Texas 4-H and FFA Sheep and Goat Validation Program  
2015-2016 Reminders and Updates

1. The Executive Committee coordinates the state validation program and makes decisions regarding guidelines and rule violations within State Sheep and Goat Validation Program. Executive Committee members:
   a. Marvin Ensor, West Regional Program Leader-ANR/4-H
   b. Marty Gibbs, District Extension Administrator, District 7
   c. Dr. Reid Redden, AgriLife Extension Sheep and Goat Specialist

2. County-Level State Sheep and Goat Validation Committee must be composed of County Extension Agents, Agriculture Science Teachers, and a minimum of two representatives of the local fair boards or other youth livestock leaders from the county. All County Level- State 4-H and FFA Validation Committees must have a minimum of four members. The committee must select a County Extension Agent or Agriculture Science Teacher to serve as the chairperson. There must be a minimum of three committee members present during validation.

3. 2015-2016 guidelines are posted: [http://lambandgoatvalidation.tamu.edu/](http://lambandgoatvalidation.tamu.edu/). The deadline for ordering tags for the 2015-16 validation program is August 26, 2015.

4. Texas 4-H/FFA State Sheep and Goat Validation will be conducted between October 1st and October 31st, 2015. County Level State Validation Committees are encouraged to plan for unforeseen needs and situations which do not allow some 4-H/FFA members to participate on scheduled validation date(s).

5. Validation information must be recorded on the appropriate forms. There are four state validation forms: 1) Market Lambs, 2) Junior Breeding Sheep/Wether Dams, 3) Market Goats, 4) Junior Boer Breeding Goats/Wether Does. **Wether Dam and Wether Doe information is no longer recorded on Market Lamb and Market Goat forms.**

6. Boer Breeding Goat Validation has been added to the State Validation Program. Does and Bucks must be validated to be eligible to show in participating 2016 major shows. **All Boer goats entered in the Junior Boer Breeding Goat Shows, including Wether Does, at San Antonio and San Angelo shows must be validated (including 6 month and under class).**

7. The ownership deadline for breeding Boer goats is October 1st, 2015. Purchase, delivery, possession and registration must all take place on or before October 1st, 2015. Bucks and does must be registered in the Herdbook of their Association in only the name of the junior owner. Partnerships, including siblings, are NOT eligible for Junior Shows. The information on the papers should be reviewed by the County Level State Validation Committee during the validation process. **Breeding animals that do not meet the guidelines should not be validated.**

8. All registered goats (not including Wether Does) must have an ear tag that corresponds with the individual goat tattoo and the Original Registration Certificate. The flock tattoo must also be in the appropriate ear.
9. Registered does are eligible to show as Wether Does, but they must be validated as a Junior Wether Doe only. Registered does may NOT be validated as a registered Breeding Goat AND as an unregistered Wether Doe. Exhibitors must choose prior to validation.

10. The ownership deadline for breeding sheep is October 1st. Purchase, delivery, possession and registration must all take place on or before Oct. 1, 2015. In the event that the date of transfer and ownership date are not consistent on the Original Registration Certificate, the most recent date will be interpreted as the official date of ownership for the exhibitor. Registered breeding animals must be registered in the Herdbook of their Association in only the name of the junior owner. The information on the papers should be reviewed by the County-Level State Validation Committee during the validation process. Breeding animals that do not meet the guidelines should not be validated.

11. Both commercial and registered ewes are eligible to show in Wether Dam Shows, however, ewes may NOT be validated as a registered breeding sheep and as a Junior Wether Dam. This is a rule change from the 2014-2015 guidelines.

12. All 4-H and FFA exhibitors participating in the State Sheep and Goat Validation Program along with their parents or guardians must read and sign the 2015-2016 TEXAS 4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK PROGRAM ETHICS POLICY FORM. Signatures confirm that exhibitors, parents, and guardians understand the consequences of and penalties involved for illegal, unethical, inhumane, and unfair practices in livestock competition.

13. County Level State Validation Committee should use recommended tagging pliers to reduce tag damage or other problems.

14. Validation forms and other materials MUST be postmarked on or before November 6, 2015 and should be sent registered mail, return receipt requested.

15. The Texas 4-H and FFA Sheep and Goat Validation Program will continue to conduct both random and targeted “Validation Checks” or project visits to assure projects are continuously owned and personally fed and cared for by the exhibitor throughout the entire feeding period. The majority of the “Validation Checks” will be conducted by the County Level State Validation Committees at the request of the Executive Committee.

2016 Major Shows –Validation Required
Odessa –Market Lambs & Market Goats
Fort Worth –Market Lambs & Market Goats
San Angelo –Market Lambs, Junior Breeding Sheep, Market Goats, Junior Boer Breeding Goats, & Junior Wether Does
San Antonio - Market Lambs, Junior Breeding Sheep, Junior Wether Dams, Market Goats, Junior Boer Breeding Goats, & Junior Wether Does
Houston – Market Lambs, Market Goats, & Junior Breeding Sheep
Star of Texas – Market Lambs and Market Goats