



# GILLESPIE 4-H NEW MEMBER BOOK 2023-2024

830-997-3452

[gillespie.agrilife.org](http://gillespie.agrilife.org)



Gillespie County—Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

## 4-H Timeline

4-H year runs September 1st,  
2023 - August 31st, 2024

## Age Divisions

**Clover Kids/Beginners** - 1<sup>st</sup> and  
2<sup>nd</sup> graders

**Juniors** – 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders

**Intermediates** – 6th, 7th, & 8th  
graders

**Seniors** – 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th  
graders

## 4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,  
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,  
my **HANDS** to larger service,  
and my **HEALTH** to better living,  
for my club, my community,  
my country, and my world.



## **Gillespie 4-H Agent: TBA**

We are currently in the process of hiring a 4H agent in Gillespie County. For assistance with 4H related questions, please contact the Gillespie County Extension Office at 830-997-3452.

**Ok, we want to join 4-H... What now? You need to choose a club to join!**

**We have 9 clubs in Gillespie County and all clubs have members in them who are doing various projects. We recommend that you choose the same club as your family, friends or neighbors, or you can choose based on the club that fits your schedule.**



### **Cave Creek 4-H**

1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm  
Cave Creek Schoolhouse

Club Manager—Brittany Ottmers (830) 889-2294  
Club Manager – Rebekah Cathey (830) 342-4194

### **Stonewall 4-H**

1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm  
Stonewall Elementary School

Club Manager— Jennifer Moreno (830)998-1603  
Club Manager— Lori Rice

### **Cross Mountain 4-H**

3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm  
Extension Office

Club Manager—Tricia Eilers (830) 456-2840  
Club Manager—Ty Smith (817) 522-6870

### **Willow Creek 4-H**

1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm  
Extension Office

Club Manager—Kristi Beyer (830)456-2878  
Club Manager – Amy Crenwelge (830) 992-1553

### **Doss 4-H**

1st Monday of the month, 6:00pm  
Doss Community Center

Club Manager—  
Club Manager –

### **Wrede 4-H**

2nd Monday of the month, 6:00pm  
Extension Office

Club Manager – Shanese Lochte (830) 456-9628  
Club Manager – Lorie Halfmann (979)574-9407

### **Harper 4-H**

Facebook page—Harper 4H

2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm

(Dec, Jan, March mtg dates subject to change due to stock shows & Spring Break)

No meeting - Feb & July

Harper Elementary School Cafeteria

Club Manager – Danielle Geistweidt (830)992-0370  
Club Manager – Erin Worrell (512)413-1616

### **St. Mary's 4-H**

2nd Monday of the month, 7:00pm  
St. Mary's School Cafeteria

Club Manager—  
Club Manager—





# What is the monthly club meeting like? Why should my family attend?

Youth club officers plan and preside over the meeting, and they are assisted by adult volunteers. Due to the size of the clubs in Gillespie County, most interested youth have the opportunity to be a club officer at least once, or numerous times. Club officers learn how to conduct meetings, plan meetings, take minutes, manage finances, publicize events, and enforce guidelines. Most importantly, youth learn how to gain confidence in speaking in front of others because of the numerous opportunities to present information and conduct meetings.

Families should attend club meetings to learn something. Most meetings with have an educational program in addition to the business meeting, and families attend the meetings together. 4-H is not a program where children are dropped off and looked after; it is an entire family affair. Last, but not least, clubs do community service as a group, so youth are taught to serve others.

## 4-H Club Meeting

Opening

Business Meeting

- Roll Call
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Reports of Pending Business
- New Business

Educational Program

Recreation



## 4-H Basics

### The 4-H Symbol

A green 4 leaf clover with a white "H" on each of its leaves.



### The 4-Hs

HEAD

HEART

HANDS

HEALTH

### MOTTO

"To Make the Best Better"

### SLOGAN

"Learn by Doing"

### PLEDGE

I pledge my head to clearer thinking, My heart to greater loyalty, My hands to larger service, And my health to better living, For my club, my community, my country and my world.

### COLORS

Green and White

Green represents springtime

White represents innocence



# Okay, we have chosen our club....Now what?

Your family needs to enroll. This is done online through  
4-H Online [texas.4honline.com](http://texas.4honline.com).



Texas has more than 550,000 youth who are involved in 4-H experiences each year and we are pleased that you have decided to join 4-H! Here is some information about our enrollment process and how we need your partnership in getting your membership entered and approved. All membership records change to an inactive status in August. The Texas 4-H year officially starts on September 1 but enrollment opens on August 15th. Enrollment procedures and payment method options vary in each county, so check with your local county office for more information.

