



2026

THE PORTAGE COUNTY FAIR-AMHERST
MARKET ANIMAL SALE RULES

THE FAMILY FUN FAIR!!

Market Animal Sale Rules & Regulations

Welcome to the 31st Portage County Fair-Amherst Market Animal Sale Project. Any youth who is currently enrolled in good standing in a 4-H Club, all Agri-Science and Family and Consumer Education Students and members of any other recognized youth organization which has adult leadership, and an approved education program is eligible to exhibit at the fair. Entries are open to any youth enrolled in a Portage County youth organization or living in the towns of Scandinavia, Iola, and Farmington in Waupaca County.

Day	Time	Event	Location
Thursday	2:00 – 6:00 PM	Unloading Animals	All Barns
	2:00 – 6:00 PM	Weigh-in Swine & Sheep	Husky Hansen Building
	2:00 – 6:30 PM	Turkey Weigh-in	Turkey Barn
	7:00 PM	Beef Weigh-in	Beef Barn
	8:00 PM	Exhibitors Meeting	Husky Hansen Building
Friday	8:30 AM	Swine Judging	Husky Hansen Building
	8:30 AM	Turkey Judging	Turkey Barn
	10:00 AM	Sheep Judging	Husky Hansen Building
	1:00 PM	Beef Judging	Beef Barn
Saturday	9:00 AM	Ultrasound Swine/Sheep/Beef	Husky Hansen Building
	1:00 PM	Carcass Results/Awards	Husky Hansen Building
	2:00 PM	Ag Olympics	Husky Hansen Building
Sunday	12:00 PM	Market Animal Sale	Husky Hansen Building
	4:30 PM	Animals Released	All Barns

Spring Weigh-Ins/ID Documentation

1. There will be no Weigh-on for any animal.
2. A Photo ID and Animal Identification form will be required for all market animals. Please see individual species rules for information.

Requirements to Sell a Market Animal

1. The exhibitor and a parent/guardian must sign the Market Animal Agreement page due April 15, 2026.
2. Exhibitors must complete the YQCA program. This is **MANDATORY** for all exhibitors. Please send your certification to marketanimal@amherstfair.com by June 1, 2026, <https://yqcaprogram.org>
3. Exhibitor **MUST** complete Photo ID and Animal Identification form for individual species.
4. Exhibitors must submit 2 completed bidder slips via email due by July 1, 2026.
5. Exhibitor must fill out a Biography Form – it will be read as Exhibitor enters the sale ring.
6. Further requirements of minimum/maximum weight, quality grades, etc. are found in individual species rules.
7. Participation in the live Carcass Contest is expected. An ultrasound will be done on swine, lambs, and beef on Saturday July 18, 2026.
8. No meetings are required to sell but the Market Animal Committee recommends each Exhibitor try to attend a Jackpot Show, educational clinics/seminars put on by feed companies or coops.
9. Exhibitors and/or Parents will need to volunteer their time at the fair. Volunteer signup sheet will be available on or before June 1st. If you don't volunteer by July 1st, The Barn Superintendents will assign each family to a job.
10. Exhibitors Meeting – **MANDATORY**- Thursday July 16, 2025 – 8:00 PM – Husky Hansen Building.

Potential Buyers and Bidder Slips

1. Buyers/bidders are integral to the market animal sale and are to be treated with the utmost respect by participants and their families.
2. The bidder slip is an indication of a potential bidder, there is no obligation to purchase your sale animal.

3. Each sale participant is required to submit 2 bidder slips. Family members **MAY NOT** use the same bidders. Each family member needs to have different bidders.
4. Bidder slips are to marketanimal@amherstfair.com by July 1, 2026.

