2026

2026 Phelps County Fair Livestock Rules

PCF General Livestock Rules

1. Online registration will be available starting on April 13th, 2026. All livestock must be registered by no later than Friday, May 1st, 2026. Entries received after this date will incur a $25 late fee/species registered. All exhibitors can begin registering by visiting www.phelpscountyfair.com.
2. All livestock are subject to examination by a licensed veterinarian.
3. Livestock may not arrive until 8:00 a.m. Thursday, May 28th, 2026. All livestock entries must be on the fairgrounds by Thursday of the fair by 12:00 p.m. **No digital breed registration papers will be accepted at check-in.**
4. **All breeding and market livestock will require valid health papers per the Missouri Department of Agriculture. The papers must be current (within 30 days) and must have each animal listed by an identification tag/tattoo approved by the Missouri Department of Agriculture. More information can be read at the following website: https://agriculture.mo.gov/animals/rules.php. These papers will be examined by a barn chairman prior to unloading at the fairgrounds. This will take place on Thursday, May 28 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Animals can't be unloaded until health papers have been checked! Failure to follow this procedure, will result in immediate dismissal of livestock. Pen assignments will also be made by the barn chairman at this time. The barn chairman is the only individual authorized to make pen and stall assignments (i.e. by club, lottery, or other method as chosen by barn chairman), and will depend on the number of entries received.**
5. Each exhibitor will furnish their own feed and bedding.
6. **No portable power (i.e. generators, generator trailers, etc.) can be used within 100 feet of any livestock barn.**
7. Each exhibitor shall purchase a season pass in advance and exchange for a wristband.
8. All awarded ribbon colors will be determined by the judges.
9. Each exhibitor will be paid one premium per class. Premiums will be paid by the color of the ribbon awarded.
10. All cattle shall be halter broke.
11. Breeding livestock will be released at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday of the fair. All exhibitors must check-in with Species Superintendent before removing their animals from the fair. If exhibitors remove livestock on their own accord, all premiums will be forfeited.
12. **The exhibitor must obey all Livestock Rules, in addition to the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) Show Ring Code of Ethics, https://www.mostatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/animal-code-ethics.pdf as adopted by the Missouri State Fair. Violation of these rules or ethics will result in forfeiture of premium money or disqualification from shows.**
13. Open shows are for exhibitors over 21 and for juniors ages 8 – 21 who earn a blue ribbon in the junior show (with competition) or who are not members of 4-H or FFA. For an animal exhibited by a junior exhibitor to advance to the open show, it must receive a blue ribbon.
14. Youth exhibitors who are members of a 4-H or FFA chapter in Phelps County must participate in one of the two fairground clean-up days for the Phelps County Fair and the Phelps Co. Youth Livestock Showcase and Sale (PCYLS&S) on either Saturday, May 16, 2026 or Saturday, July 25, 2026 starting at 8:00 a.m. each day.
15. Livestock pens and stalls **MUST BE** kept clean and tidy throughout the duration of the fair. If Species Superintendent determines livestock pens and stalls are not clean and tidy, premium(s) may be withheld.
16. Tie out space will be provided for **cattle** and tie out time is 9:00 p.m. All livestock must return to the barn by no later than 7:00 a.m. daily.
17. All animals must have been owned and registered in the name of the exhibitor at least 30 days before day of show.
18. In order for animals to show in the purebred classes they must be registered, with the exceptions of poultry and rabbits.
19. Exhibitors will not be allowed to have alcoholic beverages at any time. Failure to comply with this rule and you will be asked to remove livestock and yourself from the premises. All entry fees and premiums will then be forfeited.
20. Recreational vehicle parking is on a first come first served basis following the paperwork outlined on the fair website.
21. Only animals entered to show will be allowed in the barns.
22. All hogs must be washed in the wash rack.
23. Cattle ribbon premiums (Blue - $20, Red - $15, White - $10)
24. Swine, sheep, goat premiums (Blue - $12, Red - $9, White - $7)