### Youth Member Participation Fees

\$25.00 August 15 - October 31st  
\$30.00 November 1 to the completion of 4-H year

### Adult Volunteer Application Fee

\$10.00 August 15 to the completion of 4-H year

### About 4HOnline!

- ♦ 4HOnline is the official Texas 4-H online system for adult and youth members directly involved with 4-H.
- ♦ 4HOnline is a partnership between the 4-H family and the local county office. ([counties.agrilife.org](http://counties.agrilife.org))
- ♦ 4HOnline is a secured system that is in compliance with the PCI Security Standards Council. Texas 4-H nor 4HOnline shares or sells any personal information to third party vendors without your knowledge or permission.
- ♦ 4HOnline is based on "zero-based enrollment." Each year at the start of the enrollment cycle all 4-H membership in Texas goes to zero and everyone must re-enroll. This process is based on federal accounting policies.

### Did You Know?

- ♦ Most questions can be answered by calling the local county office. ([counties.agrilife.org](http://counties.agrilife.org))
- ♦ An approved youth or adult membership record means a person is officially enrolled with Texas 4-H.
- ♦ An approved youth or adult member record also means a person can register for state or district level events.
- ♦ Adult volunteers are required to be screened through the Texas 4-H Youth Protection Standards program every three years. The screening process can take up to two weeks.
- ♦ A youth that is 8 years old and going into the 3rd grade must wait until September 1st to enroll for proper fees to be accessed. The Texas 4-H year officially starts September 1.



# Instructions for brand new families to enroll in 4-H Online.

Families who have previously had an account need to use their existing login.



## TEXAS.4HONLINE.COM FAMILY GUIDE



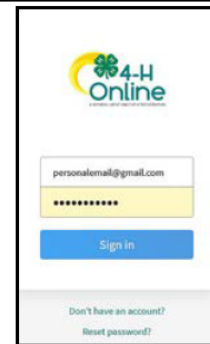
### Creating a NEW Family Profile

Only families participating in Texas 4-H for the first time should create a NEW family profile. Once created, family profiles are permanent. If you already have a 4HOnline family profile, **do not create a new one**. Contact your local county Extension office for assistance if you are not sure whether you have a family profile, or if you need assistance accessing it. To create a **NEW** family profile in 4HOnline, follow these steps:

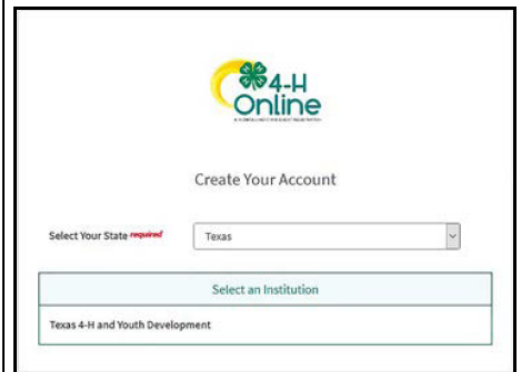
1. Go to <http://texas.4online.com>
2. Click **“Don’t have an account?”** if you have **never** enrolled in 4-H before using 4HOnline.

**Note:** Your family profile must be associated with a valid email address. This will be your login and you will receive communications to this address. It will also be the email address where a password reset will be sent, if needed.

The email address you provide can only be associated with **one** family profile. If 4HOnline does not accept your email address, you may already have a 4HOnline family account. Contact your local Extension office for assistance.



3. Select **“Texas”** from the drop-down menu
4. Select **“Texas 4-H and Youth Development”** for the Institution



5. Select **your county** from the drop-down menu.

**Note:** When selecting your county, you are choosing the 4-H program in which your family will participate. Read the rules and guidelines for more information: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/management/>.

Click **“Continue”**.



# Instructions for brand new families to enroll in 4-H Online continued.



## TEXAS.4HONLINE.COM FAMILY GUIDE



6. Complete your family's information. Required fields are marked in **red** and must be completed to move to the next screen. If you have mistakenly chosen the wrong county just hit the back button to adjust it before moving on to the next screen.

**Remember:** Your family information must be associated with a valid email address. This will be your login and you will receive 4-H communications at this address. It will also be the email where your password reset will be sent, if necessary.

Click the **"Create Account"** button

**Note:** An email account can only be associated with one family profile. If you enter an email address that is already associated with a 4HOnline profile, you will see an existing family profile message. Click the **"Confirm"** button and continue to log in to the existing account. See instructions for logging into an existing [family account](#).

4-H Online  
Create Your Account  
Texas 4-H and Youth Development

County **required** State Office  
Email **required** mc-mccathey@tamu.edu  
Confirm Email **required** mc-mccathey@tamu.edu  
Family Name **required** Cathy  
Mobile Phone Number **required** 555-555-5555  
Password **required** \*\*\*\*\*  
Confirm Password **required** \*\*\*\*\*

Back Create Account

7. Enter your family's address information and click **"Verify."** The verification process may require you to select an appropriate USPS format. The local county Extension office may have authority to bypass this for rural areas.

If there is already another record in 4HOnline with a matching address, you may see this Duplicate Address screen:

Use the browser "back" button to return to the previous screen. Double-check the address you entered and try again. Be sure you have included the full USPS address and a unit/apartment number, if that is part of your address. If you receive the Duplicate Address message again, choose an account recovery method and contact your local county Extension office for assistance.