Show and Sale General Rules

1. Please see Fair Book for additional descriptions and breakdown of each species.
2. Exhibitor MUST sign up their animals/projects on Fair Entry at www.fairentry.com (Due June 1, 2026), in addition to Photo ID, Animal Identification Form and Exhibitor's Agreement, that are due April 15, 2026
3. Exhibitors will be able to sign up as a family unit for each species on the Photo Identification Form. At the time of Weigh-Ins, each exhibitor shall designate which animals they will exhibit. Only two animals per exhibitor per species are allowed.
4. All Sheep and Beef are welcome to show during the Market Animal Show but only the animals that are signed up for the Amherst Market Animal Sale will be sold. All Portage County Market Animal Projects (Rosholt Fair) are encouraged to participate in the show. Exhibitor can just sign up at www.fairentry.com
5. Each Exhibitor can sell 2 species at the sale, **but not 2 of the same species**. (For example, 1 turkey and 1 hog, or 1 hog and 1 sheep, or 1 sheep and 1 turkey, but not 2 hogs or 2 turkeys or 2 sheep.)
6. The swine show is a Terminal Show. All swine will be slaughtered.
7. A 5% sale commission will go to the Fair Board. All other proceeds go to the exhibitor selling the animal.
8. Once the animal is sold, it becomes the property of the buyer. However, the exhibitor has the responsibility of caring for said animal until the end of the fair on Sunday evening.
9. The Sale Order will be randomly sorted by an excel spreadsheet.
10. Photos will no longer be taken at the sale, please provide your own photo, with your animal to your buyer.
11. Any Exhibitor who sells in the market animal sale must submit a copy of their Thank You Letter and exhibitors' photo with their animal, that was sent to the Exhibitor's buyer no later than August 31, 2026. Copies shall be emailed to marketanimal@amherstfair.com. A confirmation email will be sent back the same day, if you don't receive the confirmation email, we didn't receive your email. Please resend or call. This is a requirement before an exhibitor can receive their sale check.
12. Sheep and Swine Exhibitors must ear tag their animals prior to Photo ID. Tags will be provided by the fair board. Please see species rules for time and place to pick them up.
13. Clipping, fitting, and grooming. The exhibitor must be present and actively involved.

Fair Unloading/Fair Weigh-In Day

1. Unloading times for all animals will be 2:00-6:00 PM on Thursday, July 16, 2026
2. All animals will be weighed coming off the trailers (Except the Market Beef, please see Beef Rules). You may not unload your animals until they have been inspected by the Fair Veterinarian or Barn Superintendent. The Veterinarian and/or Barn Superintendent will have the discretion to reject your animal from being unloaded if it appears to be in poor health or improperly cared for. Procedure for animal rejection is described in the Animal Care Agreement.
3. Please bring your animal to the Fair in clean condition and in good health. The first time your animal is washed should not be at the fair.
4. Exhibitors must have all their paperwork ready at the time of unloading. Please see species rules for all that is needed.
5. The scale weight will be the official weight. If exhibitor or family member doesn't agree or challenges the weight, the animal will not be allowed to be in the sale.
6. All exhibitors must SUPPLY THEIR OWN BEDDING.
7. It is the Exhibitors responsibility to feed, water, and care for their animal throughout the fair. Please see the Animal Care Agreement.

Market Swine Exhibitors

No Tag Pick Up		
Photo ID/Animal Identification Form Market Animal Agreement	April 15, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Fair Entry Volunteer Signup Begins	June 1, 2026	www.fairentry.com
YQCA Certificate	June 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Bidder Slips Volunteer Signup Ends	July 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Weigh-In/Unloading Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal Care Agreement - Animal Identification Form - Animal Drug History - CVI, Certificate of Veterinary Inspection - Exhibitor Biography Form 	July 16, 2026 2:00-6:00 PM Unloading Animals & Weigh-in	Husky Hansen Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barn Superintendent
Thank You	August 31, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com

