**4-H Blast**

September 23, 2020

[www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com)

4-H Happenings Coming Up:

* **September 21:** County Council Officer Training, 5:30pm, County Courthouse Pavilion/Fountain
* **September 24:** Rabbit Educational Workshop Series, 6pm, Zoom
* **September 28:** Thorndale 4-H Club Meeting, 7pm, Thorndale City Park Pavilion
* **September 28:** Rockdale Fair Baked Goods Entry Form Due, by mail
* **September 28:** National 4-H Week Proclamation
* **October 1:** Rockdale Fair Ag Mechanics Entry Form Due, by mail
* **October 1-9:** Eligibility Forms Due for Rockdale Fair, County Extension Office
* **October 3:** Rockdale Fair Palpation and Body Condition Scoring, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Milam County Auction Barn Cameron
* **October 4-10:** National 4-H Week
* **October 8:** Rabbit Educational Workshop Series, 6pm, Zoom
* **October 12:** Cloverbuds Zoom Meeting, 5:30pm, Zoom
* **October 20:** Major Show Heifer Validation, 4-6 pm, YEB
* **October 22:** Major Show Sheep and Goat Validation, 4-6 pm, YEB
* **October 22:** Rabbit Educational Workshop Series, 6pm, Zoom
* **November 5:** Major Livestock Show Entry Night, 4-6 pm, Milam County Extension Office
* **November 5:** Rabbit Educational Workshop Series, 6pm, Zoom

**4-H Enrollment STARTED September 1st!!!!!!**

***ENROLLMENT STARTS SEPTEMBER 1ST***! [www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com) Tell your friends to sign up!!! To re-enroll or join 4-H, please see our website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/> This link will show you the steps to join as well as many important items for the 4-H year! Join us for 4-H fun!

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ENROLLMENT BEFORE YOU SUBMIT IT! If you are awaiting review, you are good! If it says resubmit or incomplete, you will need to finish before you can be approved!

***Eligibility Form:*** Please make sure that you are completing your eligibility forms before you go to the show. You will NOT be able to show unless you have enrolled online AND have a completed eligibility form. You must have them signed yourself and sent to the school and the school will send us your signed form if eligible. Rockdale Eligibility Forms will ONLY be accepted from **October 1-9** to the County Extension Office. Please do not do any early to make sure the correct 6 weeks grading period is used. Do not forget to turn in your form by October 9th.

***4-H Facebook:*** Do not forget we have a 4-H Facebook page!!!! We post 4-H Blasts, 4-H contest results and neat opportunities to do in 4-H! Make sure that you “see us first” in your settings. Step 1: Like the Page, Step 2: Click on Following, Step 3: See First, Step 4: Turn Notifications ON! Then you will see all 4-H posts when they arrive! **DURING THIS TIME, PLEASE CHECK THE FACEBOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON EVENTS SO YOU CAN RECEIVE THEM IN A TIMELY MANNER!**

***Club/Project News:***

* **Thorndale 4-H Club:** Monday, **September 28th**, 7pm, Thorndale City Park Pavilion (behind fireman’s hall)
* **Milano 4-H Club:** Milano 4-H Club is ready for meetings! Please connect with their club by joining their Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1677500032472214>
* **Plant ID:** If you are interested in being in the 4-H Plant ID project, please email Irby McWiliams: irby.mcwilliams@icloud.com
* **Cameron 4-H Club Facebook Page:** Cameron 4-H Club has a new facebook page (the old one was closed). Please like the new page for club news and information: <https://www.facebook.com/camerontx4hclub>

***ATTENTION:*** All 4-H members and families MUST sign a COVID 19 Screening form when you attend a 4-H event/club meeting. You can grab these at: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/files/2020/08/Screening-Letter-COVID-19-Youth-Overnight-events-6.12.20.pdf>

They will have a few at the meeting if you forget it. Please wear your mask and practice social distancing at the 4-H club meetings. If you are attending an online meeting, the screening forms are not needed.

**Cloverbuds Project Group:** NEW!!!!!! This year we will be having our first ever Cloverbuds project group! We will be meeting monthly on zoom and learning about all kinds of fun projects and activities!