Verify Your Address

Address 1470 William D Fitch  
Address 2  
City College Station  
State Texas  
Postal Code 77845  
Country US

Verify

Existing Account  
An account with this email has already been found, please sign in or recover password

Confirm Cancel

Duplicate Address: Account Recovery

Recovery Phone: 5555555xxx Fill in last 3 digits to recover Recover  
Contact County Send Message

After the address is verified, your family profile has been created! You will receive an email confirming your family profile. The next screen will allow you to add the first member to your family.



## **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

**Public Speaking Contest  
Educational Presentation  
Officer Positions**

## **LIVESTOCK**

**Cattle  
Swine  
Goats  
Lambs  
Broilers  
Turkeys**

## **FOOD & NUTRITION**

**Food Show  
Food Challenge  
FCH Quiz Bowl  
Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors**

## **JUDGING PROJECTS**

**Meat Judging  
Livestock Judging  
Range Judging  
Dairy Judging  
Wool Judging**

## **FASHION & INTERIOR DESIGN**

**Fashion Show  
Fashion Storyboard  
Duds To Dazzle**

## **OTHER**

**Wildlife/Outdoor  
Junior Master Gardeners  
Horse  
Plant ID  
Robotics  
Archery  
BB Gun  
Photography  
Companion Animal  
Veterinary Science  
Ambassador Opportunities  
(water, shooting sports, STEM,  
photography, etc...)**



**WHAT  
PROJECTS  
CAN WE  
DO?**

**CALL US AT 830-997-3452 FOR  
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES**

# Gillespie 4-H Annual Calendar

## September

Annual 4-H Enrollment on 4-H Online for Youth members and adult volunteers  
Food & Nutrition Project Begins  
Adult Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting  
Order Swine Validation Tags  
Broiler Orders Due  
Enter Major Show Calf Scrambles  
Livestock Judging Practice Begins  
Heart of Texas Livestock Show Entries Due  
Wildlife Meetings

## October

Lamb & Goat Validation  
Heifer Validation  
National 4-H Week  
One Day 4H  
Youth Heifer Show & Sale  
Fall Robotics Starts

## November

Swine Validation  
Livestock Show Entries Due  
County Food Show  
County Food Challenge  
Adult Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting  
Wild Game Dinner  
County Broilers Arrive  
Show turkeys arrive  
Junior Leadership Retreat

## December

District 10 Food Show Contest  
District 10 Food Challenge Competition  
District 10 FCH Quiz Bowl Contest  
District 10 Beef Quiz Bowl Contest  
District 10 Public Speaking Contest  
District 10 Educational Presentation Contest  
District 10 Entomology Contest  
4-H Club Christmas Parties  
Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show Scholarship Deadline  
Harper Community Stock Show

## January

Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show  
Hill Country District-Kerrville Livestock Show  
Fort Worth Livestock Show  
Adult Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting  
BB Gun Project Begins  
Major Show Broilers Arrive  
Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Applications Due  
Gillespie County EEA Scholarship Applications Due  
Gillespie County 4-H Scholarship Applications Due  
Fashion Retreat  
Deadline to validate dogs for dog project

## February

San Antonio & San Angelo Livestock Shows  
San Antonio School Tour Guide program  
Fashion & Interior Design Project Begins  
County BB Gun Match  
Archery Project Sign-Up  
Plant ID and Range Judging Practices Begin





# Gillespie 4-H Annual Calendar

## March

Houston & Austin Livestock Shows  
State BB Gun Match  
County Fashion Show  
District Photography Contest Entries Due  
Archery practices start  
4-H Day at the Capitol

## April

District 10 Judging Contests  
District 10 Roundup Contests & Fashion Show  
District 10 Photography Contest  
Submit Entries to State Photography Contest  
Adult Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting  
Order Steer Tags  
Order State Fair Lamb, Goat, & Swine Tags  
Order Stock Show Turkeys  
County 4-H Council Officer Elections  
Youth Commercial Heifer Show Entry Deadline  
EEA Spring Luncheon

## May

Deadline to validate horses on 4-H Online  
Club Officer Elections  
Archery County Match

## June

Backyard Kids Camp  
District 10 Leadership Lab & District Council  
Officer Elections  
Texas 4-H Roundup  
Steer Validation  
Heifer Validation  
State Fair lamb, goat, and swine validation  
State 4-H Camps  
Record books due  
Project Record Forms Due  
Award Applications Due  
District 10 Horse Show  
4-H Summer Camps

## July

State 4-H Camps  
State 4-H Horse Show  
District Record book Contest  
4-H Summer Camps  
4-H State Shooting Sports Games  
Fair Boards need to be completed by Awards  
Banquet

## August

4-H Awards Banquet  
Club Officer Training  
Club Manager Training  
Order Lamb & Goat Validation Tags  
New Member Night  
4-H BBQ Fundraiser  
County Fair  
State Fair Entries Due  
West Texas Fair & Rodeo Entries Due  
State 4-H Record book Contest

## Other Activities

Texas 4-H Congress (every other year)  
National 4-H Congress (every other year)



# 4-H RECORD KEEPING



There are two main ways of keeping records. The first is by keeping a journal of activities throughout the 4H year and submitting them as part of the record book project. Record books in itself is a project. For resources on completing record books visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/>.

