

February 2017

4-H NEWSLETTER

Colorado State University
Extension 

Lincoln County Extension

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Welcome New 4-H Members!!!!

We want to welcome our new 4-H members and families into the program! The following are some tips to help you in your first year.



- 4-H information and updates will come through the newsletter and email. * Please make sure that emails are not getting stuck in your “spam” folder.
- Start on your projects and record books before school is out, so that you may ask questions and get help to complete your projects on time. Also check out colorado4h.org for project information and to download your e-record book template.
- If you are unsure about deadlines or procedures, please make sure you contact your club leader or the office for clarification.

Inside this issue:

Information & Events	2
Event Roundup	3
Project Spotlight & Volunteer Corner	4
Activity Page	5
Record Book Reference & Industry Resource	6
Animal Information	7
Money Moment	8
Calendar	9
4-H's	10

NEW EXTENSION & 4-H WEBSITE:

We have updated to a new web platform for our Extension & 4-H county website. We encourage everyone to check out the new website and click through all of the links at lincoln.extension.colostate.edu to see the changes and new features.

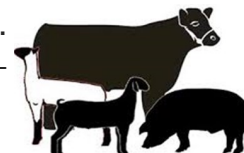
We will continue to work on the content of the website over time and welcome your suggestions.



We would also like to feature your pictures relating to 4-H, horticulture, livestock, range, crops, etc. If you have a picture we can use on the website, please send it to us!

INFORMATION & UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Colorado State 4-H Foundation Scholarship** applications are due April 1, 2017. Scholarship information is available at co4hfoundation.extension.colostate.edu/benefits/.
- **Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA)** certification workshops will begin in February across the state for participants in animal projects. If you cannot make our county training on April 3rd, please contact the office for a listing of other available locations. *Members are required to take MQA the first two years they enroll in an animal project, at 4-H age of 12, and again at 4-H age of 15.
- **Rabbit 101 Workshop** is being held February 19th at Nunn, CO. For more information contact Kelli Kunau @ (970) 305-2931 or <http://arapahoe.extension.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2017/01/Rabbit-101-Flyer-Savable.pdf>
- **Livestock Field Day & MQA Training** is at The Ranch Budweiser Complex in Loveland on February 27th. Go to: larimer.org/ext to register.
- **Kit Carson County Livestock Projects Blog** is intended to provide members with advice and suggestions on their livestock projects. See more at theblueribbonyouthlivestockproject.blogspot.com.
- **Literature Orders**–Literature has been ordered and books will be sent directly to your General Leader shortly.
- **Livestock Judging**– Contact Travis for more information or check out the livestock judging page on our website under clubs, councils, teams/livestock judging.
- **Project Add/Drop** date is March 1st. Please make all final project changes before that date and be sure to advise the office of the changes. Projects in 4hOnline will be “locked” after March 1st.
- **County Fun Day & Demonstration/Speech/Performing Arts Contest** entries are due March 1st. Please see the website under 4-H forms/county & state for the entry form. Fun Day is March 17th starting at 1:00pm. The contests will take place starting in the early evening.
- **District Retreat** camp registration & payment (\$140) is due February 17th. **District Retreat Scholarship** applications are due March 1st. Please see the website under 4-H forms/Foundation for the scholarship application. **Chaperones will be needed for members to attend camp.**
- **Beef weigh-in** is March 4th at Meier’s Feedlot between Hugo and Limon. Weigh-in is from 8:00-10:00am. Bring your brand and ownership papers. State Fair nomination information and forms are now available on our website under forms/fair/state fair. You must get a retinal scan and fill out paperwork for agent signature if you plan on participating at state fair.
- **KC Electric** contributes additional prize money to the top 3 places at the fair for electrical projects! Check out last year’s fair book on our website for more information.
- **State Shooting Sports certification** for volunteers is available starting in March at Pueblo. If you have an interest in becoming a certified instructor, please contact the office for more information.
- **Hunter’s Safety Certification**– All 4-H members must pass a hunter’s safety course by March 31st to participate in the Shooting Sports project for 2017. Information and class availability can be found at cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/HunterEducation.aspx.



JUST TO GET YOU THINKIN...

Homer: (to librarian) *“I’m looking for a good book to read. Can you recommend something?”*

Librarian: *“Do you want something light or heavy?”*

Homer: *“It doesn’t matter. I have my car with me.”*

*First open house for Chevy Chase community residents at National 4-H Center -November 6,195
-4-H History Preservation Program*

“The greener grass on the other side of the fence is just as hard to mow.”

