

Huron County Extension
180 Milan Avenue, Suite 1
Norwalk, Ohio 44857-1168
419-668-8219
Huron.osu.edu

February 1, 2024

Dear Swine Exhibitor,

You are invited to apply for our 2024 Huron County Junior Fair Barrow Carcass program. The goal of the program is to allow experienced hog exhibitors the opportunity to select, raise and market a commercial market hog.

A maximum of 30 participants will be selected from all applicants for the Barrow Carcass program. The program is open to all 4-H and FFA members with at least one year previous experience showing a swine project in the Junior Fair. However, preference will be given to older exhibitors (ages 15-18 of January 1, 2024) if there are too many applicants. The optional essay about why you want to participate in the Barrow Carcass program will be used as a tie-breaker. Applications are due in the Extension Office by May 1. All applicants will receive a letter on their status in the program in the beginning of May.

Participants selected for the Barrow Carcass program are limited to one carcass barrow. Exhibitors showing market hogs and a carcass barrow may submit identification for up to six pigs, due by May 15, 2024. Carcass barrows do not have to be specifically identified until weigh-in at the fair to declare which hog is the carcass hog. Buyer must be identified on application.

You will bring one barrow to the fair for the carcass class, at the same time the market hogs come in (Sunday, August 11 from 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.) The minimum required weight for a carcass barrow is 210 pounds; there is no upper weight limit. Underweight carcass barrows are ineligible to place or be represented in the Large Livestock Sale. They may however, still complete the program and sell the meat to their buyer.

All carcass barrows will show On the Hoof in the hog barn practice arena on Monday at 8:00 a.m. They will then be hauled to Rospert's Market on Lehigh Road for harvesting. Carcass evaluation will be at Rospert's on Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. for the On the Rail placing. Barrow carcass exhibitors or a family representative MUST attend the On the Rail carcass evaluation to be eligible to place and sell. If no one can attend carcass evaluation, the member must submit a 75-100-word essay on, "My experiences raising a hog: what I learned, and the importance of pork in the market industry." Essays are due at the On the Hoof show.

Participants must show On the Hoof and be represented at On the Rail evaluation (or turn in their essay) to complete the barrow carcass program, to place and be eligible for a premium bid in the Large Livestock Sale. On the Rail winners will be announced during the Market Hog Show on Wednesday. Grand and Reserve On the Rail champions must sell as champions in the Large Livestock Sale; others who are eligible have the option. A carcass barrow constitutes one lot in the sale. Failure to complete the requirements of the program will make the exhibitor ineligible for the barrow carcass program for two years.

Marketing your hog is part of this program. Each applicant must secure a buyer for their carcass barrow. The buyer may be a family member, neighbor or anyone who wants freezer pork. You must include who your buyer is and their contact information on your On the Rail fair entry. The buyer will pay you directly for the value of the hog. All carcasses will be at Rospert's for the On the Rail evaluation. Buyers may have the carcass processed at Rospert's or at a different custom butchering facility. You and your buyer will have to make arrangements if having the carcass transported. Your buyer will be responsible for the kill fee and processing fees, which must be paid when they pick up the meat.

Sincerely,

Haley Palmer
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development