1. Exhibitors must have ownership and possession of their swine by April 15, 2026.
2. Gilts and barrows born after 12/1/2025 may be sold.
3. Swine Identification
 - a. Ear tags will be provided to each exhibitor, see date and time to pick them up.
 - If you don't have an ear tagger, let us know and we can help you find one.
 - Any swine that doesn't have the proper ear tag in at Fair Weigh-in will not be allowed to sell. If at any time the animal loses its ear tag, please contact Michael Helbach.
 - b. If exhibitors from the same family participate in the swine project, all swine may be identified and listed under all family exhibitors. Maximum of 2 animals per exhibitor. (2 youth in family can ID 4 head, 4 youth in family can ID 8 head, etc.)
 - c. At Fair Weigh-In, the family will determine which swine will be entered for each exhibitor.
 - d. Changes will not be allowed after Fair Weigh-in.
 - e. A family consists of brother/sister/stepchildren/foster children/guardianship.
4. Photo ID/Documentation; For each hog; Two photos, one photo showing the ear tag and the other showing the whole hog. Please try to get the ear tag in both photos. Also send along the Animal Identification Form, which includes, Tag #, Breed, Gender, State of Origin, Exhibitor/Family Name, and where the hogs are housed. Photos and Animal Identification Form shall be emailed to marketanimal@amherstfair.com by April 15, 2026. A **CONFIRMATION EMAIL** will be sent back the same day. If you don't receive the Confirmation Email, we didn't receive your email. Please resend or call.
5. All exhibitors must bring their own bedding.
6. Carcass Contest
 - a. An ultrasound will be done on swine on Saturday July 18, 2026, at 9:00 AM. The results and awards will be given out at 1:00 PM, the same day, in the Husky Hansen Building.
7. If an exhibitor wins both Grand Champion and Reserve Champion, the exhibitor may only sell one hog. The 3rd overall hog will be the Reserve Champion Sale Hog. No Exhibitor can sell two of the same species.
8. The minimum weight at fair weigh-in must be 230 pounds to be eligible for the sale.
9. No Maximum weight but there is a maximum pay out weight of 310 pounds, Buyer will only pay for 310 pounds.

Market Lamb Exhibitors

No Tag Pick Up – Lambs entering the sale will be tag at the fair.		
Photo ID/Animal Identification Form Market Animal Agreement	April 15, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Fair Entry Volunteer Signup Begins	June 1, 2026	www.fairentry.com
YQCA Certificate	June 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Bidder Slips Volunteer Signup Ends	July 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Weigh-In/Unloading Day - Animal Care Agreement - Animal Identification Form - Animal Drug History - Exhibitor Biography Form	July 16, 2026 2:00-6:00 PM Unloading Animals & Weigh-in	Husky Hansen Building - Barn Superintendent
Thank You	August 31, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com

1. Exhibitors must have ownership and possession of their lamb by April 15, 2026.
2. Ewes and Wethers born after 12/1/2025 may be sold.
3. Lamb Identification
 - a. All lambs must have a scrapie tag at time of Photo ID and Fair Weigh-in.
 - b. Any lamb that doesn't have the proper scrapie tag in at Weigh-in, that lamb will not be allowed to sell. If at any time the animal loses its scrapie tag, please contact Lissa Danforth or Michael Helbach.
 - c. If exhibitors from the same family participate in the lamb project, all lambs may be identified and listed under all family exhibitors. Maximum of 2 animals per exhibitor. (2 youth in family can ID 4 head, 4 youth in family can ID 8 head etc.)
 - d. At Fair Weigh-In, the family will determine which lamb will be entered for each exhibitor.
 - e. Changes will not be allowed after Fair Weigh-in.
 - f. A family consists of brother/sister/stepchildren/foster children/guardianship.
4. Photo ID/Documentation; For each lamb; Two photos, one photo showing the Scrapie Tag and the other showing the whole lamb. Please try to get the Scrapie Tag in both photos. Also send along the Animal Identification Form, which includes, Scrapie tag, Breed, Gender, State of Origin, Exhibitor/Family Name, and where the lambs are housed. Photos and Animal Identification Form shall be emailed to marketanimal@amherstfair.com by April 15, 2026. A **CONFIRMATION EMAIL** will be sent back the same day. If you don't receive the Confirmation Email, we didn't receive your email. Please resend or call.
5. All exhibitors must bring their own bedding.
6. Carcass Contest
 - b. An ultrasound will be done on lambs Saturday July 18, 2026, at 9:00 AM. The results and awards will be given out at 1:00 PM, the same day, in the Husky Hansen Building.
7. If an exhibitor wins both Grand Champion and Reserve Champion, the exhibitor may only sell one lamb. The 3rd overall lamb will be the Reserve Champion Sale lamb. No Exhibitor can sell two of the same species.
8. The minimum weight on fair weigh-in will be 100 pounds to be eligible for the sale.
9. No Maximum weight.