-Capsule Sermons

EVENT ROUNDUP:



A Hunter’s Safety Certification course was held by the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Division on December 21st and 22nd at the Limon Tamarack Golf Course and Limon Shooting Range. There were 25 participants including 4-H members and volunteers. The class was taught by our new District Wildlife Officer Logan Wilkins and Kit Carson County officer Aaron Berscheid. We appreciate their time in putting on the class.

Twenty-three producers, including 4-H members, took part in the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certification on December 20th at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Libby Bigler, CO BQA Coordinator, and Travis Taylor provided producers with information on record keeping, safe injection and handling practices, industry information, and more. BQA certification helps producers increase meat quality and improve production practices. For more information about BQA and certification go to www.cobqa.org



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: LEATHERWORK

By Trinity Leach, Extension Work Study Student

A leather project is a great way of learning to cut, print, design, draw, dye, and use your own creativity to build something. Leathercraft allows you to design and build many items including: wallets, saddles, chaps, belts, holsters, etc. These items could be decorative in nature as well. This project helps you expand your artistic ability and it brings out your personality depending on what you build, how you build it, and what the finished product looks like.

Project Hint: There are many different types of hides available to use for leather projects including: deer skin, cow hide, pigskin, buffalo, nubuck, slink, etc. Different types of hides are used depending on the project you have selected. Hide features you might consider include: durability, strength, flexibility, general appearance, dying ability, and texture. The right piece of leather will help make your project more successful.

Career Focus: Those interested in a career with leather might look at obtaining further technical training or an apprenticeship with a local crafter. A collegiate degree in design, manufacturing, or

art may also help you to work in the leather industry. Working with leather can be a great hobby or even a chance to build your own custom small business. Saddle makers, furniture design, car body shops and upholstery repair, fashion and design, manufacturing, teaching, raising animals, and tanning hides are just a few career choices involving leather.



Resources:

CSU 4-H project page: colorado4h.org/project_resources/projects/gnr/4H-GNR-Project-Leathercraft.pdf

United States Hide, Skin, & Leather Association: ushsla.org

Colorado Saddle Maker's Association: coloradosaddlemakers.org/seminars/

Weaver Leather Supply: weaverleathersupply.com/

Tandy Leather: tandyleather.com/

Alden's School of Leather Trades: leathercraftingschool.com/

VOLUNTEER CORNER:

Leadership Moment: When we introduced the story of *The Little Red Hen* she was asking for help from her friends to start planting the wheat. As we continue into the story she again is asking her friends to harvest the wheat. In this case the hen is putting in the work by herself and is probably starting to get weary by the project. However, it's important to remember in the midst of a project or event that sometimes we have to push through and show perseverance. Persever-

