



# Brazos County Livestock Newsletter

August 2018 Edition

## Inside this issue:

Validation Dates	2
Tag Order Dates	2
Keeping Pigs Eating	3
Setting Up Your Calf	4
Cattle Nutrition 101	5
Stock Show Updates	6
Major Show Judges	7
Show Dates	8

Special points of  
interest:

Validation dates & tag order  
dates  
Turkey Order info.  
Major Show Judges  
Major Show dates  
Fall Major Show entry night

## Fall Major Show Entry Night

Reminder...Entry night for the fall major shows will be held at the Brazos County Extension office on **August 2, 2018** from **4-6PM**. To expedite the process, we will be in the office all day to assist families. Entry forms will be available prior to the 2nd. If possible, come by early to get entered. If you have a conflict with this date, please make arrangements to get entered in these shows before August 2nd.

## Sheep & Goat Tag Orders for 2019 BCYLS & Major Shows

The 2019 Texas 4-H/FFA Spring Major Show Validation Program and BCYLS sheep and goat tag orders are due on August 15th to the Brazos County Extension office. Tags will be \$20 each for all market sheep & goats as well as the breeding sheep and goats.

These projects will be validated on Monday, October 29th @ the Brazos County Expo from 5:30pm—6:30PM

Order forms can be found at this link:

<http://brazos.agrilife.org/publications/4h-publications/>

## 2019 Spring Major Show & BCYLS Turkey Orders

It's time to order turkeys for the 2019 spring major shows and BCYLS. Birds will be eligible for all the major shows (unless ordered specifically for BCYLS).



Orders are due in the Extension office by  
5PM, August 7th



Order forms can be found at this link:

<http://brazos.agrilife.org/publications/4h-publications/>

## **2018-2019 Brazos County Validation Dates & Tag Orders**

### **Major & BCYLS Only Show Steers**

Major show steer validation completed in June.

BCYLS Only– Tag orders due September 11th . Steers will be validated in October (TBA)

### **Major & County Sheep & Goats**

Validation– October 29th at Brazos County Expo– Tag orders due August 15th

### **Major & County Swine**

Major Show & County tag orders are due September 20th– at \$20 per major tag and \$5 per county only tag

Major Show Validation will be November 19th at Expo from 5:30-7pm

County Only Validation will be December 10th at Expo from 5:30-7pm

### **Major & BCYLS Show Heifers**

Fall Heifer Validation tag orders due September 11th- tags will be \$20 each

Fall Heifer Validation will be October 30th at the Brazos County Extension office

BCYLS Heifer Entries will be February TBA

### **Poultry**

Major Show Broiler Orders due September 11th

BCYLS Broiler Orders- October 17th

Major Show turkey orders are due August 7th

All tag/bird order forms can be found at: <http://brazos.agrilife.org/publications/4h-publications/>

### **2019 BCYLS Only Steer Tags**

If you have a steer that was not major show validated and wish to validate it for the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show, you will need to place your tag order by September 11th. Tags will be \$5.00 each. Steers will be validated on October 9th at the conclusion of the Commercial Steer validation.

### **2019 BCYLS & Major Swine Tag Orders**

All swine tags must be ordered by September 20th! Major show tags will be \$20 each and are good for all Texas majors as well as the BCYLS. Any gilts going to San Angelo must also be state validated. BCYLS only tags will be \$5.00 each and are only good for the Brazos County Youth Livestock Show.

We will validate all major show pigs on Monday, November 19th and all BCYLS only pigs on Monday, December 10th. Both validations will be at the Brazos Expo from 5:30-7:00

Please contact us at the office at 979-823-0129 with any questions or concerns.

### **Major Show Broiler Orders**

Anyone interested in showing broilers at Houston, San Antonio, or Austin must order their birds by September 11th. You must order in increments of 25 and the cost is \$1.50 a bird.

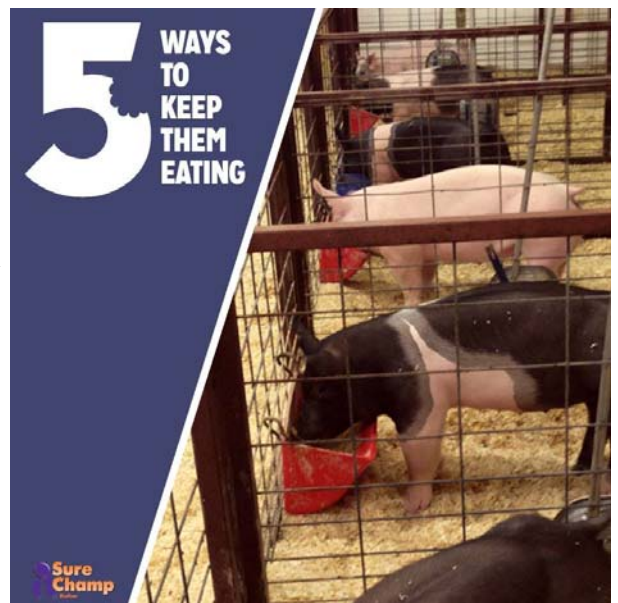
Order form is at this link: <http://brazos.agrilife.org/files/2013/10/Broiler-Order-Form.pdf>



