Livestock Grade Eligibility Guidelines

The Georgia 4-H State Office recommends all Georgia County Extension Offices that host any livestock or equine exhibitions follow the minimum age requirements that govern the specific specie shows of the Georgia Junior National Livestock Shows (Market Cattle, Market Hog, Breeding Ewe, Commercial Dairy Heifer, Commercial Breeding Doe, Breeding Beef Heifer) held in February, State Market Lamb and Market Goat Shows that are held in October in conjunction with the Georgia National Fair and the Georgia 4-H State Horse Show that is held in June.

State Market Lamb, Market Goat, Commercial Breeding Doe and Breeding Ewe Shows – Pre-club age children in grades one through three may show lambs, goats and ewes if they are enrolled in first through third grade by September 1 of the current year to show in the program year, which is August 1 through July 31. *These guidelines are recommended for all market, breeding and showmanship competitions.

State Market Hog –
Pre-club age children in third grade may show market hogs if they are enrolled must be in third grade as of September 1 of the current year to show in the program year, which begins August 1 through July 31.

Breeding Heifer, Market Cattle and Commercial Dairy Heifer Shows – An exhibitor must be in fourth grade as of September 1 of the current year to show in the program year, which begins August 1 through July 31.

State Horse Show:
Junior Events - 4-H’ers fourth through eighth grade by September 1 of the current year.
Senior Events - 4-H’ers ninth grade through twelfth grade by September 1 of the current year.

In addition, the Georgia 4-H State Office recommends that all Georgia County Extension Offices follow the guidelines in terms of helmet usage and age eligibility that are provided in the current Georgia 4-H State Rules and Regulations that govern equine and livestock shows.

This document will go into effect August 1, 2016 and supersedes any other information about programs/activities/contest that has been published.

Revised 10/2020