A second record-keeping activity is completing project record forms. Members can complete as many project record forms for 4H projects they participate in, but they can only receive a project pin in one category per year. Youth members are normally really excited to receive a project pin at the annual awards banquet held each summer.

## LEADERSHIP



Opportunities for leadership abound in 4H at any age, but in Gillespie County the main opportunities for leadership are:

- Running and serving in club officer positions
- Attending Junior Leadership Rally (3rd grade—12 yrs) or Leadership Lab (13 yrs.—11th grade)
- Running and serving as a council officer on the Gillespie 4-H County Council
- Running and serving as an officer on the District 10 Council
- Running and serving as an officer on the State 4H Council
- Attending Texas 4-H Congress
- Attending a 4-H Conference

.....there are many more that we will let you know about throughout the year

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS



- Gillespie 4-H Adult Leaders = \$800+
- Texas 4-H Foundation = \$1000—\$24,000
- Gillespie County Extension Education Association: \$500
- District EEA—amount varies

We will let you know about other college scholarship opportunities that we are aware of.



# SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES



- State 4-H Roundup
- Leadership Lab
- Backyard Kids Camp
- Youth Agriculture Lifetime Leadership
- Career Exploration Trip
- Camps at Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood
- Various Workshops
- Livestock Show Clinics
- Judging Camps
- BBQ Fundraiser
- Prospect Shows

VISIT [GILLESPIE.AGRILIFE.ORG](http://GILLESPIE.AGRILIFE.ORG) FOR MORE SUMMER LISTINGS

# *Stock Show*



## *What's the Process?*

- 1) Purchase your animal. We have agents who can help you if you have questions about purchasing animals.
- 2) Order validation tags according to the order deadlines we share with you. Broilers & Turkeys are tagged when they arrive.
- 3) Take your animal to one of the scheduled validations for the animal species you are showing. A parent must accompany his/her member to the validation to sign paperwork.
- 4) Take the Quality Counts Exam and course BEFORE entering a stock show. More information is available in the next few pages of this guide.
- 5) Complete all entry forms and submit all entry fees by the deadline established by the Extension Office. This is a separate process from validation, & validation does not automatically enter anyone into a stock show. Late fees are typically hundreds of dollars, so you will want to pay close attention to deadlines.
- 6) Attend the stock show. For major shows outside of the area, we will typically leave as a group.

## *What's the Schedule?*

West Texas Fair & Rodeo in Abilene: September 7-16, 2023

State Fair of Texas in Dallas: Sept. 29- Oct. 22, 2023

Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo in Waco: October 5-15, 2023

Gillespie County Youth Livestock Show: January 3-6, 2024

Sandhills Odessa Show & Rodeo: January 3-13, 2024

Hill District Grandstand Show: January 12-20, 2024

Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo: Jan. 12- Feb. 3, 2024

San Angelo Stock Show: Feb. 1-18, 2024

San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo: Feb. 6-25, 2024

Houston Stock Show & Rodeo: Feb. 27- March 17, 2024

Austin Stock Show: March 8-23, 2024



## Quality Counts FAQ

How do I access the new Quality Counts system? The new Quality Counts program can be found at: <https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx> Please be sure to follow the enrollment instructions!

I took Quality Counts previously (last year, for example). Do I have to take it again? If you are planning to show at Spring major livestock shows (or other county/local shows that indicate), Quality Counts verification is *required*. Exhibitors must be verified once as a junior (grades 3-5), once as an intermediate (grades 6-8) and once as a senior (grades 9-12).

I took Quality Counts last year and created an account. I have to take it again this year because I moved to the next age category. Do I have to create new login information? Yes. Please create new a new login under "Are You A New Learner?". This is because we transitioned to a new website for improvements.

I will probably only show through 4-H (or FFA), but I am also a member of the other organization, which should I select? Select both 4-H and FFA, as applicable. It is best to have both selected just in case! Keep in mind, 4-H affiliation is by county, not individual clubs.

I have completed all of the lessons, but when I click to go to the exam, it just takes me back to the registration screen. What do I do? You MUST follow the Personalized Return Link from the initial email ([dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu)), then click Proceed to Curriculum, finish the lessons (if you haven't already), now you can press the Exam button! The Return Link is critical for the system to know who to administer the exam.

Which shows require Quality Counts verification? Verification on the Quality Counts system is required for all major livestock show entries. Additionally, county and local shows may require Quality Counts numbers. Please refer to each show's rules to determine if Quality Counts verification is required for show or contest participation.

I keep trying to complete an activity, but the answers won't stay on the answer line. What is going on? The drag and drop answer choices only "stick" in place when the answer is correct.

I did not get a certificate to print when I finished Quality Counts. How do I prove I am verified? Quality Counts no longer provides a certificate to print. You received email confirmation upon your completion. This can be kept for your records to confirm verification.

