



Arkansas State Fair Sheep Handbook



Section 1: Market Lambs

Superintendent: Mike Reynolds

Minimum weight for Market Lambs is 80 pounds. There is no maximum weight.
Market Lamb ownership deadline: July 15, 2024

Each exhibitor is limited to three lambs in the show.

All lambs entered must participate in the Arkansas Validation Program.

Wethers and ewes may be shown.

Show classes will be divided by weight.

Exhibitors will declare show weights. A five pound weigh-back policy is in place for the market lamb show and any lamb is subject to being weighed back.

Lambs must be slick shorn uniformly (above knees and hocks).

Registered ewes in the market show may also enter the breed show classes.

Wether dam ewes (two per exhibitor) in the market show may also enter the wether dam ewe show.

Market Lambs will be shown in the following divisions:

- Hair Sheep
- Southdown
- Shropshire
- Dorset
- Natural Colored
- Hampshire
- Suffolk
- White Faced AOB and Crossbred
- Black Faced AOB and Crossbred

*Any breed classified as AOB that has 10 head exhibited will pull out of AOB and have their own breed show.

Any Division may be split into classes/divisions as show management see fit by weight

Market Lamb Breed Classification Standards

Hair Sheep

Must have predominant hair breed characteristics (ex. Dorper, Katahdin).

Southdown

Must have predominant Southdown breed characteristics such as hair on head should be mouse or gray color, not white or black. Dark pigmentation on hide is acceptable. May not have horns, speckled markings or black spots.

Shropshire

Must have predominant Shropshire breed characteristics such as a white fleece with black lower legs and head.

Dorset

Must have predominant Dorset breed characteristics such as white fleece and hair throughout and open face with wool on the crown and under the jaws. May not have dark colored spots in the hair or wool, solid black hooves, or a dark colored septum (dividing the tissue between the nostrils).

Natural Colored

Any breed of sheep that has a predominant "blue or black tint" to the skin and wool. The body must have 50% or more blue or black tint. A few black or blue spots coloring of the wool, bite marks, fungus spots or scars with black or dark fiber areas will not classify the lamb in this division.

Hampshire

Must have predominant Hampshire breed characteristics such as face relatively free of wool from the eyes down; unbroken wool cap extending from the neck over the forehead; ears moderate in length, thick with dark brown or black hair and little wool; hornless and the body wool free of dark fibers.

Suffolk

Must have predominant Suffolk breed characteristics such as face completely free of wool and covered in black hair; ears that are long and bell shaped and covered with black hair; black hair on the legs; hornless and free of dark fibers in the body wool.

White Faced AOB and Crossbred

Any purebred white face breed of sheep, and all crosses of white face breeds of sheep (including Dorset and Southdown) will be classified in this division.

Black Faced AOB and Crossbred

Any other purebred black face breed of sheep, and all crosses of black face breeds of sheep (including Hampshire, Shropshire, and Suffolk cross sheep).

Market Lamb Show Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Section 2: Junior Wether Dam Lambs

Superintendent: Mike Reynolds

- Wether Dam Lambs are defined as any crossbred animal or may be purebred provided it is not entered in an Arkansas State Fair Breed Show
- All lambs entered must participate in the Arkansas Validation Program
- No minimum or maximum weight
- Lambs must be slick shorn (shorn above knees and hocks)
- All lambs must have lamb teeth, no permanent teeth showing
- Exhibitors will declare show weight. There will be a random five pound weigh back at the discretion of show management
- Lambs will be assigned to class by weight by show management
- Wether Dam Lambs will be show in two divisions: Ewe lambs and Yearling Ewes
- Exhibitors are limited to two entries per division

Junior Wether Dam Lamb Show Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Section 3: Registered Breeding Sheep

Superintendents: Carey Robertson & Bill Robertson

The following rules will be enforced for both the Junior and Open Breeding Sheep Shows

- **Ownership deadline:**
 - **Juniors** - for registered breeding sheep is July 15, 2024 and must be in junior exhibitor's name (can be siblings on papers if both ASF age eligible (no farm names)).
 - **Open** -to be eligible for competition, whether single or in group classes, animal must be owned by the owner no less than 30 days prior to the opening day of the Arkansas State Fair Livestock Show. Only an original registration certificate will be accepted as proof of ownership. Entry must be made in the name of the owner/owners. Owner/owners can be individual, farm, ranch, club or family.
- All breeding sheep must be registered in their respective association.
- All animals must have an official scrappie ID tag.
- Sheep in spring classes must have lamb teeth.

Breed Show Requirements: All breeds recognized in the handbook for the current year fair will have a breed show at the state fair only if there are FIVE paid entries for that breed. Superintendent will review entry information each year and determine eligible breeds for the next year. Any breed that does not meet the 5 entry minimum or that does not have a recognized show will compete in AOB.

Grand Champions will be awarded for each of the four divisions below.

2024 Arkansas State Fair Recognized Meat Breed Shows	2024 Arkansas State Fair Recognized Wool Breed Shows
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset • Hampshire • Montadale • Southdown • Cheviot • Oxford • Shropshire • Suffolk • Texel • Tunis • AOB Meat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotswold • Natural Colored • Shetland • Icelandic • AOB Wool (Potential breeds include: Border Leicester, Coopworth, Lincoln, Perendale, Romney, Wensleydale, American Cormo, Boorola, Merino, Debouillet, Delaine-Merino, Rambouillet)
2024 Arkansas State Fair Recognized Hair Breed Shows	2024 Arkansas State Fair Recognized Dual Purpose, Dairy and Miniature Breed Shows
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorper • Katahdin • White Dorper • AOB Hair (Potential breeds include: American blackbelly, Barbados blackbelly, Mouflon, Romanov, Royal White Sheep, St. Croix) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia • Mini-Cheviot • Babydoll Southdown • AOB Dual Purpose Breed • AOB Dairy • AOB Miniature (Potential breeds include: American Miniature Brecknock, California Red, Corriedale, East Fresian, Finnsheep, Panama, Polypay, Targhee, Jacob)

JUNIOR SHOW – Registered Breeding Sheep

Junior Breeding Sheep Show Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Junior Breeding Sheep Group Class Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Junior Breeding Sheep Show Classes

Breeding Sheep		
1	Aged Ram (any ram too old for classes 2-4, cannot be considered for Champion)	Premium
2	Yearling Rams; born after Sept 1, two years previous	Premium
3	Fall ram lambs; born between Sept 1 & Dec 31, previous year	Premium
4	Spring ram lambs; born on or after Jan 1, current year	Premium
	GRAND CHAMPION RAM	Banner
	RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM	Banner
	OVERALL GRAND CHAMPION (MEAT, HAired, WOOL & AOB) RAM	Banner
5	Aged ewe (any ewe too old for classes 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, cannot be considered for Champion)	Premium
6	Yearling ewes; born after Sept 1, two years previous	Premium
7	Pair of Yearling Ewes	Premium
8	Fall ewe lambs; born between Sept 1 & Dec 31, previous year	Premium
9	Early spring ewe lambs; born between Jan 1 & Feb 15, current year	Premium
10	Mid spring ewe lambs; born between Feb 16 & March 31, current year	Premium
11	Late spring ewe lambs; born on or after April 1, current year	Premium
12	Pair of Ewe Lambs	Premium
	GRAND CHAMPION EWE	Banner
	RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE	Banner
	OVERALL GRAND CHAMPION (MEAT, HAired, WOOL & AOB) EWE	Banner
13	Best Pair (Ram and Ewe, any age)	Premium
14	Junior Flock (Ram lamb, and two ewe lambs)	Premium
15	Exhibitor's Flock (One ram any age, two yearling ewes, and two ewe lambs)	Premium
	Premier Exhibitor	Banner

*Premier exhibitor will be the exhibitor earning the highest point placings throughout the show. Only Single classes count toward this award (no group classes). A minimum of two exhibitors with both sexes shown in the division, or one exhibitor with a complete flock is required for this award to be presented in a breed.

Bred & Owned Ewe and Ram Show:

The Bred & Owned show will consist of ewes and rams (entered in any of the Junior Breeding Sheep show classes) bred and owned by the Junior exhibitor.

- Classes will be the same as the Junior Breeding Sheep classes.
- Exhibitor must have owned the dam at least 175 days prior to birth of lamb being shown.
- Exhibitor must present the dam's registrations papers with exhibitor, sibling residing in the same household, family farm listed as the owner at check-in, or be listed as Breeder and Owner on Registration papers.
- Bred & Owned entries must be entered on-line following regular entry deadlines.

OPEN SHOW – Registered Breeding Sheep

Open Breeding Sheep Show Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Open Breeding Sheep Group Class Premiums

Payouts will be based on percentages of entries.

Open Breeding Sheep Show Classes

Breeding Sheep		
1	Aged Ram (any ram too old for classes 2-4, cannot be considered for Champion)	Premium
2	Yearling Rams; born after Sept 1, two years previous	Premium
3	Fall ram lambs; born between Sept 1 & Dec 31, previous year	Premium
4	Spring ram lambs; born on or after Jan 1, current year	Premium
	GRAND CHAMPION RAM	Banner
	RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM	Banner
	ARKANSAS CHAMPION RAM	Banner
5	Aged ewe (any ewe too old for classes 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, cannot be considered for Champion)	Premium
6	Yearling ewes; born after Sept 1, two years previous	Premium
7	Pair of Yearling Ewes	Premium
8	Fall ewe lambs; born between Sept 1 & Dec 31, previous year	Premium
9	Early spring ewe lambs; born between Jan 1 & Feb 15, current year	Premium
10	Mid spring ewe lambs; born between Feb 16 & March 31, current year	Premium
11	Late spring ewe lambs; born on or after April 1, current year	Premium
12	Pair of Ewe Lambs	Premium
	GRAND CHAMPION EWE	Banner
	RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE	Banner
	ARKANSAS CHAMPION EWE	Banner
13	Best Pair (Ram and Ewe, any age)	Premium
14	Junior Flock (Ram lamb, and two ewe lambs)	Premium
15	Exhibitor's Flock (One ram any age, two yearling ewes, and two ewe lambs)	Premium
	Premier Exhibitor	Banner

*Premier exhibitor will be the exhibitor earning the highest point placings throughout the show. Only Single classes count toward this award (no group classes). A minimum of two exhibitors with both sexes shown in the division, or one exhibitor with a complete flock is required for this award to be presented in a breed.