Showing Animal Projects

Where do I start?

- **First, look at your project explorer guide on our website:**
  - https://waller.agrilife.org/4-h-project-explorer-guides/

- **How to show an animal at the County Fair or the Major Shows:**
  - In order to show, you will need to "validate" or "tag-in" your animal.
  - What is "**validation**"? (<u>For the Major Shows</u>)
    - The process of establishing a permanent identity of the animal and to verify the ownership by the 4-H member(s) for the Major Shows.
    - A date set by the <u>Extension Office</u> to place a state validation tag in the animal's ear.
    - Emails will be sent with deadlines to place your order for tags and UIN numbers for state validation. Dates are also posted in the newsletter.
  - What is a "**Tag-In**"? (<u>For the Waller County Fair</u>)
    - A date set by the <u>Waller County Fair Office</u> to put tags in the animal's ear.
    - "Tag-Ins" are held between April and June (depending on animal species). An email will be sent out with dates or you can check the Waller County Fair website. https://wallercountyfair.org/
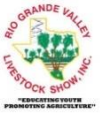

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— V A L I D A T I O N —

- **Waller County Fair**
  - You do not have to order tags ahead of time (except poultry). You can just show up to your "Tag-In" date for your animal species.
    - Turkey/Broiler order nights are in the spring (check for deadlines).
  - All rules are on the fair website. https://wallercountyfair.org/
  - Meeting dates and tag-ins are set by the species committee/chairperson.
  - If you have questions, please call the fair office (979)826-2825.

- **Major Shows**
  - **Fall Shows:** State Fair of Texas and Heart O' Texas
  - **Spring Shows:** Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, Austin and Rio Grande Valley
  - Visit our website for important information and forms
    - https://waller.agrilife.org/major-shows/
  - Validation tag order forms and deadlines will be posted in the newsletter, online and on our Facebook page.
    - Validation dates are based on the show and animal species.
      - **June Validations**
        - Steers and heifers (for all Major Shows)
        - Lambs, pigs and goats (for State Fair and Heart O' Texas only)
      - **October Validations**
        - Heifers, lambs, goats and pigs (for Spring Major Shows- **NOT** State Fair and Heart O' Texas)
    - State Fair and Heart O' Texas entry forms are due in August
    - Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, Austin and Rio Grande entry forms are due in November.
    - Broilers/Turkeys
      - Order forms for State Fair are due in June
      - Order forms for San Antonio, Houston and Austin are due in September
  - Quality Counts Training
    - Teaches youth the importance of displaying good character in carrying out livestock projects and in every aspect of their lives. Quality counts also helps youth exhibitors learn the importance of using proper livestock management practices, so that food quality and safety are preserved.
    - All livestock 4-H members must complete to show at the Majors.

- **Horse Validations**
  - Horse validation are submitted on 4-H Connect in the spring. Please look for emails and in the newsletter for deadlines.

- **Dog Validations**
  - Dog validations are submitted on 4-H Connect in January. Please look for emails and in the newsletters for deadlines.