I did not receive the confirmation email. What do I do? The emails are automatic and cannot be resent. Please check your spam folders.

## County Extension Agent/Agricultural Science Teacher FAQ

How do I access my new Quality Counts Roster? The new Quality Counts roster is housed on [www.texaslivestockvalidation.com](http://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com) under Manage My County/Chapter. You will need an access code to login. This is the same as your HLSR entry access code, and the same as lamb/goat/steer/heifer validation code. If you do not have this code, please first check with a teacher or coworker who facilitates validation as they may already have it. If not, contact [dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu) or [tammy@texasffa.org](mailto:tammy@texasffa.org) (ASTs).

My students are not getting the emails. What do I do? Many school system email accounts do not allow student email addresses to accept messages from outside of the district. Please work with your IT department to allow the messages from this system in for your students. This should be done BEFORE students try to register.

I have students that accidentally registered multiple times and have more than one listing on my roster. What do I do? Contact [dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu) and we will remove the profiles that are not verified (extras).

I see two columns indicating True/False in my roster. What does this mean? The Content column indicates if the student has completed the curriculum portion of Quality Counts. The far right column (Complete), indicates if the student has completed and passed the exam. For the number to be verified and ready for use on entries, both columns must indicate True.

FOR QUESTIONS RELATED TO TECHNICAL ISSUES CONTACT:  
[LEARNONLINE@AG.TAMU.EDU](mailto:LEARNONLINE@AG.TAMU.EDU)

FOR QUESTIONS RELATED TO CONTENT, SCORES, AND  
VERIFICATION CONTACT: [DOTTIE.GOEBEL@AG.TAMU.EDU](mailto:DOTTIE.GOEBEL@AG.TAMU.EDU)



# QUALITY COUNTS ENROLLMENT

**Before getting started:** For the best experience in the Quality Counts course, please use Mozilla Firefox as your internet source (Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, and Safari may work in some instances but are NOT suggested). Also, please make sure your browser (Firefox) has JavaScript and Cookies enabled. For desktop computers, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater installed.

We recommend using  
Firefox as your browser!



1. Go to: <https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/qc/qcregister.aspx>
2. Register with your information
  - a. It is very important to choose BOTH your 4-H and FFA chapter regardless of which you think you will show through!
  - b. You will need to enter your DOB and Phone Number in the format provided.
  - c. For grade level, please enter the grade you are entering (if between May-August) or your current grade, depending on the time of year you are registering in Quality Counts.
3. Click Submit Registration
4. This will trigger an email from [dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dottie.goebel@ag.tamu.edu) to keep for your records.
  - a. Do not delete this email as it contains a Return Link that you will NEED to come back to the course at any time.
5. Staying on the website, click Proceed to Curriculum.
6. You will be directed to the Quality Counts curriculum website.
7. The course is free, so click the **green** Enroll Now button.
  - a. You may have to scroll down to see this if using a mobile device.
  - b. Though you do have to create another login on a separate website, this is necessary to be able to leave and come back to the curriculum as many times as needed!
8. Click Register under “Are You a New Learner?” *Even if you created an account last year and are enrolling in a new grade category, you need to create a new account. This is because we transitioned websites for improvements.*
9. Create username and password and complete login details. The address entered is not used or saved and is only for this site.
10. Accept the terms and conditions and click Register.
11. Click “Click Here” under Course Access Details.
12. Click Quality Counts
13. Select Age Bracket according to your school grade as of August 31 of the current year.
14. Begin Course! The course will take approximately 2 hours to complete.
15. You may leave and come back to the course using the Return Link (Step 4a).
16. Once you complete the course, you will click Proceed to Test.
17. You must complete the exam once you start it, but you can take it as many times as needed to achieve an 80% or higher.
18. Once passed, your verified Quality Counts number is ready for livestock show entries!

FOR QUESTIONS RELATED TO TECHNICAL ISSUES CONTACT:  
[LEARNONLINE@AG.TAMU.EDU](mailto:LEARNONLINE@AG.TAMU.EDU)

FOR QUESTIONS RELATED TO CONTENT, SCORES, AND  
VERIFICATION CONTACT: [DOTTIE.GOEBEL@AG.TAMU.EDU](mailto:DOTTIE.GOEBEL@AG.TAMU.EDU)