Cloverbuds are Kindergarteners, 1st graders, and 2nd graders

2nd Monday, 5:30pm-6:30pm, ZOOM

Next Meeting: **October 12th** Topic: Cooking/Baking

You MUST SIGN up on 4-H Online to be on the Zoom!

For more information on Cloverbuds, please see the website: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-clover-kids-k-2nd-grade/>

***National 4-H Week:***

National 4-H Week is **October 4-10, 2020**. Please mark your calendars and help us celebrate SPIRIT WEEK!!!! You can find signs and other materials on the Facebook National 4-H Week event page or on our website: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-clubs/national-4-h-week/>

Monday:

Post your locker signs on your lockers at school or post 4-H flyers in school (with school permission)!

Farmer appreciation day- Wear your boots and jeans!

Tuesday: Wear 4-H T-shirt!

Wednesday: Say thank you!!!- Take REFRESHMENTS to businesses/Schools in support of 4-H or tell a 4-H volunteer thank you!

Thursday: 4-H GREEN OUT- Wear as much green as you can!

Friday: 4-H Night Out- Support a community business!

Saturday: One Day 4-H: 4-H Clubs will be collecting can goods for the local food banks in their community!

Join us online!

Share your 4-H Week with us and win a prize:

#Milam4HWeek

#4HWeek2020

***Rabbit Project Virtual Educational Workshop Series:*** 2020 Texas 4-H Rabbit Project – Virtual Educational Series! We will be offering four different workshops starting on **Thursday, September 24**, 2020. We will alternate weeks with the next three workshops being scheduled for **October 8th, October 22nd, and November 5th**. These are all going to be held on a Thursday evening at 6:00pm via ZOOM.

All interested participants, will need to register on 4-H Online (<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>) in order to receive the meeting links prior to each workshop. There will be no fee attached to this event, we are just needing everyone to register online to participate.

***4-H Banquet:*** We have decided to postpone the 4-H Banquet set for September 13th to **December 13th.** At the Thorndale Fireman’s Hall.

***Rockdale Fair Rules Updated:*** The Rockdale Fair Rules for 2020 have been updated on the website and there are some MAJOR changes! Please look ASAP!!! <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/rockdale-fair/> PLEASE READ ALL RULES FOR DATES AND DEADLINES! Here are the major livestock dates!!! More rules for baked goods and Home Economics will be available soon!

1. Commercial Heifers: **May 16, 2020**, 8:00 am to 10:00, Tag-in at Milam County Auction Barn, Cameron; Palpation and Body Condition Scoring: **Oct. 3, 2020**, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Milam County Auction Barn Cameron
2. Lambs, Swine & Goats: **July 11, 2020**, 7:00 to 9:00 a.m., Rockdale Fair Park
3. Rabbits: **September 10, 2020**, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Home Demonstration Building, Rockdale Fair Park
4. Broilers: Order through RFA, by **May 22**, pick-up **September 4**, Home Demonstration Bldg., Rockdale Fair Park, 5: 30 to 7:00 p.m. Cost per broiler: $1.74
5. Turkey: Order through RFA, by **April 24**, pick-up **June 17**, Home Demonstration Bldg., Rockdale Fair Park, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., Cost per turkey: $6.25
6. Breeding Beef Heifer entries postmarked and due **September 10, 2020**
7. Baked Goods: **October 10th**, Deadline to enter is **September 28th**.
8. Ag Mechanics: October 14th: Deadline to enter is **October 1st**

 ***Spring 2020 Major Show Sheep & Goat Tag Orders:***

 Sheep & Goat Tag ordering for Spring Major Shows is now open for Market Lambs, Market Goats, Wether/Commercial Dams, Wether/Commercial Does, Breeding Sheep and Breeding Goats. In preparation for the sheep and goat validation season, please note some very important updates below.

• The San Antonio Stock Show has made a slight change to their Wether Dam and Wether Doe shows. They will now be called “Commercial Dam” and “Commercial Doe” shows.

• San Angelo Stock Show will continue to use the Wether Dam and Wether Doe designation of their shows.

