

Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition

2026 Market Lambs

- Division: See Individual Breeds
- Entry Fee: \$20 per entry
- Department 945

Entries Close:	Monday, July 27 th
Arrival of Lambs:	Thursday, August 27 th - 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Exhibitors Meeting	Friday, August 28 th @ 8:45 a.m.
Inspection & Tagging:	Friday, August 28 th @ 9:00 a.m.
Weight Declarations:	Friday, August 28 th – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Showmanship:	Friday, August 28 th @ 5:00 p.m.
Show:	Saturday, August 29 th @ 9:00 a.m.
Grand Champion Selection:	Saturday, August 29 th – ½ after completion of the show
Begin Release:	Saturday, August 29 th following the show
Load out of Buyback Lambs	TBD
All non-sale Market Lambs out of Barn	Saturday, August 29 th @ 9:00 p.m.

- **Limited to Four (4) Lambs Per Exhibitor**
- **All Market Lambs Must Submit DNA Samples Within the Required Time Limits**

Competition Requirements:

1. All entrants must have read and be familiar with the General Competition Requirements, Livestock and Small Animal Competition Requirements, Junior Livestock Competition Requirements, Junior Livestock Sale Participation Requirements, Animal Welfare Policy, and Livestock Health

Requirements. Exhibitors must comply with the Wholesome Meat provisions and the Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct. Exhibitors are encouraged to read and be fully informed of the contents of the Drug Residue Avoidance Guidelines.

2. All exhibitors in Open, Junior Breeding, and Market shows must submit a premises identification (PID) number at the time of entry. PID may be obtained by contacting the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-869-9130 or click on the following link:

<https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>

3. Bedding: Exhibitors are responsible for their own livestock bedding. Entry into competition at the Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition (“State Fair”) does not include bedding.

Exhibitors may pre-order bedding and shavings through the official bedding vendor or bedding and shavings will be available to purchase on-grounds from said vendor upon arrival. The phone number and order portal will be posted on the Fair’s website.

Straw may only be used for Breeding Sheep, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goats, and for Open Breeding Cattle tie-outs. All other uses of straw are prohibited.

Outside bedding for livestock exhibitors is permitted.

4. Purebred, grade, or crossbred wethers or ewe lambs are eligible. All lambs must weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and a maximum weight of 165 to be eligible to show. Male animals having one or both testicles contained in the body cavity are not eligible to show.
5. No tack pens will be available until all lambs have been stalled. The following restrictions will be enforced regarding show and personal items in the lamb barn:
 - a. No carpets allowed, carpets will be removed if put down
 - b. No feed tables;
 - c. One (1) fitting table per exhibitor;
 - d. No tack in the center aisle;

- e. Chairs must be put away when not in use;
 - f. North fitting area will be limited to one (1) fitting stand per exhibitor;
 - g. Show Day Only - pop up canopies (no sides) will be allowed on the north side of the barn, canopies must be removed once all animals have been prepared for show;
 - h. No exhibitor porta coolers will be allowed in the barn.
6. All lambs must be shorn in designated areas only. Lambs must be slick-shorn at time of inspection. Wool foretops and boots may be left on the lamb. No shearing will be allowed after processing. Only hand shearers and cordless clippers may be used to clip legs after processing. Grooming tables may be moved if they are blocking any aisle or walkway.
 7. Any violation of the General Livestock Competition Requirements or Junior Livestock Competition Requirements regarding fitting of livestock may result in disciplinary action.
 8. Market lamb exhibitors may use meshed or plastic muzzles at the State Fair. The muzzle style must allow the lamb to drink water.
 9. Market Lambs shall show no evidence of surgical docking, prolapses, purse strings, sutures, etc. If any of these are evident in sheep, that animal will be disqualified from the show.
 10. A water container with water must be visible and available for watering regularly in each penned/stalled area at all times. No feeding or watering of livestock in show rings, holding pens, or to and from re-weigh stations will be permitted. Colorado State Fair Officials reserve the right, at its discretion, to contact a State Fair veterinarian to determine if water should be given. Drenching will be allowed for Market Lambs at the State Fair for hydration purposes only. No stomach-pumping devices will be allowed.
 11. Breed classification officials will review Market Lambs on Friday, August 28, 2026, during inspection. If the breed classification officials determine that an entry in any breed division does not exhibit the characteristics required by that breed association, the entry will be transferred to a crossbred class. If the exhibitor does not accept the transfer, he or she can withdraw his or her entry from the show, but the entry fee for that animal WILL NOT be refunded.