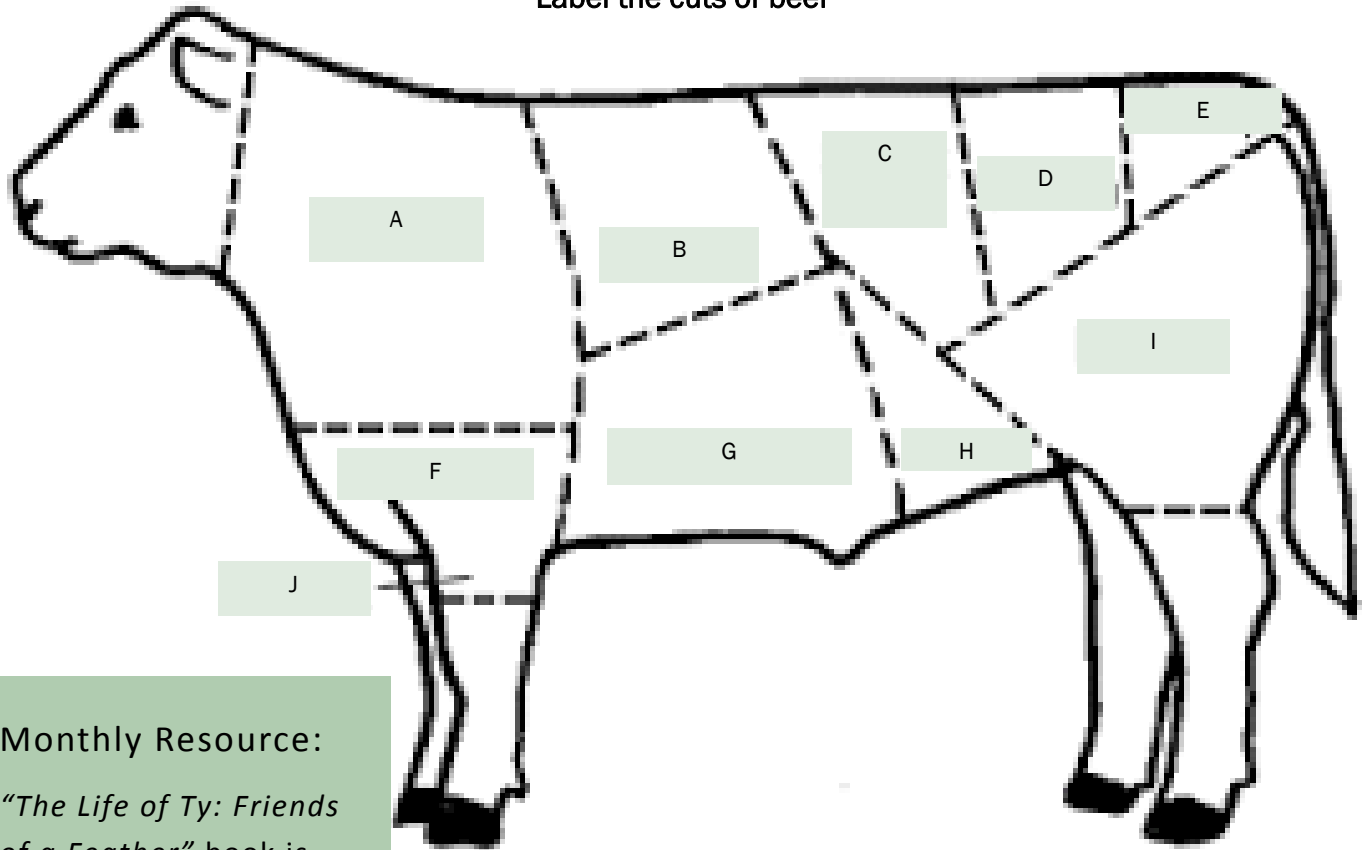
ance to keep working towards the goals we set will help us become more resilient even when the results or ending seems unreachable. This will help when the next project or situation comes along that may be even harder. You will know from past experience that you have what it takes to finish strong and others will see you lead by example.

Risk Management Information: When working with 4-H youth on projects it's important for volunteers to practice good judgement

and avoid one-on-one situations when possible. Best tips include: meeting in public locations, having a sibling or another adult attend, letting parents know when others will not be around, meeting before or after club meetings where others are likely to be in/out of the room, etc. Help protect youth and yourself as a volunteer by avoiding situations that may be construed as a potential liability situation.

ACTIVITY PAGE:

Label the cuts of beef



Monthly Resource:

“*The Life of Ty: Friends of a Feather*” book is for readers ages 6-9 and is authored by Lauren Myracle.

Meat Trivia:

- 1) T or F –The lamb chop comes from the pig.
- 2) What are the primary three grades used to label beef quality?
- 3) At what age are turkey’s butchered?
- 4) Marbling is the _____within the muscle.
- 5) T or F– Meat with high levels of marbling is usually considered tough.
- 6) The USDA recommends ground beef be cooked to what minimum temperature?
- 7) Bacon comes from what areas on the pig?

RECORD BOOK REFERENCE: PART 1

The new 4-H year has begun and that means new projects and blank record books. Starting on your record books early in the year helps to ensure that you complete all required project activities and record all necessary information.

Tips to Get Started:

1) Locate your project record book template at colorado4h.org/project_resources/erecords/index.php.

*Livestock and horse project record books are separated by age division.

2) Check to see what supplement pages are needed for breeding projects.

3) Check to see if you need a project manual and ensure it is the current edition.

4) Utilize the tip sheets for your projects.

5) Make sure to save often when working on your record book electronically.

6) Start a file folder to capture all of your project information including receipts and documentation.



INDUSTRY RESOURCE: RFD-TV



RFD-TV is your go to resource for all topics agricultural related. They strive to provide programming that features the rural and western lifestyle. They feature news and informational shows that strive to serve the needs of rural Americans while reconnecting the urban sector with agriculture.

