and will be done in pre-designated areas. Any individual loading an animal without appropriate personnel in attendance or in a non-designated area will be fined \$250. If said individual has youth participating in the FAWE Sale, their checks will be held until the fine is paid. It is not the intent of the FAWE Board to penalize the youth exhibitors but to stress the importance of these strict policies.
- b. All exhibitors must participate in the mandatory clean-up, March 22, 2026, from 12:00pm until 1:00pm. Youth must remain present the entire hour and check in and out at the table. Failure to do so will result in a fine and possibly loss of premium.

There are additional rules listed as GENERAL. All exhibitors are responsible for those in addition to these species- specific rules. By completing registration, all youth and guardians agree to abide by all rules and understand the consequences of all violations

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