Market Beef Exhibitors

No Tag Pick Up – Beef entering the sale will be tag at the fair.		
Photo ID/Animal Identification Form Market Animal Agreement	April 15, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Fair Entry Volunteer Signup Begins	June 1, 2026	www.fairentry.com
YQCA Certificate	June 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Bidder Slips Volunteer Signup Ends	July 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Weigh-In/Unloading Day - Animal Care Agreement - Animal Identification Form - Animal Drug History - Exhibitor Biography Form	July 16, 2026 2:00-6:00 PM Unloading Animals & Weigh-in	Husky Hansen Building - Barn Superintendent
Thank You	August 31, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com

1. Exhibitors must have ownership and possession of their steer/heifer by April 15, 2026.
2. Market Steers and Market Heifers born after 12/1/2024 may be sold.
3. Beef Identification
 - e. Beef are preferred to have ear tags but not necessary at time of Photo ID and Fair Weigh-in. Ear tags will be put on animal at the time of weigh-in, for the animals that will be in the sale.
 - f. If exhibitors from the same family participate in the beef project, all beef may be identified and listed under all family exhibitors. Maximum of 2 animals per exhibitor. (2 youth in family can ID 4 head, 4 youth in family can ID 8 head etc.)
 - g. At Fair Weigh-In, the family will determine which beef will be entered for each exhibitor.
 - g. Changes will not be allowed after Fair Weigh-in.
 - h. A family consists of brother/sister/stepchildren/foster children/guardianship.
4. Photo ID/Documentation; For each beef; Two photos, one photo showing the ear tag or head and the other showing the whole beef. Please try to get the ear tag (if there a tag) in both photos. Also send along the Animal Identification Form, which includes, Tag #, Breed, Gender, State of Origin, Exhibitor/Family Name, and where the beef is housed. Photos and Animal Identification Form shall be emailed to marketanimal@amherstfair.com by April 15, 2026. A **CONFIRMATION EMAIL** will be sent back the same day. If you don't receive the Confirmation Email, we didn't receive your email. Please resend or call.
5. All exhibitors must bring their own bedding.
6. Carcass Contest
 - a. An ultrasound will be done on beef Saturday July 18, 2026, after the lamb and swine (approx. 10:30am). The results and awards will be given out at 1:00 PM, the same day, in the Husky Hansen Building.
7. If an exhibitor wins both Grand Champion and Reserve Champion, the exhibitor may only sell one beef. The 3rd overall beef will be the Reserve Champion Sale beef. No Exhibitor can sell two of the same species.
8. The minimum weight on fair weigh-in will be 1000 pounds and grade Select+ or higher.
9. No Maximum weight.

Market Turkey Exhibitors

Hatchery Order Form Purchase Receipts-per Exhibitor Market Animal Agreement	April 15, 2026	jw_mwracer@yahoo.com jw_mwracer@yahoo.com marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Fair Entry Volunteer Signup Begins	June 1, 2026	www.fairentry.com
YQCA Certificate	June 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Bidder Slips Volunteer Signup Ends	July 1, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com
Weigh-In/Unloading Day - Animal Care Agreement - Leader Verification Form - Animal Drug History - Exhibitor Biography Form	July 16, 2026 2:00-6:00 PM Unloading Animals Weigh-in 2:00-6:30 PM	Turkey Barn - Barn Superintendent
Thank You	August 31, 2026	marketanimal@amherstfair.com