12. No iced or wet towels are allowed in the holding area, and no family members are permitted in any of the lamb-holding or staging pens at any time. No Exceptions.
13. There will be no official weigh-in of Market Lambs. Scales will be available for the exhibitors' use until the deadline for turning in the weight nomination form. The exhibitor must obtain an official weight nomination form when the animal is inspected. The official weight nomination form must be turned into the Livestock Office no later than the deadline listed above. The weight(s) indicated on the weight nomination form will be the official show weight. There will be no changing of weights or breeds after the weight nomination form has been turned in.
14. Classes will be offered in the breed classifications listed, with a maximum of 25 head per class and a minimum of 5 head per class. In the event there are not 5 Dorsets entered, Dorsets will show with Speckled Face. If there are not 5 Wool breeds, those animals will be combined with the Speckled Face. If there are not 5 Southdown entries, those entries will be combined with the Dorsets. If there are not 10 Dorsets, Southdowns, Wool breeds, and Speckled Face combined entries, those entries will be placed in the Black Face classification. Breeds having fifteen (15) head or less, only the Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion qualify for the Junior Livestock Sale.
15. Entry Numbers: Each entry will be assigned a number, which will be provided to all exhibitors. The exhibitor must display these numbers when the animal is in the show ring.
16. In all Market Lamb classes, the front feet of the sheep must remain on the show ring floor while being shown. Judges and Superintendents will have the discretion to enforce disqualification.
17. After each class of Market Lambs has been placed, show officials will weigh the top five animals on the official scale. Market Lambs cannot deviate more than 5% above or below the declared show weight previously designated by the exhibitor on the weight card. If any Market Lamb is weighed out, it will be disqualified, and the remaining animals will be moved up in placing. The disqualified lamb is not eligible for any other class and will not be reweighed.
18. Once the sale lambs have been determined, those animals will be moved to a showcase area at the time designated by the Livestock Superintendents. All equipment, except those needed to

feed and water animals and clean stalls, shall be removed from the barn. The Authority will provide each exhibitor with shavings for use in the new stalling area.

19. This show is terminal for only those Market Lambs selected for the Junior Livestock Sale. Lambs not selected for the Sale will be released to the exhibitor or may be consigned for a buyback. Market Lamb exhibitors are encouraged to utilize sound biosecurity practices upon departure from the fairgrounds; recommended biosecurity procedures are available in the Livestock Office.

Market Lamb Classes

Breed	Division	Class No.
Wool Breeds	11	4700
Dorset	12	4800
Southdown	13	4900
Speckled Face	14	5000
Black Face	18	5100

Rosettes to Champion and Reserve Champion in each division awarded by the Colorado State Fair Authority. Awards to Breed Champion in each division awarded by the Colorado State Fair Authority

Classification Descriptions

- Wool Breeds:
 - Rambouillet
 - Merino
 - Debouillet
 - Columbia
 - Corriedale
 - Targhee, and
 - Crosses of these breeds only
- Speckled Face: Crosses of wool breeds and medium wool breeds

- Southdown: Purebred with Southdown breed characteristics.
- Dorset: Purebred with Dorset breed characteristics.
- Black Face: Hampshire, Suffolk, and Blackface crosses.