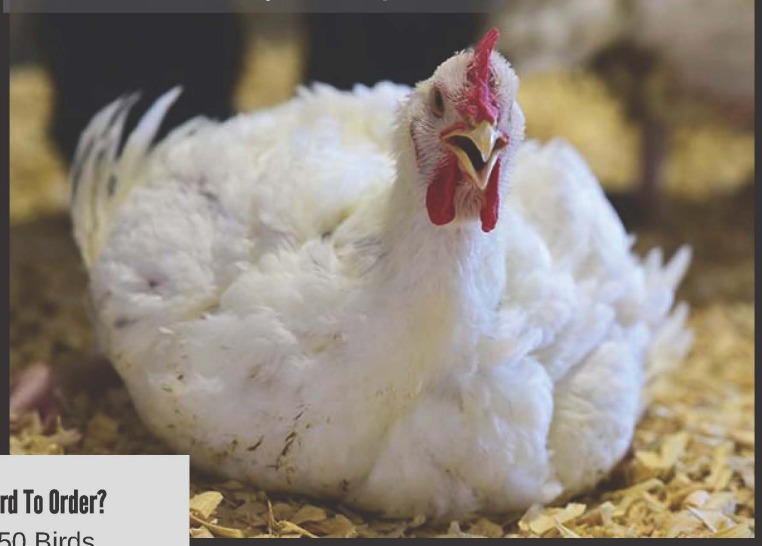


# TEXAS 4-H POULTY PROJECT

## LET'S GET STARTED!

Turkeys are shown individually and broilers as a pen of three birds. Some broilers are straight-run (sexes not separated), while others separate pullet and cockerel divisions. Turkeys are almost always separate due to size differences.

**Fun Fact:** With 25 billion chickens in the world, there are more of them than any other bird species.



### How Many Bird To Order?

Broilers: 50 Birds

Turkeys: 25 Birds

Poultry projects are typically purchased in groups, not individually.

### Project Length

Chicken Project: Approximately six weeks

Turkey Project: Approximately 5 months

### Average Cost of Chicken Project



Purchase Price: \$62.50

Feed Cost: \$352.00

Supplies: \$180.87

Vet Cost: \$21.63

Fees: \$73.85

Total Cost:  
**\$690.85**  
(per 50 Birds)

### Selection and Culling

- Physical Defects (Tears, Cuts, Broken Bones, Bruises)
- Muscling
- Uniformity
- Finish (Amount of fat immediately under the skin)
- Skin Pigmentation

### Average Cost of Turkey Project



Purchase Price: \$87.50

Annual Feed Cost: \$1,295.25

Supplies: \$140.94

Vet Cost: \$18.57

Fees: \$78.50

Total Cost:  
**\$1,620.76**  
(per 25 Birds)

### Facility Preparation



Electricity

Heat Lamps

Ventilation

Bird Pen

Litter/Shavings

Lighting

Drainage

Waste Disposal

Water

Feeders

Protection From Elements and Predators

### Feeding



The feed dealer should be informed of the type of feed required at least 2 weeks before chicks arrive so that fresh feed can be ordered. It is absolutely essential that birds receive a high-quality poultry feed containing at least 20 percent protein. As the birds grow, adjust protein levels in feed.

### Important Tip!

Know in advance which shows you plan to attend. Then, order birds based on time frame and size requirements.

### Suggestion:

Establish a working relationship with a veterinarian.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? VISIT:  
[HTTPS://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/POULTRY/](https://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/POULTRY/)





# TEXAS 4-H SWINE PROJECT

## LET'S GET STARTED!



### What should you do everyday with your project?

Rinse, Brush, Walk! The more you handle your project the easier it becomes to handle.

### Project Length

Market Barrows: Approximately 5 Months  
Breeding Gilts: Approximately 5-11 Months

### Selection



Several factors such as age, weight, frame size, and breed type play a role in selecting a market barrow or breeding gilt. Ask your Country Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher which project may be best for you.

### Average Cost of Swine Project



Purchase Price: \$524.74  
Feed Cost: \$518.57  
Supplies: \$160.84  
Vet Cost: \$89.08  
Fees: \$84.07  
Miscellaneous: \$120.36

Total Cost:  
**\$1,497.66**  
(per 1 head)

### Feeding



Feed a grower ration until your pig weighs 110 to 125 lbs. This should be followed by a finishing ration, with less protein, until the animal is sold. Make a plan with an ideal finishing weight in mind. Remember a market barrow and breeding gilt require different feeding strategies.

### Facility Preparation



Electricity	Drainage
Heat Lamps	Storage
Ventilation	Convenience
Flooring/Shaving Type	Waste Disposal
Wash Area	Fencing
Water	Feed Troughs

### Health Care



When you make the decision to purchase a swine project, you should establish relationship with your veterinarian and develop a biosecurity plan for your new pigs. With proper preventative measures in place, special attention should be paid to your animal's normal everyday behavior.

**Fun Fact: Pigs have 15,000 taste buds! Humans have 9,000.**

### Important Tip!

Know in advance which shows are terminal and plan accordingly. This may mean you will need more than one animal.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? VISIT:  
[HTTPS://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/SWINE/](https://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/SWINE/)

# TEXAS 4-H SHEEP PROJECT

## LET'S GET STARTED!



Fun Fact: Sheep have poor eyesight, but an excellent sense of hearing.

### What should you do everyday with your project?

Walk, Practice, Exercise!

The more you handle your project the easier it becomes to handle.