1. Exhibitors must have ownership and possession of their turkey by April 15, 2026.
2. Hens and Toms may be sold.
3. Turkeys cannot be hatched before February 1st.
4. Turkey Identification
 - a. Exhibitors must provide a copy of the hatchery order form showing the hatch date. (*i.e., Joe Smith purchased three white poults and three bronze poults on March 15, 2026*).
 - b. Exhibitors must sign and return the Exhibitor Agreement by April 15, 2026.
5. If breast blisters are found on the bird, they will be disqualified from sale.
6. All Turkeys will be weighed in on Thursday July 16, 2026, from 2:00 – 6:30 PM.
7. All exhibitors must bring their own bedding.
8. The minimum weight at Fair Weigh-in will be 18 pounds for Hens and 20 pounds for Toms.
9. No Maximum weight.

2026 Portage County Fair-Amherst

Market Animal Agreement

My parents/guardians and I have read the 2026 Portage County Fair-Amherst Market Animal Sale Rules and Regulations and we understand them and agree to abide by them. We acknowledge that failure to follow these rules will result in loss of any premium and/or trophy which may have been awarded.

Exhibitor Name: _____ Premise ID #: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age as of Jan 1, 2026: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Exhibitor Phone #: _____ Exhibitor Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone #: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Exhibitor Club's Name: _____

I plan to have the following market animals in the 2024 Amherst Market Animal Sale

- Sheep
- Swine
- Turkey
- Beef

Exhibitor Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Please sign, scan/photograph and return this form by Wednesday April 15, 2026.

Send to: marketanimal@amherstfair.com

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ANIMAL EXHIBITOR CHECKLIST

For Sheep

Members showing animals at the Portage County Fair-Amherst

- April 1 – Last Day to sign up or change fair project (all animals)
- April 15 – Exhibitor Agreements Due
- April 15 – Sheep Photo's Due w/Animal ID Form
- June 1 – Fair Entry Forms Due (All Animals)
- June 1 – YQCA
- June 1 – Volunteer Signup Starts
- July 1 – Market Sale Bidder Slips Due
- July 16 – Animal Care Agreement (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Drug History (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Identification Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Exhibitors Bio Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- August 31 – Thank You

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ANIMAL EXHIBITOR CHECKLIST

For Beef

Members showing animals at the Portage County Fair-Amherst

- April 1 – Last Day to sign up or change fair project (all animals)
- April 15 – Exhibitor Agreements Due
- April 15 – Beef Photo's Due w/Animal ID Form
- June 1 – Fair Entry Forms Due (All Animals)
- June 1 – YQCA
- June 1 – Volunteer Signup Starts
- July 1 – Market Sale Bidder Slips Due
- July 16 – Animal Care Agreement (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Drug History (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Identification Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Exhibitors Bio Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- August 31 – Thank You

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ANIMAL EXHIBITOR CHECKLIST

For Swine

Members showing animals at the Portage County Fair-Amherst

- April 1 – Last Day to sign up or change fair project (all animals)
- April 15 – Exhibitor Agreements Due
- April 15 – Pig Photo's Due w/Animal ID Form
- June 1 – Fair Entry Forms Due (All Animals)
- June 1 – YQCA
- June 1 – Volunteer Signup Starts
- July 1 – Market Sale Bidder Slips Due
- July 16 – Animal Care Agreement (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Drug History (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – **CVI Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (Barn Supervisor BEFORE Unloading)**
- July 16 – Animal Identification Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Exhibitors Bio Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- August 31 – Thank You

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ANIMAL EXHIBITOR CHECKLIST

For Turkey

Members showing animals at the Portage County Fair-Amherst

- April 1 – Last Day to sign up or change fair project (all animals)
- April 15 – Exhibitor Agreements Due
- April 15 – Hatchery Order Form or Purchase Receipts/Exhibitor
- June 1 – Fair Entry Forms Due (All Animals)
- June 1 – YQCA
- June 1 – Volunteer Signup Starts
- July 1 – Market Sale Bidder Slips Due
- July 16 – Animal Care Agreement (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Animal Drug History (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – **Leader Verification Form**
- July 16 – Animal Identification Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- July 16 – Exhibitors Bio Form (Barn Supervisor at time of Unloading)
- August 31 – Thank You