Premium Schedule

No. of Entries (per Class)	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
5-9	\$23	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$6	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10-11	\$26	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$7	\$0	\$0	\$0
12-14	\$30	\$24	\$21	\$18	\$15	\$12	\$9	\$7	\$5	\$0
15-19	\$32	\$26	\$23	\$20	\$17	\$14	\$11	\$9	\$7	\$7
20 or more	\$34	\$28	\$25	\$22	\$19	\$16	\$13	\$11	\$9	\$9

Grand Champion Market Lamb

Grand Champion Drive: Saturday, August 29, 2026 – half an hour after completion of the show

Champion and Reserve Champion of each division will compete. There will be 4 weight divisions of Black Face to compete in Grand Drive:

- Lightweight
- Mediumweight
- Medium Heavyweight
- Heavyweight

5198. Grand Champion Market Lamb

- Buckle by CSU Animal Sciences Dept.
- Trophy by Colorado Livestock Assn.

- Traveling trophy by CSU Animal Sciences Department
- Banner by Colorado State Fair Authority

5199. Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb

- Buckle by CSU Animal Sciences Dept.
- Trophy by Colorado State Fair Authority
- Banner by Colorado State Fair Authority

5200. Third Overall Market Lamb

- Banner by Sure Champ / DuraFerm

5201. Fourth Overall Market Lamb

- Banner by Sure Champ / DuraFerm

5202. Fifth Overall Market Lamb

- Banner by Sure Champ / DuraFerm

Junior Market Lamb Showmanship

Show: Friday, August 28, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m.

- Division 25
- No Fee
- Department 945

Competition Requirements

1. No pre-entry or entry fee is required. Exhibitors may enter at the time of inspection and weight declaration.
2. Classes are limited to exhibitors with Market Lamb entries. Exhibitors must show their own animals. A lamb disqualified for any reason may not be used for Showmanship.

3. Show order will be Junior – Intermediate – Senior
4. Three age divisions are offered, with exhibitor age considered as of December of the past year.
5. The judge will consider the animal's appearance, the exhibitor's showmanship ability, and the exhibitor's appearance, courtesy, and knowledge.
6. Rosettes will be awarded to 1st through 6th place in each division. No premiums will be paid for Showmanship.

5401. Junior Division (8 - 10 yrs. of age)

- Buckle by Mark Arndt
- Award by Colorado State Fair Authority

5403. Intermediate Division (11-13 yrs. of age)

- Buckle by Marlin Eisenach
- Award by Colorado State Fair Authority

5405. Senior Division (14-18 yrs. of age)

- Buckle by the Family of Lewis Cox
- Framed Scholarship Certificate by N.J.C

Junior Market Lambs Special Award Sponsors

Mark Arndt, Fort Morgan, CO, awards a buckle for the Junior Champion Lamb Showman.

Colorado Livestock Association, Zach Riley; 2425 35th Avenue, Ste. 202, Greeley, CO 80634, will award a trophy for the Grand Champion Lamb.

Colorado State University, Department of Animal Sciences, 1171 Campus Delivery, Ft. Collins, CO, offers a buckle for the Grand Champion Market Lamb and a Buckle for the Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb.

Colorado State University, Department of Animal Sciences, 1171 Campus Delivery, Ft. Collins, CO, will present a traveling trophy for the Grand Champion Market Lamb.

The Family Of Lewis Cox, Paula Cox, Frederick, CO, awards a buckle for the Senior Champion Lamb Showman.

Marlin Eisenach, Fort Morgan, CO, awards a buckle for the Intermediate Champion Lamb Showman.

Northeastern Junior College, Sterling, CO, will award a \$1,000.00 scholarship to N.J.C. to the Senior Division (14-18 yrs) Showmanship winner. A Framed Scholarship Certificate will be presented at the show.

Sure Champ / DuraFerm, c/o Jenette Masarie, provides the banners awarded to the Third through Fifth Overall Market Lambs.

The American Hampshire Sheep Assoc., 15603 173rd Ave, Milo, IA 50166, offers \$50 to the Grand Champion Junior. Market Lamb if sired by a registered Hampshire Ram. The sire's association number and a picture of the Grand Champion must be submitted within 60 days to the AHSA office before payment will be made from this office.

Thank You to All Our Award Donors!