## 5 Ways to Maintain Appetite

A good appetite is a sign of a healthy animal, but can sometimes be hard to maintain, especially in the summer months. Here are 5 quick tips for promoting a steady appetite in your livestock.

1. **Clean Water:** Water is one of the most important nutrients for your livestock and often one of the most overlooked. Your livestock need access to clean drinking water in order to maintain optimum health. Monitoring your animal's water quality is an inexpensive and effective way to promote healthy livestock.
2. **Fresh Feed:** Whether you get your feed fresh from the mill or use a pre-mixed ration from your local feed store, your animals become accustomed to certain textures and smells. Stay consistent in where you purchase feed as well as the length of time you store feed. Also, if you need to transition to a new formula, mix the new feed in gradually so your animal adapts easily and stays on feed.
3. **Temperature Regulation:** Loss of appetite is one of the first signs of heat stress. Keeping your animals cool by providing shade and proper ventilation and air circulation will help to keep them on feed. Check out our recent articles on proper circulation and ventilation and on tips for managing heat stress in cattle.
4. **Clean Bedding:** It is important that your animal's bedding is cleaned on a regular basis. Clean, dry bedding helps prevent the spread of disease and bacteria and promotes overall health in your barn. Healthy, comfortable animals naturally have more appetite.
5. **Routine Wellness Monitoring:** A sudden drop in appetite might be an indication of parasites. Performing routine deworming and wellness monitoring of your animals will help prevent problems from occurring.
6. **Give them a Boost:** By using [Sure Champ](#) as a top-dress you can make sure that appetite and intake stays more consistent. However, sometimes a poor appetite can be due to other unforeseen circumstances or stressors. If you have tried the other methods mentioned and have not seen a change, administering [Vita Charge](#) would be a great next step. Vita Charge increases appetite and helps speed recovery from stress. It can be easily administered as a paste, stress tub or even through your animal's water with the new [Vita Charge Liquid Boost](#).





## How Do You Set Up Your Show Calf's Feet

In order for your calf to catch the judge's attention you need to know how to properly set up your calf in the show ring. It will take lots of time and practice to get your calf used to you moving its feet, but you can get started as soon as your calf is used to the show stick.

It is important that you use a combination of pressure on the halter and your show stick to move your calf's feet into the proper position. Britney Creamer, Sure Champ Show Cattle Expert provides four simple steps to get your calf looking its best in the show ring.

The first step is making sure you choose the right size of show stick for your height and the size of the calf. Don't be afraid to carry a big show stick, especially if you are a younger or shorter showman. A longer show stick will allow you to reach the hind feet easier. We recommend a large or extra large show stick.

Ultimately, it should be your goal to use your stock show the least amount possible. The best showman are able to walk their calf into place without setting the feet with the show stick. Slow your pace as you are about to stop with you calf. Once you have them stopped into position, scratch your calf on the belly or brisket before you move any feet. To pull a foot forward apply pressure on the halter in a forward motion, and use the hook of the stick below the calf's declaw. To push a foot back, apply pressure backwards with your halter, and use the point of the stick about an inch about where the hoof splits to push the foot back. By using halter pressure it will encourage your calf to work with you instead of against you.

You can also use some good footwork of your own. You can place your foot in front of your calves foot and use it as a road block when pulling a front foot forward. After your calf is well broke you will also be able to use your foot to push a front foot or backwards.

Being able to move feet is the key to making sure your calf has the most appeal possible in the show ring.







# Cattle Nutrition 101

## When should you feed your animal?

Consistency is key when feeding both steers and heifers. Typically, you will feed morning and night and want 12 hours between those feedings. During the summer hot weather can decrease appetite, so it is beneficial to feed early in the morning and late at night. Make sure you clean out any old feed immediately. A calf should be finishing what you have fed them in 30-40 minutes.