### Project Length

Market Lambs: Approximately 8 Months

Wether Dams: Up to 12 Months

### Average Cost of Sheep Project



Purchase Price: \$947.10

Feed Cost: \$346.66

Supplies: \$201.56

Vet Cost: \$97.52

Fees: \$106.68

Miscellaneous: \$108.03

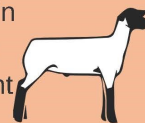
Total Cost:

**\$1,807.58**

(per 1 head)

### Selection

Several factors such as age, weight, frame size, and breed type play a role in selecting a market lambs or breeding ewe. Ask your Country Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher which project may be best for you.



### Feeding

Young, fast growing animals need rations that contain 16 to 18 percent protein. Older animals can be fattened on rations containing 11 to 12 percent protein. Make sure the feed has adequate energy for nutrient utilization. Be aware of copper levels in sheep rations.



### Facility Preparation



Electricity

Ventilation

Flooring

Scales

Water

Exercise Area/ Track

Drainage

Waste Disposal

Fencing

Feeders

### Health Care



A preventive health program should include vaccinations and treatments for multiple infectious and non-infectious diseases and metabolic disorders that are commonly associated with nutritional deficiencies.

### Suggestion

Have exercise equipment or a track area to tone muscle and build stamina!

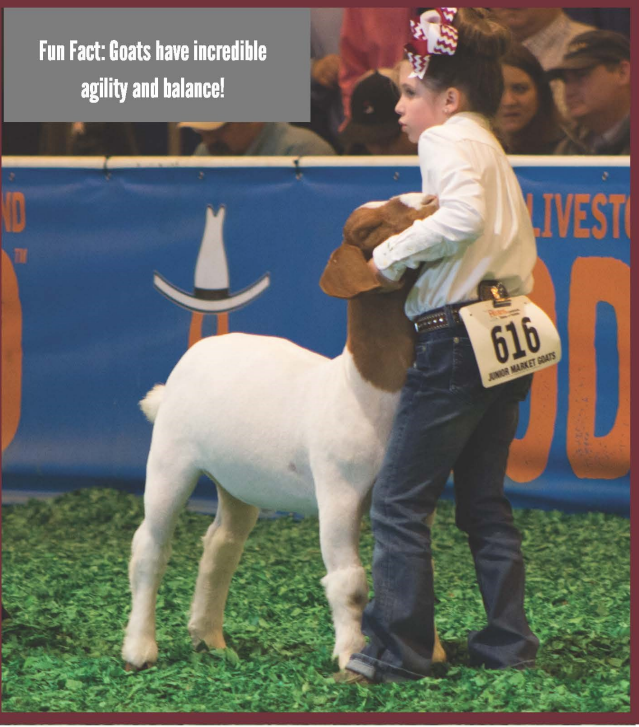
### Important Tip!

Know in advance which shows are terminal and plan accordingly. This may mean you will need more than one animal.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? VISIT:  
[HTTPS://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/SHEEP/](https://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/SHEEP/)



Fun Fact: Goats have incredible agility and balance!



# TEXAS 4-H GOAT PROJECT

LET'S GET STARTED!

### Suggestion

Have exercise equipment or a track area to tone muscle and build stamina!

### Average Cost of Swine Project



Purchase Price: \$822.46

Feed Cost: \$262.98

Supplies: \$179.87

Vet Cost: \$88.87

Fees: \$94.64

Miscellaneous: \$105.66

Total Cost:  
**\$1,554.39**  
(per 1 head)

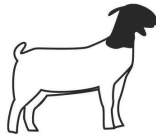
### Project Length

Market Goats: Approximately 6-8 Months

Wether Does: Up to 18 Months

### Selection

Several factors such as age, weight, frame size, and breed type play a role in selecting a market barrow or breeding gilt. Ask your Country Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher which project may be best for you.



### Health Care



A preventive health program should include vaccinations and treatments for multiple infectious and non-infectious diseases and metabolic disorders that are commonly associated with nutritional deficiencies. Administered dewormer orally once a month or as directed by a veterinarian.

### Feeding



Young, fast growing animals need rations that contain 16-18 percent protein. Older animals can be fattened on rations containing 11-12 percent protein. Make sure the feed has adequate energy for nutrient utilization.

### Facility Preparation



Electricity	Exercise Area/ Track
Ventilation	Drainage
Flooring	Waste Disposal
Scales	Fencing
Water	Feeders

### What should you do everyday with your project?

Walk, Practice, Exercise!

The more you handle your project the easier it becomes to handle.

