



4-H TIMES

The official Hidalgo County 4-H newsletter for members and leaders

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE

February 2020, Volume 41, Issue 19

February

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Coming Up this Month:

- Feb. 1 Hidalgo County Rally Fashion Show
- Feb. 6-23 San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo
- Feb. 14 4-H Opportunity Scholarships Due- Graduating Seniors
- Feb. 25 District 12 Shotgun Trap, Skeet and Whiz-bang registration opens on 4-H Connect

Coming Up next Month

- March. 3-22 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
- March. 11-22 RGVLS Stock Show and Rodeo
- March. 17 District 12 Shotgun Trap, Skeet, and Whizbang Closes
- March. 28 District 12 Shotgun Event Laredo, Texas

Follow us:

Hidalgo County 4-H



#HC4HProud

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Want to write about your 4-H experience? Submit your photos, articles or announcements to the 4-H Spotlight!

Email Romeo.ozuna@ag.tamu.edu

AGENT'S CORNER

Dear 4-H Members and Families,

We encourage all 4-H members and families to enroll on 4-H connect. 4-H is not just a name or an emblem it's a **"LIFESTYLE"**. Always remember **"Life is not a matter of CHANCE is a matter of CHOICE"**. We continue to strive and promote 4-H throughout the County to ensure that our youth are engaged and continue to represent the Hidalgo County 4-H Program and the 4-H's it represents. **Head, Heart, Hands, Health**

We take great pride and care preparing and producing this newsletter to ensure we keep up with all new events, dates and deadlines. Please read this newsletter all the way through as it contains important information. This newsletter is posted at hidalgo.agrilife.org and on your 4-H Connect homepage. When you want to find relevant announcements-this is the place to look first!

Thank you for your patience and help as we work together to create a great 4-H program for our kids! As always, thank you to all the kids, parents and volunteers that donate their time to help make the Hidalgo County 4-H program great! We look forward to a great year!

"Success Favors the Prepared Mind". We, thank you for being a part of this great organization and look forward to working with you this coming 4-H year to make it another successful one. Thank you, to the Parents, Project leaders and Club Managers for providing leadership and guidance to all our 4-H Youth. You make us **PROUD**.

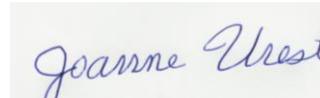
Sincerely,



Joseph Romeo Ozuna CEA-4-H & Youth Development



Andrea Valdez-CEA-Family & Community Health, County Coordinator



Joanne Ureste-CEA-Family & Community Health



Ashley Gregory-CEA-Horticulture



Vidal Saenz CEA- Ag/NR

County Council Meeting/Adult
Leader Meeting February 25th,
2020 7pm Extension Office