Programming areas involve:

- Rural weather and resources.
- Daily and weekly programming for market reports and ag news both locally and around the world.
- Rural lifestyle shows, music, and entertainment.
- Production agriculture shows that provide research, industry information, and education.
- Rodeo, equine events, and equine education.
- Information on machinery and used markets information.
- Other educational shows and interviews with industry experts, participants, and everyday producers.

RFD TV is now available in multiple viewer formats including:

RFD-TV found on multiple network platforms.

RFD-TV online at www.rfdtv.com.

RFD Rural Radio available on SiriusXM 147 or ruralradio147.com.

RFD-TV The Magazine at rfdtv.com/story/23626857/rfd-tv-the-magazine.

ANIMAL INFORMATION CORNER: SCOURS

Scours is a dreaded word of every livestock producer. The birth of new baby animals often leads to increased incidents or outbreaks of scours and is one of the leading causes of death or production loss in young animals. According to CSU Veterinary Extension “*scours is caused by viruses (Rotavirus, Coronavirus, BVD), parasites (Cryptosporidium, Coccidia), or bacteria (E.coli, Salmonella, Clostridium Perfringens)*”.

These viruses and bacteria generally cause inflammation or cell destruction of the intestinal system. This prevents the animal from being able to digest nutrients and fluids which leads to dehydration, low blood sugar, and loss of body fat. The weakened immune system also makes the animal more susceptible to other illnesses.

Economically, a scours outbreak can be highly detrimental to a producer’s operation requiring extensive labor and treatment inputs. Loss of production, impaired growth, and death loss all reduce a producer’s end profit.

Signs of Illness:

- Lethargic or unstable.
- Dehydration causing the eyes to sink and a bony appearance from the skin hanging.
- Stool that is very loose and watery and may contain blood or mucous. Coloring may include yellow, brown, grey, or green.

- Not eating or drinking.

- Low body temperature.

Treatment:

- Isolate sick animals.

- Consult your veterinarian.

- Replenish fluids and tube animals with nutrients when necessary. IV fluids may also be required.

- Providing a warm, dry, and clean recovery area.

- Disinfect equipment and pens. Also disinfect operator clothing and boots when moving from the treatment pens to the rest of the herd.

Prevention:

- Talk to your local veterinarian about the feasibility of using a scour vaccination program.

- Keep your breeding stock in good condition, especially right before they are to calve, lamb, etc.

- Clean and disinfect all pens and equipment prior to introducing new offspring.

- Provide bedding and continually clean pens.

- Rotating pregnant animals to new pens or fields helps reduce pathogen exposure to newborns.

- Keep newborns dry, ensure they have had colostrum, and continue to eat.

- Avoid overcrowding.

Resources:

Local Veterinarian

Merck Veterinary Manual- merckvetmanual.com/

Rotational Pens for Calving- beef.unl.edu/a95e3e40-93f8-4893-a296-d706fb4aec9a.pdf
extension.umn.edu/agriculture/dairy/calves-and-heifers/ten-strategies-to-battle-calf-scours/veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/Cattle/Calf%20Scours%20101.pdf

beefmagazine.com/mag/beef_vets_opiniongoing_war

MONEY MOMENT: SUPPLY & DEMAND

The market goes up and the market goes down. We don't have to be economists or involved in trading markets to know that supply and demand of a product or service go hand-in-hand. When there is an abundant supply; demand is usually lower and prices are usually lower. When supply is low; demand is often much greater and costs tend to rise. Supply and demand is cyclical based on many factors. In agriculture we want to produce a large quantity and sell at a maximum price. As a consumer we want a large supply or variety of product and low prices.

It's important to note that supply and demand in one industry has a ripple effect to other industries and vice versa because the basic input costs are similar for most everyone (i.e. labor, maintenance, etc.). Supply and demand depends on many factors that are constantly changing and it won't always follow the traditional up and down approach. Sometimes supply and prices will both be high at the same time.

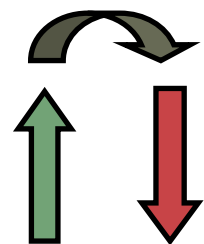
Example of Supply & Demand: Tractor Market

When the commodities/livestock market is high, agricultural producers generally have excess funds to spend because they made a profit ($\text{Income} - \text{Expenses} = \text{Profit}$). Thus they are more likely to buy more tractors in a good agricultural economy. Currently the agricultural industry is in a slow economy and fewer tractors are being sold because farmers have very little to no excess funds for capital purchases.