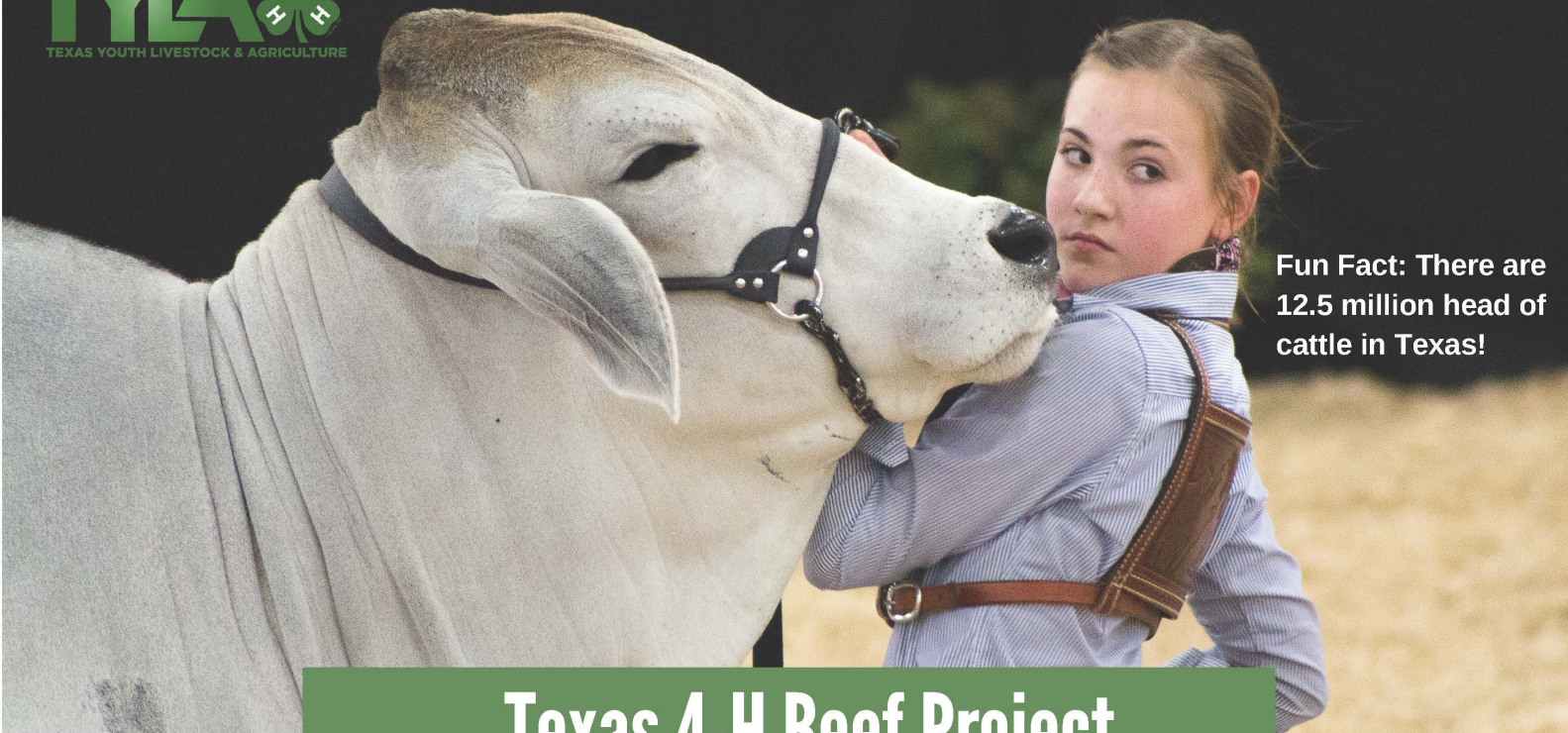
### Important Tip!

Know in advance which shows are terminal and plan accordingly. This may mean you will need more than one animal.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? VISIT:

[HTTPS://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/GOAT/](https://TEXASYOURLIVESTOCK.COM/GOAT/)





**Fun Fact: There are 12.5 million head of cattle in Texas!**

# Texas 4-H Beef Project

## Let's Get Started

### ..... Selection .....

Several factors such as age, weight, frame size, and breed type play a role in selecting a market steer or breeding heifer. Some breeds are better suited for specific climates. Communicate with your County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher to determine which breed may be best for you.



#### Average Cost of Beef Project

- Purchase Price: \$3,288.50
- Annual Feed Cost: \$1,917.52
- Supplies: \$271.64
- Animal Health Cost: \$215.13
- Fees: \$106.68
- Miscellaneous: \$161.59

Total Cost  
(Per 1 Head)  
**\$5,961.06**



#### Health Care

Consider having scheduled administration of vaccines, lice pour-on treatments, deworming and hoof trimmings. Prevention is crucial in health care and management.



#### Facility Preparation

- Electricity
- Ventilation
- Flooring/ Shaving Type
- Tie/Wash/Dry Area
- Storage
- Drainage
- Convenience
- Waste Disposal



#### Feed Questions

- Is the diet meeting the animal's requirements?
- Does this feed suit the animal's stage of life?
- Is the feed palatable?
- Can the diet be easily digested?
- Is your project a breeding heifer or market steer?

**Average Project Length:** Steers- Approximately 10 Months  
Heifers- Up to 30 Months

### Handling and Grooming

Handling begins initially by halter breaking a beef cattle project. Once the animal is halter broke, you can establish a daily grooming routine, practice setting them up, and walk them for exercise. It is important for the animal and exhibitor to interact every day. Daily routines should include washing the animal, combing/brushing, drying, walking, and showmanship practice.