HIDALGO COUNTY 4-H EVENT CALENDAR



2019-2020 HIDALGO COUNTY 4-H EVENTS CALENDAR



****Dates subject to change****

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
August			
8/8	Hidalgo County 4-H All Star Awards Banquet	6:00 PM	R.G.V.L.S. Event Center
8/13	4-H Leadership Workshop	9:00 AM	TX A&M Higher Ed. Center-McAllen, TX
8/27	4-H Ambassador Orientation	6:00 PM	Extension Office
8/27	County Council Kick Off/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
08/28	Lamb & Goat Tag Order Deadline	3:00 PM	Extension Office
September			
09/6	Heifer & Swine Tag Order Deadline	3:00 PM	Extension Office
9/7	Recordbook Workshop	9:15-10:15 AM	D12 Extension Office
9/7	Horticulture Workshop	10:30 AM-12:00 PM	D12 Extension Office
TBD	S.T.A.R. Steer Validation	9:00 AM	Westlaco Ag. Farm
TBD	County Food Show Workshop	TBD	Extension Office
9/24	County Council Meeting/ Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
09/28	Hidalgo County 4-H Foundation Hoedown	6:00 PM	Las Palmas Race Park
October			
10/5	La Muneca Field Day	All Day	La Muneca Ranch
10/12	One Day 4-H Project	8:00 AM	Yaqui Animal Rescue
10/22	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
10/22	Lamb & Goat Validation	---	TBA
10/24	Registered Heifer Validation	4:30-7:30 PM	Edinburg Ag. Farm
10/26	County Food Show/Food Challenge	9:00 AM	TBA
10/29,10/30	Path to the Plate Youth Expo A.K.A Kids, Kows, & Move	8:00 AM	RGVLS
November			
TBD	Commercial Heifer Validation	---	---
11/16	District Food Show / Food Challenge	---	TBD
11/17	D12 Round Up/Consumer Decision Making	---	TBD
11/21	Hog Validation	2 PM-6:00 PM	Edinburg Ag. Farm
11/23	RGVLS-GALA	---	TBD
11/26	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
December			
12/7	District 12 Shooting Sports (Modified 600 & 3-D) Archery Match	8:00 AM	TBD
12/10	County Council Christmas	---	TBD
January 2020			
1/18	S.T.A.R. - GALA	---	TBD
1/22-1/25	S.T.A.R. (www.gostar.org)	---	---
1/28	County Council Meeting/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00PM	Extension Office
1/31-02/01	Rally in Hidalgo County (Photography, Fashion Show, Edu. Pres.)	TBA	AgriLife Res. Center, Westlaco
February			
2/6-2/23	San Antonio Livestock Show	---	---
TBD	Round Up Horse Judging	---	San Antonio
March			
TBD	Shooting Sports - Postal League	---	Local
3/7-17	Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show	---	RGVLS Grounds
3/24	County Council Meeting/ Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
April			
4/3- 9	District 12 Photography Contest (Open to all Members)	---	Virtual
	State Photography Deadline	---	---
4/3-4/4	District 12 Fashion Sensation	TBA	Alice, TX
4/6	District 12 Roundup - Educational Presentations, Speaking Contests	TBA	Kingsville, TX
4/18	District 12 Roundup - Livestock Judging	TBA	Fredericksburg, TX
4/23	District 12 Shooting Sports Rifle (3-P & Silhouette) Match	TBA	Benevides, TX
4/28	County Council Meeting (Officer Position Declarations)/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	Extension Office
May			
5/6	District 12 Shooting Sports Match (Trap, Skeet & WhizBang Shotgun)	TBA	Laredo, TX
5/26	County Council Meeting (Elections) and Officer Induction/Adult Leaders Meeting	7:00 PM	TBA
June			
6/4	Ambassador Applications Due	3:00 PM	Extension Office
6/4-6/5	Recordbooks Due	3:00 PM	Extension Office
6/10-14	Texas 4-H Roundup	---	College Station, TX
6/11-13	County Recordbook Contest Judging	---	Extension Office
6/16-6/20	District 12 Leadership Lab	---	Kingsville, TX
6/20	District 12 Election Convention	TBA	Kingsville, TX
July			
7/7	District 12 Recordbook Judging	TBA	TBD
7/31 - 8/2	Council Officer's Retreat	---	TBD
August			
7/31 - 8/2	Council Officer's Retreat	---	TBD

***Please refer to Monthly Newsletter for details on upcoming events at:**

<https://hidalgo.agrilife.org/4-h-youth-development/4-h-times-newsletters/>

updated 08-13-19 L.S.

Pigs are monogastric (single stomach) animals with a digestive system similar to the anatomy of a human's. Digestion begins when feed enters the mouth. Feed travels through the esophagus to the stomach where gastric acids and saliva start breaking down the feed. Next, enzymatic digestion begins in the small intestine. The small intestine is made up of three segments: the duodenum, jejunum and the ileum. The main function of the small intestine is to absorb nutrients and further digest feed. Lastly, digested feed travels to the large intestine where fermentation occurs. The majority of water absorption occurs in the large intestine, and anything that makes it past the large intestine is excreted in the pig's feces. It is important and helpful to understand the digestive system when feeding livestock. For example, pigs cannot synthesize essential amino acids and B vitamins like cattle can. The amino acids that cannot be produced internally by the pig must be provided in the diet. Pigs require six different classes of nutrients at different levels during different stages of growth. Water, carbohydrates, fats, protein (amino acids), minerals and vitamins are all vital nutrients for swine. The most effective and economical way to feed a show pig is to feed different rations as the animal grows. As swine mature, less protein is needed. Nutritionists from The University of Arizona recommend feeding 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. Before you construct a feeding plan for your pig, be sure to have an ideal finishing weight in mind. Different livestock shows have different requirements on weight. The sooner you're aware of these requirements, the better you will be able to feed your pig accordingly. <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/FinalSwineExplore2018.pdf>

Attention all 4-H Livestock Exhibitors as you all are preparing for show season and prospect shows that are coming up here are a few helpful links that you can use as a resource. **REMEMBER TO COMPLETE YOUR QUALITY COUNTS!!!** Information on Beef, Goat and Lamb (SAME), and Swine.