## How long do I need to feed a supplement to see a change?

It can take 45-60 days to see a true change from nutrition. There are products that are designed for “instant gratification” like using **Vita Charge® Paste** or **Vita Charge Liquid Boost®** to stimulate intake quickly during stress, however we recommend giving any supplement at least 30 days to start to see a long-term change.

## What are trace minerals and why does your animal need them?

There are two classes of minerals, macro minerals and micro (trace) minerals. Macro minerals are needed in higher levels to meet your calf’s daily requirement. Trace minerals are needed in smaller amounts, but are still vitally important. Trace minerals are needed to help boost immune system and keep your calf healthy. Trace minerals also promote healthy skin, hair and hooves. When looking at the mineral source it is important that you are feeding an organic or chelated source of minerals, as these are more digestible. In addition to **Sure Champ®** offering the prebiotic **Amaferm®**, it also is a complete mineral package.

## How important is water?

Water is the most important nutrient to an animal. Water drives intake and is a key component of health. Your animals should always have access to abundant, clean water. In the winter and summer months it is also important to monitor water temperature.

## How do you know what show feed or ration to pick?

With show cattle there are lots of different branded show feeds to pick from or you might decide to have your local feed mill create a ration. Every calf is different and feeding plans should be individualized. The best advice is to reach out to the person you bought your calf from, your 4-H leader, FFA advisor or extension agent, or talk to a nutritionist to get a plan that will suit your animal and your goals.

Remember, no matter what show feed you choose, you still need to be feeding roughage (hay). Roughage is important to digestive health.

# Major Livestock Show Updates and Rule Changes

## Ft Worth Livestock Show

- Steers arrival will begin at Trinity park, it will not be available until 8am on Monday, February 4
- Swine will arrive to Farrington field on Monday, February 4 from noon-7pm
- Swine must have weight cards submitted by 10am on Tuesday, February 5
- Goats must submit weight cards by noon on Saturday, January 26th. Minimum weight is 50lbs

## San Antonio Livestock Show

- Jr Breeding Gilts—exhibitors may enter up to 2 breeding gilts
- Jr Crossbred Gilts—1 entry/exhibitor. Gilts must be state validated. Classes will be broken by weight (230 min-340 max). All gilts qualifying for the auction will be required to sell.
- Jr. Wether Does—check-in is 9am-1pm on Feb 9. Show is 5pm on Feb 9.
- Jr. Wether Dam—check-in is 9am-1pm on Feb 10. Show is 5pm on Feb 10
- ORB heifer breed additions— Red Angus Category 1B has been added to the ORB division.

## Rodeo Austin

- Market Broilers—Due to scheduling, Rodeo Austin will have a separate hatch date in 2019. Birds purchased for Houston WILL NOT be eligible to show at Rodeo Austin.
- Breeding Heifers— Each exhibitor is limited to 2 entries.
- Breeding Lambs— 2 Dorper Classes will be offered.
- Market Barrows—Crossbreds will have 2 divisions, light and dark. Classification guidelines will be posted in the Premium Book.
- Boer Goat Show—Exhibitors showing in the youth ABGA classes must be JABGA members. Boer goats must be registered with the ABGA, but do not have to be validated.

## Houston Livestock Show

- Market Lamb & Goat Shows—Tuesday, March 5—Thursday, March 7. Lamb & Goat Auction is Friday, Mar 8.
- Jr Breeding Beef Heifer Show—Wed, Mar 6—Sat, Mar 9
- Poultry Show—Thurs, Mar 7 (Broilers), Fri, Mar 8 (Turkeys), Poultry Auction on Sat, Mar 9
- Jr Breeding Gilt Classes—New Class Schedule: Berkshire (6), Chester White (3), Duroc (6), Hampshire (2), Landrace (2), Poland China (2), Spots (5), Yorkshire (5)
- Scramble Heifers Move-In—Up to 3 junior breeding heifers can be nominated to move-in with scramble heifers. Nominations will be due on Dec 1 and correspondence on approvals will be sent by Feb 1.
- Jr Market Steer Show Classes—Restructuring classes and auction lots so the number of classes and auction lots per breed are preset consistent with other market auctions. Number of auction lots will remain at 420.
- Calf Scramble Business Plan—New for 2019, the business plan will replace the scrapbook.

**Quality Counts—All major shows require junior exhibitors (4-H & FFA members) complete the Quality Counts training program. A new online program will be released sometime in August. Each 4-H/FFA exhibitor must complete the online training before major show entries are submitted in November. The State Fair of Texas is not requiring the new training in 2018. Go to <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/quality-counts/> for details.**

# Major Livestock Show Judges

## 2018 State Fair of Texas

- Market Steers– Randy Daniels
- Prospect Steers– John Declerk
- Market Lambs-- Caleb Bordman
- Market Goats– Cade Wilson
- Market Swine– James Backman
- Broilers– Michael Vader

## 2018 HOT Fair

### Junior Show

- Steers– Brady Jensen
- British/Exotic Heifer– Brad Bennet
- American Heifer– P.J. Budler
- Sheep– Denton Lowe
- Goat– Chad Coburn
- Swine– Mike Fischer

### Jackpot Show

- Steers– Chad Coburn
- British/Exotic Heifer–Chase Runyan
- American Heifer– Brad Bennett
- Sheep– Keaton Dodd
- Goat– Denton Lowe
- Swine– Brady Ragland

## 2018 Brazos Valley Fair

## 2019 Ft. Worth Livestock Show

- Market Steers– Chris Mullinix
- Market Swine– Ben Moyer
- Market Goats– Kurt Henry
- Market Sheep– Steve Sturtz
- Heifers– Jirl Buck, Matt Leo and Jim Bloomberg

## 2019 San Angelo Livestock Show

- Market Steers– Brady Jensen
- Market Lambs- Dr. Clay Burson
- Market Goats– Dr. Mark Hoge
- Market Swine– AJ Genter

## 2019 San Antonio Livestock Show

- Market Steers– Dr. Dan Shike & Grham Blagg
- Market Lambs-- Terry Burks
- Market Goats– Dr. Bryan Bernhard
- Market Swine– Dr. Mark Hoge & Miles Toenyas

## 2019 Rodeo Austin

- Market Steers– Blake Nelson
- Market Lambs-- Jake Thorne
- Market Goats– Cody Sloan
- Market Swine– Ben Bobell

## 2019 Houston Livestock Show

- Market Steers– Kevin Jensen
- Market Lambs-- Todd Wise
- Market Goats– Marvin Ensor
- Market Swine– Kade Hummel & James Backman

**Brazos County  
Extension Office**

2619 Highway 21 West  
Bryan, Texas 77803

Phone: 979-823-0129  
Fax: 979-775-3768  
E-mail:

Brazos@ag.tamu.edu

*Wer'e on the Web!*

<http://brazos.agrilife.org/>

**Upcoming Events:**

BCYLS & Major Turkey  
orders- 8/7/18

Sheep & Goat Tag  
Orders-8/15/18

Major Show Broiler  
Orders- 9/11/18

Swine Tag Orders-  
9/20/18

Fall Heifer Tag Orders-  
8/15/178

County Only Steer Tag  
orders- 9/11/18

# Show Dates

**State Fair of Texas**

Market Goats- 9/29  
Market Lambs- 9/30  
Market Swine- 10/2 & 10/4  
Market Steer- 10/4  
Heifers- 10/13-14 & -10/20-21

**HOT Fair & Rodeo**

Steers- 10/12-13  
Junior Heifer Shows- 10/6-7  
Sheep & Goats- 10/12-13  
Swine- 10/9-10

**Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo**

October 19-21, 2018

**Ft Worth Livestock show**

Market Goats- 1/27-28  
Market Sheep- 1/27-28  
Market Barrow- 2/6-7  
Market Steer- 2/7-8  
Heifers- 1/26-28

**San Antonio Livestock Show**

Market Goats- 2/13-14  
Market Sheep- 2/13-14  
Market Poultry- 2/20-21  
Market Barrow- 2/16-21

Market Steer- 2/20-22  
Heifers- 2/12-16

**San Angelo Livestock Show**

Market Lambs-2/3  
Market Goats-2/3  
Market Steer-2/13  
Market Barrows-2/13-14

**Houston Livestock Show**

Market Goats- 3/7-3/9  
Market Sheep- 3/7-3/9  
Market Poultry- 3/7-3/8  
Market Barrow- 3/10-3/15  
Market Steer- 3/12-3/16  
Heifers- 3/8-3/11

**Rodeo Austin**

Market Goats- 3/12-3/13  
Market Sheep- 3/12-3/13  
Market Poultry- 3/14  
Market Barrow- 3/16-3/18  
Market Steer- 3/19-21  
Heifers- 3/22-3/24

**BCYLS**

March 19-23, 2019

## Contacts

4-H & Youth Development Agent	Dusty Tittle Ag & Natural Resources Agent	4-H & Youth Development CEP Agent	Flora Williams Family & Consumer Science Agent	Ashley Skinner 4-H Program Assistant
----------------------------------	---	--------------------------------------	--	---

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating