

May 9, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: County Extension Agents – ANR/4-H  
Agricultural Science Teachers

SUBJECT: 2024 State Fair of Texas 4-H/FFA Sheep & Goat Validation

The State Fair of Texas Sheep and Goat Validations are required to be conducted from a central office of the County-Level State Validation Committee Chairperson. All validations should occur at a time, place, and date determined by the County-Level State Validation Committee between **June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>**.

The **2024-2025 Texas 4-H/FFA Sheep & Goat Validation Program Guidelines** are attached and are also available for download at: <http://sheepandgoatvalidation.tamu.edu/>

State Fair of Texas market lambs, market goats, breeding sheep, wether/commercial dams, breeding goats, and wether/commercial does will use the same RFID tags and will be recorded on the same **Validation Form**. Counties that have unused tags at the completion of validation **will not** be required to return these tags to our office. Those unused tags can be used for replacement tags, or for Major Show Validation in October, in your county. If your county needs more validation tags, additional tags may be ordered from the Texas Sheep and Goat Validation Program using the online order form through June 23<sup>rd</sup> at a cost of \$25 per tag. **If you need to order late tags after June 23<sup>rd</sup>, you must contact the Sheep and Goat Validation Office.**

**\*REMINDER\*** Market lambs and goats validated during the 2024 State Fair Validation Period WILL BE ELIGIBLE for 2025 Spring Major Shows. Market animals validated for the 2024 State Fair will carryover for 2025 Spring Major Shows, similar to breeding animals. Once validated, the project **MUST** remain in the care of the exhibitor that project is validated to; if the exhibitor chooses to sell the project to a new exhibitor, the new exhibitor **MUST REVALIDATE** the project within the next validation period. Please see the Sheep and Goat Validation Program Guidelines for more details.

In compliance with Rule #3 of the **2024-2025 Texas 4-H/FFA Livestock Program Ethics Policy**, a **physical address** of where the livestock will be located **MUST** be listed on the Ethics Policy, regardless of if this is the same address listed on the validation form.

It is **NOT** the responsibility of the County-Level State Sheep and Goat Validation Committee to remove any tags which may be present in the animal's ear at the time of validation. **THE VALIDATION COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT REMOVE USDA SCRAPIE TAGS!**

**Tattoos are required as part of a complete validation and will be checked at the major shows. If any animal is found to be MISSING A TATTOO or the TATTOO IS NOT LEGIBLE at time of show, the project will be subject to disqualification.**

**Reminders:**

- **DO NOT OBTAIN SIGNATURES BEFORE VALIDATION.** Signatures on the *Validation Form* verify that validation of those animals was performed correctly. **INITIALS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AS SIGNATURES AND WILL BE RETURNED!**
- Local Validation Committees are limited to charge no more than \$5.00 above the original cost of the validation tag to cover the cost of local expenses.
- Family Validation of Breeding Sheep and Goats
- Roll-Over of Breeding Sheep and Goats – 3-year program
- Only breeding sheep/goats and/or commercial/wether dams/does that **were VALIDATED CORRECTLY** are **eligible for the Roll-Over Program**. If validation for a specific sheep/goat was rejected at any time during the validation process, that animal must be revalidated to be eligible for 2024 State Fair. Additionally, if a wether/commercial dam or doe was

West Central District 7  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
7887 US Highway 87 N | San Angelo, Texas 76901  
Tel. 325.653.4576 | Fax. 325.655.7791 | SanAngelo.tamu.edu

validated as a MARKET animal, that animal MUST BE REVALIDATED to be eligible for 2024 State Fair. **YOU CAN FIND BREEDING ANIMALS ELIGIBLE FOR THE 2024 STATE FAIR OF TEXAS ON THE TEXAS LIVESTOCK VALIDATION WEBSITE IN THE SHEEP/GOAT PROJECT LIST NAVIGATION PANE.** *If you have ANY discrepancies with the validation status of any animal(s) in YOUR COUNTY, please notify the Sheep and Goat Validation Office IMMEDIATELY.*

**ALL OFFICIAL VALIDATION AND TAGGING WILL OCCUR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE COUNTY-LEVEL STATE SHEEP AND GOAT VALIDATION COMMITTEE.**

Please find enclosed the sheep and goat validation tags that you ordered for your county along with DNA sample envelopes, and nose print cards (for sheep only). **\*NEW FOR THE 2024-2025 SHOW SEASON\* We are moving to a one-page validation form. You are responsible for printing forms for your county. The original copy should be returned to the State Coordinator. Copies should be made for your records and exhibitor records\***

The Texas 4-H/FFA Sheep & Goat Validation materials must be submitted no later than **July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024** by registered mail, return receipt requested, directly to:

**Texas Sheep and Goat Validation Program  
7887 US Highway 87 North  
San Angelo, TX 76901**

**For validation to be complete, the County-Level State Sheep and Goat Validation Committee Chairperson MUST complete the online validation submission at <https://www.texaslivestockvalidation.com/> by July 8, 2024.** Detailed instructions can be found online.

*\*\*\*Please REMOVE/UPDATE exhibitors that have graduated/no longer showing when entering validation data – your help is greatly appreciated!\*\*\**

Thank you for your support of the Texas 4-H/FFA Sheep and Goat Validation Program! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (325) 657-7328.



**Marty Gibbs**  
District Extension Administrator  
7887 US Hwy 87 North  
San Angelo, TX 76901  
Tel. 325.657.7313  
Fax. 325.655.7791  
[marty.gibbs@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:marty.gibbs@ag.tamu.edu)



**Joleen Frost**  
Youth Sheep and Goat Associate  
Texas Sheep and Goat Validation  
7887 US Hwy 87 North  
San Angelo, TX 76901  
Tel. 325.657.7322  
Fax. 325.655.7791  
[Joleen.frost@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Joleen.frost@ag.tamu.edu)

Attachments:

2024 Texas 4-H/FFA Sheep & Goat Validation Program Guidelines – State Fair

**ALL OTHER FORMS CAN BE FOUND IN THE TEXAS 4-H/FFA SHEEP & GOAT VALIDATION PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND ONLINE AT <https://sheepandgoatvalidation.tamu.edu>. Please be sure that you are using updated forms!**

*Please visit our website for additional forms, information, and instructions regarding Texas Sheep and Goat Validation. Please be sure that you download and use updated forms! Website link: <https://sheepandgoatvalidation.tamu.edu>*

West Central District7  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
7887 US Highway 87 N | San Angelo, Texas 76901  
Tel. 325.653.4576 | Fax. 325.655.7791 | [SanAngelo.tamu.edu](http://SanAngelo.tamu.edu)