Thus from the tractor dealer/manufacturers side they are currently sitting on a larger inventory of tractors. Supply is high and demand is low. In this case because of the cost to manufacture and market tractors; prices will not likely decrease. Tractor businesses still have to operate their businesses as general operating costs continue and a decrease in sales means a decrease in profit. Thus we see a ripple effect from one industry to the next because when one industry does poorly, it affects the economic health of the next industry, and so on.

Common Factors Affecting Supply & Demand:

- Weather patterns, natural disasters, disease, or pests.
- Trade agreements and production standards.
- Economic downfalls or uptrends in countries for many reasons including war, leadership changes, changes to policies and regulations, etc.
- Consumer preferences and changing trends.
- Uses of the product and competing products and markets.
- Changes to technology and production costs.
- Financial stability of individual producers or companies.



Resources:

farm-equipment.com/articles/13553-dealers-expect-11-sales-decline-in-2016-but-4-drop-for-2017

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CWF Application Due Livestock Scholarship Application Due Livestock Sale Comm. Mtg. 6:30pm @ Exten-	2	3	4
5	6 Ranch Rodeo Committee Mtg. 6:30 @ Extension	7	8	9	10 Youth Fest Camp	11 Karval Club Meeting 10:00am @ Karval School
12 Youth Fest Camp	13 2nd Shooting Sports Safety Meeting 6:30pm @ Fairgrounds	14	15 Ag Outlook/ Strategy Forum 11:00-2:30 @ Hub Senior Center in Limon	16	17 District Retreat Camp Registration & Payment Due	18 Livestock Judging Practice 9:00am @ Travis T. House
19 Rabbit 101 Workshop Nunn, CO	20 President's Day-Office Closed	21 Marshall Frasier Beef Symposium 9:00am @ Fairgrounds	22	23	24	25 Livestock Field Day & MQA Training Opportunity @ Loveland
26	27	28	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p><i>Additional Extension & 4-H events and information is available by clicking on "News & Events" on the new website.</i></p> </div>			

Heart- *Cultivating Colorado* is a magazine and web program developed by the Colorado Department of Agriculture. It's focus is to promote and educate others on the benefits of agriculture to the Colorado Economy. It also connects with [FarmFlavor.com](http://www.farmflavor.com) to bridge consumers to the agricultural industry. Connecting with consumers about how you raise your product and sharing stories about everyday agricultural life is vitally important. The magazine is available at <http://www.farmflavor.com/colorado/cultivating-colorado-2017/>. You can also visit Colorado.gov/agmain to learn more about Colorado Agriculture.

Head- Mobile apps and electronic software make keeping track of treatment, production, and breeding records easier than ever. Many of these software packages let you use your smart phone to record information in the field that directly uploads to your main program and vice versa. Keeping records makes sense for many reasons including detecting birth defects, keeping track of treatment records, calculating costs and rate of gain, etc. Selecting software often depends on your operation type and size, cost, and how much information you need to capture. A bull breeder may want information on EPD's while a dairy operation may also need software with milk production information.

Resources: www.cowsense.com
www.cattlemax.com
www.icattlemgrpro.com/



Health- In the summer time we constantly think about using sun screen and protecting ourselves from UV rays. However protecting your skin and eyes in the wintertime can be just as important because of direct sunlight and rays that bounce off the snow. Drier winter air along with sunburns can lead to additional irritations. Use plenty of sun-screen in the winter to protect your skin and utilize lotion and lip balm as well to help with chapped/sunburnt skin. Sunburned eyes can also occur more frequently in the winter from UV reflections and because of the drier winter air. Wearing sunglasses with close-fitting frames is the best way to prevent getting an "eye" sunburn.

Resources: allabouvision.com/conditions/snowblind.htm

Hands- Colorado 4-H Record Book Tracker is a newer electronic app for 4-H members to help with their projects. This app can be used with any device that is connected to the internet. It allows you to input expenditures, activities, etc. on the go so you keep up-to-date records for your project. The program supports all project areas and let's you directly pull reports that will fit into your project e-record book. The program retains all of your information from year to year and is a great resource for building resumes or completing scholarship applications.

For more information and to register for the app, go to <http://co4htracker.colostate.edu/>