4-HER'S IN ACTION



4-HER'S IN ACTION



WHAT a way to start the NEW YEAR 2020 with the STAR 2020 Scholarship event held at the Edinburg Activity Center January 9th, 2020 and the 2020 STAR Show. We would like to congratulate all of the Scholarship recipients that were awarded scholarships. STAR Scholarship recipients are **Jocelyn Boyle, Benjamin Bravo, Blaine Brunnemann, Joseph Cano, Emeri Drewry, Adrain Garza, Angeleena Garza, Tylar Gantt, Brianna Gutierrez, Claire Lee, Calista Long, Grace Pena, Elizabeth Quintanilla, Alexandra Salinas, April Salinas, Emerald Salinas, and Rowdy Sandoval**. All these kiddos represent the Hidalgo County 4-H Program in their respective clubs receiving over \$24,000 dollars all together. We also want to congratulate all those 4-Hers that participated in this year's STAR show. It was truly a sight to see these 4-H members exhibit their projects with the upmost respect, dignity and honor. **WE ARE SUPER PROUD!!!**

Attention all 4-H Livestock Exhibitors as you all are preparing for show season and prospect shows that are coming up here are a few helpful links that you can use as a resource. **REMEMBER TO COMPLETE YOUR QUALITY COUNTS!!!** Information on **Beef, Goat and Lamb (SAME), and Swine.**

Understanding types of digestive systems is especially important when it comes to feeding livestock. Ruminants have an advantage because they are able to ferment forages at the beginning of the tract, but this can cause problems if they are overfed diets that are high in starch (e.g., corn or other grains). Cattle rely heavily on forages, like hay, to get essential nutrients and to ensure a healthy rumen environment. Forages keep the pH of the rumen at a normal level around 6.5. If fed too much grain with not enough forage, cattle will get acidotic and can bloat, potentially leading to death. Common Feeds for Show Cattle Grain-concentrated diets are also important for cattle, especially in a finishing setting. If you want cattle to gain weight quickly, then a grain-based diet is essential. Average daily gain (ADG) is a term used to monitor the rate at which an animal is gaining per day. For example, if a calf weighs 600 lbs., and 60 days later weighs 750 lbs., the ADG is 2.5 pounds per day. Depending on the quality of forage and/or the ingredients of a grain ration, an animal will gain at varying rates. Adding supplemental grain to diets can be necessary for animals that are producing at an increased rate. https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Explore_Beef.pdf



The primary constituent of the animal body is protein. Dietary protein maintains protein in body tissues, provides for carriers of other nutrients, and is a major component of various products such as meat, milk and fiber. Protein requirements for lambs and goats vary according to their size, age and maturity. Young, fast growing animals need rations that contain 16 to 18 percent protein to allow them to grow and develop their muscle potential. Lambs and goats can be fed lower protein diets during the fattening stage and during the hotter summer months, because feeding high protein diets can cause heat stress. Older animals can be fattened on rations containing 11 to 12 percent protein. The most common limiting nutrients in lamb rations are energy-producing carbohydrates and fats. Inadequate energy intake will reduce growth and cause weight loss. An adequate supply of energy is necessary for efficient nutrient Texas 4-H Youth Development. Grain and protein supplements are high in energy. Hay contains less carbohydrates and fats. Mineral supplementation is a common practice in all livestock, and many commercial feeds are formulated to meet vitamin and mineral requirements. When supplementing, it is very important to make sure you have the correct amount. Sheep are especially sensitive to copper and can only intake a very small amount without getting sick or dying. Important minerals in lamb and goat rations are salt (sodium and chlorine), calcium and phosphorus. It is recommended that loose salt and loose trace minerals for ruminants are fed free-choice at all times. Calcium and phosphorus are necessary for proper growth and development. They should be fed in a ratio of approximately 2.5-parts calcium to 1-part phosphorus. Feed rations that contain high levels of phosphorus in relation to calcium may cause urinary calculi, the formation of stones that block the passage of urine. https://texasyouthlivestock.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Explore_SheepGoat.pdf