To help prevent any cause for concern or confusion, we will be working to reflect this change in all of our corresponding validation paperwork, website, and communication. We want to emphasize that this does not call for any change in procedure for your validation season.

All tags will cost $20.00 per head.

Contact the Milam County Extension Office to Order or Email Floyd Ingram ay floyd.ingram@ag.tamu.edu. Payment can be made to Milam County ELAB

Tag order deadline will be August 28, 2020 by 5:00pm. Tags ordered after the deadline will have a $10.00 late fee added per tag.

Sheep & Goat Physical Validation will be **Thursday, October 22, 2020** 4:00 – 6:00pm at the Milam County YEB in Cameron.

***2021 Major Show Heifer Validation:*** Heifer validation for exhibitors planning to show at any 2021 major livestock shows will be held at the YEB in Cameron on **Tuesday, October 20, 2020** from 4:00pm – 6:00pm.

Cost to validate heifers will be $15.00 per heifer. Cash or check will be accepted on the day of validation.

Original registration paperwork for each heifer must be brought to validation and ownership must be in the exhibitors name at time of validation. No heifers will be validated that have not met these requirements.

***2021 Major Show Sheep & Goat Validation:*** Sheep & Goat Validation for exhibitors planning to show at any 2021 major livestock shows will be held at the YEB in Cameron **Thursday, October 22, 2020** from 4:00pm – 6:00pm.

Exhibitors with TLBA Sheep or TGBA Goats must have those animals tagged before arriving to validation. If the tags are not in place at the time of validation the association number will not be recorded on the validation paperwork.

***4-H Major Show Entry Night:*** Milam County 4-H will be hosting it yearly Major Livestock Show Entry Night **Thursday, November 5**, 2020 from 4:00pm – 6:00pm at the Milam County Extension Office.

Any exhibitors planning to show an animal at the 2021 Majors including Odessa, Fort Worth, San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin, this is a great opportunity to come fill out entry forms or bring in completed entry forms to have them looked over.

**NEW & FIRST YEAR EXHIBITORS:** While this entry night is not mandatory it is HIGHLY recommended that you attend. When it comes to major show entries, mistakes can lead to missing the chance to show. This entry night allows parents the opportunity to have each individual show entry process explained and filled out correctly.

***4-H Holiday Gift Idea Exchange:*** This year's Holiday Gift Idea Exchange will be a different look to our event! We will be putting a video of all the kids' crafts up on the Facebook page from **November 16-20, 2020**. As the week goes, families will add their names in the comments of the video to be entered for door prizes! Please check out the event page for reminders and deadlines! See the website for how to enter as a 4-H member: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-clubs/holiday-gift-idea-exchange/> Deadline to enter as a 4-H member will be **November 9th.**

***Junior Leadership Retreat:*** Junior Leadership Retreat registration is open!!!

4-H members in 3rd-8th grade can come to camp **November 13-15**. Texas 4-H Council has a great weekend planned, full of fun and learning!

Register here: <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/> or by using the "Sign Up" button at the top of our page.

\*\*We will be following the same protocols from this summer. Registrations are limited and we will rely on chaperones to help us meet required ratios. We are always short on male chaperones and with our distancing protocols will need even more this year.

***4-H Consumer Project:*** 4-H Consumer is a great activity for kids to learn foundational skills on learning to save and shop better with price and quality in mind. If you are interested in joining the group, please fill out the survey by October 31st. SURVEY: <https://forms.gle/gX8Jv2GTCopNJYgZ9>

We also have a Consumer Welcome letter with all the dates for practices and contest dates. Please take a look at the letter to learn more about what we do in consumer!

Consumer Welcome Letter: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZYoTq_z3b9oVP5YN0ha0W2pYxeDr8LebIhRl-xxIAZ8/edit?usp=sharing>

We have some NEW and different things going on, so PLEASE READ this WHOLE letter!

***Milam County 4-H Information!*** For information about any 4-H related activity, please go to the website or facebook page! www.Join4-h.com or www.facebook.com/milamcountyfourH

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating