



WYOMING

Sheep Breed Classification

Guidelines

A collaborative effort by the Wyoming FFA Association and Wyoming 4-H programs in partnership with the Wyoming State Fair.

2021

GENERAL INFORMATION:

2021 Wyoming State Fair Premium Book, page 97

YOUTH MARKET LAMB DIVISION - POLICIES

1. A processing fee of \$10.00 per animal is to be paid at the time of entry.
2. Lambs entered in this division may be either wethers or ewes.
3. All market lambs must be totally and uniformly slick shorn prior to processing/weigh-ins. No more than ¼". All market lambs must not show any signs of active club lamb fungus,
4. Classes will be established by breed class and then weight within each breed class respectively by the Sheep Superintendent following weigh-ins, using natural breaks or logical separations. Breed classes with nine (9) or less total entries will be combined with the Any Other Registered Breed.
5. Champions and Reserve Champions from each of the breeds and crossbreeds will compete for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Lamb.
6. Weighing of all market sheep will be Tuesday, August 17, beginning at 10:00AM.
7. Market lambs must weigh a minimum of 100 pounds. Underweight lambs will not be allowed to show. Each lamb is allowed only one trip through for verification, processing and weighing. No weigh-backs allowed.
8. All market lambs must have their lamb teeth in place.
9. All market lambs will be checked to have the proper Wyoming State Fair designated ear tags in place at processing.
10. Extreme docking of lambs is not an acceptable animal husbandry practice; refer to page 20, rule #34.
11. Any lamb showing signs of rectal prolapse shall be disqualified and must be immediately removed from the show area by the exhibitor. The Wyoming State Fair will have full authority to disqualify any lamb showing signs of rectal prolapse.
12. The slapping or lifting of market lambs in the show ring is not allowed. All lambs must have four feet on the ground during the judge's inspection or handling. Lifting the feet off the ground or placing feet on any support or altered ring surface is not acceptable. Exhibitors will receive one warning if they are found lifting or slapping lambs. Second offenses will result in automatic exhibitor and animal disqualification.
13. Drenching as a method to source nutrition for an animal is prohibited. Only in the case of a Wyoming licensed veterinarian prescribing an animal health need to utilize drenching, in writing, is to be considered acceptable while at State Fair Park.
14. There will be no muzzles, of any type, allowed on youth livestock unless approved in writing by a licensed Wyoming veterinarian and presented to the specific Show Superintendent.
15. Ewe lambs entered, processed and shown as market animals, may not be exhibited as breeding animals.
16. WSF Market Tags must be removed from all breeding ewe lambs to be shown as breeding.
17. Enter all Market Lambs in respective classes:
CLASS

- 100 Natural Color
- 200 Suffolk
- 300 Hampshire
- 400 Southdown
- 500 Dorset
- 600 Shropshire
- 700 Blackface
- 800 Whiteface
- 900 Speckled Face
- 1000 Any Other Registered Breed

Wyoming State Fair Breed Classification Policy

In the livestock industry most animals are sorted by visual characteristics into groups for marketing purposes. Similarly, during livestock shows, classes will be sorted on a visual characteristic basis. Classifiers are in place to exercise their judgement. If your animal is classed differently by the committee, it doesn't mean that your animal wasn't accurately represented. The classification process is meant to be the first stage in the judging process and it's all just that, a matter of judgement. To aid in understanding breed standards, 4-H and FFA members should review and understand Breed Standards. These standards are available but are meant to be used as a GUIDELINE.

The classification committee will be made up of three individuals agreed upon by 4-H, FFA, and WSF. The committee will have the final say on all classifications. No process for appeals. Eligibility for the class is confirmed ONLY by visual appraisal, as evaluated by classifiers. Registration papers, breeder affidavits, or other paperwork is NOT considered part of the classification process.

Committee members will use a chip system in an anonymous drop. At least 2 blue colored chips indicate the committee agrees with the breed classification presented by the member. At least 2 red colored chips indicate a disagreement with the breed classification by the member. In the event at least 2 red chips are dropped, the committee will discuss whether the animal should be classed in another breed or the crossbred class. There will be no communication with classification committee members until after chips have been dropped.

The committee can class an animal into another breed or the cross-bred division. Animals will not be disqualified from participating as a result of the classification.

Developed in 2021 by the Wyoming State Fair in partnership with the Wyoming FFA Association and the Wyoming 4-H programs.

DORSET

3 of the following will result in disqualification:

1. Large ears and/or droopy
2. Fine textured silky hair covering
3. Dewlaps, excessive loose skin or large wrinkles and folds
4. Hooves with excessive black striping
5. Any color other than pink on the nose, septum or mouth
6. Any dark colored spots in the haired portion of sheep

Absolute disqualifications:

1. Sheep with a completely black hoof. (A hoof is defined as both toes. Area to be examined is the outside wall that is visibly exposed, not between the toes.)
2. A completely black or dark colored lining of the mouth or nose.
3. The presence of highly objectionable dark color (as defined in Highly Objectionable Traits #6) on the haired portion of two or more anatomical regions. The head (nose, face and ears) is considered one anatomical region and each individual leg is considered an anatomical region. (ie: Highly objectionable dark color on two or more legs OR on one or more legs and head will result in a disqualification.)
4. Dark colored spots in the wool.
5. Solid black fleece animals, badger, or Hereford fleece (black body with white head or legs, and belly)
6. Holstein fleece pattern (black with white spots)

HAMPSHIRE:

- **Head:** The face should be of good length, dark in color, and practically free of wool from the eyes down. An unbroken wool cap should extend from the neck over the forehead.
- **Ears:** The ears should be moderate in length, thick, covered with a coarse dark brown or black hair and free from wool.
- **Nose:** Broad muzzled, covered with a coarse dark brown or black hair. Wool feathering is acceptable and desirable. Should be open around the eyes. Small amount of “frostiness” on the nose is acceptable.
- **Legs:** Some wool is desirable below the knee. Off
- **Color:** The Hampshire should be free of white spots on jaws, legs and ears.

3 of the following will result in disqualification:

1. Broken wool cap
2. Very fine or thin hair on face or legs
3. Scurs
4. Excessive (more than 25%) white hair on jaw or legs
5. Absolute disqualifications:
6. Steep hip and genetic tendency to be double-muscled
7. Horns
8. Speckled face so that the lamb appears to be a “brockle”
9. Excessively dark or blue hide
10. Inadequate wool covering on head and legs

SHROPSHIRE:

Classifications:

- Head: Naturally clean dark face (not jet black), gray nose not objectionable.
- No sign of horns. White wool, covering the whole poll.
- Ears: Alert and well set, thin to moderate thickness, medium length
- Color: Same as face and legs.
- Legs: Light colored wool below hock and knees (not black wool)

3 of the following will result in disqualification:

1. Coarse or long, droopy ears
2. Coarse or roman nose
3. Excessive white on face, ears or legs
4. Legs completely bare of wool below the knee and hock
5. Black arm-pits or black spots in skin or wool
6. Absolute disqualifications:
7. Horns
8. Lack of wool cap
9. Steep hip and a genetic tendency to be double-muscled

SOUTHDOWN:

Southdown Breed Characteristics:

1. Hair color on muzzle should be mouse colored, gray to brown
2. Nostril pigmentation may be black to purplish-gray
3. Muzzle should be broad, head of moderate length
4. Ears of moderate length, covered with short hair or wool
5. Black hoof color
6. Dark pigmentation on hide and/or birth marks are acceptable

3 of the following will result in disqualification:

1. Solid white hair color on muzzle
2. Pink nose
3. Excessive white on face, ears or legs
3. Completely slick ears
5. Pink or striped hooves
4. Black spots in the fleece
5. Open pool on the head

Absolute disqualifications:

6. Speckled face or legs
7. Horns or solid scurs
8. Solid black lambs
9. Steep hip and a genetic tendency to be double muscled

SUFFOLK:

Suffolk Breed Characteristics:

1. Are polled
2. Have a black open face
3. Will have black legs
4. Hard, black hoof
5. White woolled body

Absolute disqualifications:

1. Full wool cap
2. Wool below the knees
3. White coloring on head or legs
4. White stripes on the hooves
6. Black hided (silver hided is okay)
7. Steep hip and genetic tendency to be double muscled

SPECKLE FACE:

Must be a cross with evidence of a percentage white-face and percentage black-face breeding. Significant spotting must be present for at least two of the following areas: face, ears, and/or legs below knees and stifle joint. Pink in hide color.