25. Poultry and rabbit premiums (Blue - $3, Red - $2, White - $1)
26. Animals entered and shown by junior exhibitors must be shown by the junior exhibitor. In the event an exhibitor has multiple animals in a class, another junior exhibitor registered at the PCF must show the animal. No adults will be permitted to show animals in a junior show.
27. Little Tikes Exhibition Classes: Beef & Dairy, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Poultry, and Rabbits. These classes will be open to children less than 8 as of January 1 of the current fair year. All participants will receive a participation ribbon only. A parent or guardian of the exhibitor will be asked to sign a release of liability waiver during registration. A parent or guardian **must** accompany the exhibitor and animal in showring. This event will only be available at the PCF (May Fair).
28. Showmanship Classes will be held for the following age groups: Junior (8-10); Intermediate (11-15); Senior (16-21).
29. Old-Timers Exhibition Class - $10 nomination fee to enter and $20 fee to decline nomination. All proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Fund.
30. All rabbit and poultry exhibitors must provide food and water cups which must be secured to the provided cages.
31. All rabbit and poultry exhibitors can only enter one rabbit or bird per breed per class.
32. All rabbit entries must be identified by a permanent tattoo in the left ear.
33. All poultry must have a pullorum test performed Thursday, May 28, 2026.

****All entries are made with the distinct understanding that in no event will the Phelps County Fair or Phelps County Fair Livestock Committee be responsible for any injury, loss or damage, which may occur to any person, animal, or article. ****

Breeding Livestock Classes

Beef Cattle

Superintendent – Paul Hance - (573) 578-6192

Awards

Supreme Champion Heifer (Award)
Supreme Champion Bull (Award)
Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the cattle barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying a positive attitude and willingness to help others.

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Angus
2. Balancer
3. Charolais
4. Chianina
5. Composite Charolais
6. Gelbvieh
7. Hereford
8. Limousine
9. Maine-Anjou
10. Maintainer
11. Red Angus
12. Shorthorn
13. Shorthorn Plus
14. Simmental
15. Sim Solution
16. All other (All other breeds show together)
17. Crossbred

Classes

1. Heifer calves born October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
2. Heifer calves born July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025
3. Heifer calves born April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025
4. Heifer calves born January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025
5. Heifer calves born October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024
6. Heifer calves born July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024
7. Heifer calves born April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024
8. Heifer calves born January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024
9. Cow/calf pair
10. Bull calves born October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
11. Bull calves born July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025
12. Bull calves born April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025
13. Bull calves born January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025
14. Bulls born October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023
15. Bulls born July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023

16. Bulls born April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023
17. Bulls born January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023
18. Little Tikes Exhibition Class
19. Preview Market Class (Rosette)

**Calves born after January 1, 2026 will only be eligible to show as a part of the cow/calf entry

Bucket Calf Requirements

Superintendent – Paul Hance - (573) 578-6192

1. Open to exhibitors ages 8 – 12 as of January 1.
2. Bucket calves must be born between January 1, 2026 – May 28, 2026
3. Bucket calves may only be shown in the bucket calf division and may not be shown as part of a cow/calf entry.
4. No entry fee required.
5. Participation ribbon only.

Dairy Cattle

Superintendent – Opal Williams - (573) 265-3181

Awards

Junior Heifer Calf Champion (Rosette)
Senior Heifer Calf Champion (Rosette)
Supreme Dairy Female (Award)

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Brown Swiss
2. Guernsey
3. Holstein
4. Jersey
5. All other

Classes

1. Junior heifer calf born March 1, 2026 – Present
2. Intermediate heifer calf born December 1, 2025 – February 29, 2026
3. Senior heifer calf born September 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025
4. Summer yearling heifer born June 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025
5. Junior yearling heifer born March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025
6. Intermediate yearling heifer born December 1, 2024– February 28, 2025
7. Senior yearling heifer born September 1, 2024 – November 30, 2024
8. Two-year-old cow born September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024
9. Three – year old cow born September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023
10. Aged cow born **before** September 1, 2022
11. Little Tike Exhibition Class

Dairy Goat
Superintendent – Ashley Berry (573) 578-6987

Awards

Champion and Reserve Champion Dairy Doe (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Dairy Buck (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Dairy Doe and Offspring (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Breeders Herd (Rosette)
Supreme Champion Dairy Doe (Award)
Supreme Champion Dairy Buck (Award)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the goat barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying a positive attitude and willingness to help others.

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Alpine
2. Nubian
3. Lamancha
4. Saanen
5. Oberhasli
6. Toggenburg
7. Nigerian Dwarf
8. Crossbred

Classes

1. Junior doe not in milk up to 0 – 4 months of age
2. Junior doe not in milk 4 – 8 months of age
3. Junior doe not in milk 8 – 12 months of age
4. Junior doe not in milk 1 year old but under 2 years of age
5. Senior doe in milk 1 year old but under 2 years of age
6. Senior doe in milk 2 years old but under 4 years of age
7. Senior doe in milk 4 years old and older
8. Doe of any age and offspring
9. Junior buck up to 6 months of age
10. Junior buck 7 months to under 1 year of age
11. Junior buck 1 year old but under 2 years of age
12. Senior buck 2 years and older
13. Breeders herd (1 buck, 1 senior doe, and 1 junior doe)
14. Little Tikes Exhibition Class

Meat Goat
Superintendent – Ashley Berry (573) 578-6987

Awards
Champion and Reserve Champion Meat Doe (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Meat Buck (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Meat Doe Offspring (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Breeders Herd (Rosette)
Supreme Champion Meat Doe (Award)
Supreme Champion Meat Buck (Award)
Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Boer
2. Kiko
3. Fainting
4. Pygmy
5. Standard crossbred
6. Mini crossbred

Classes

1. Junior doe 0 – 3 months of age
2. Junior doe 3 – 6 months of age
3. Junior doe 6 – 9 months of age
4. Junior doe 9 – 12 months of age
5. Junior doe 1 year old but under 2 years of age
6. Senior doe 2 years old but under 4 years of age
7. Senior doe 4 years old and older
8. Doe of any age and offspring
9. Junior buck up to 6 months
10. Junior buck 7 months to under 1 year of age
11. Junior buck 1 year old but under 2 years of age
12. Senior buck 2 years and older
13. Breeders Herd (1 buck, 1 senior doe, and 1 junior doe)
14. Little Tikes Exhibition Class
15. Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Poultry

Superintendent -- Ashley Berry (573) 578-6987
Superintendent – Emily Anderson (573) 202-4354

Awards

Bird of Show – Female (Rosette & Award)
Bird of Show – Male (Rosette & Award)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the poultry barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying a positive attitude and willingness to help others.

Species - Junior and Open

1. Bantam (chickens)
2. Standard (chickens)
3. Ducks
4. Geese
5. Turkeys
6. Other

Classes

1. Male bird under 1 year old
2. Old male bird over 1 year old
3. Female bird under 1 year old
4. Old female bird over 1 year old
5. Young trio under 1 year old (1 male, and 2 females of the same breed)
6. Old trio over 1 year old (1 male, and 2 females of the same breed)
7. Little Tikes Exhibition Class

Rabbits

Superintendent -- Ashley Berry– (573) 578-6987
Superintendent – Emily Anderson (573) 202-4354

Awards

Best of Show Doe (Rosette & Award)
Best of Show Buck (Rosette & Award)
Champion and Reserve Champion Doe (Rosette)
Champion and Reserve Champion Buck (Rosette)
Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the rabbit barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying a positive attitude and willingness to help others.

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Californian
2. Champagne
3. Dutch
4. Flemish Giant
5. Holland Lop
6. Lion Head
7. Mini-Lop
8. Mini-Rex
9. Netherland Dwarf
10. New Zealand
11. Rex
12. Satin
13. Other

Classes

1. Junior doe Up to 6 months of age
2. Senior doe 7 months of age and older
3. Junior buck up to 6 months of age
4. Senior buck 7 months of age and older
5. Little Tikes Exhibition Class

Sheep
Superintendent – Cord Jenkins (573) 578-0856

Awards
Supreme Ewe (Rosette & Award)
Supreme Ram (Rosette & Award)
Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the sheep barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying a positive attitude and willingness to help others.

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Columbia
2. Corriedale
3. Dorper
4. Dorset
5. Hampshire
6. Katahdin
7. Southdown
8. Suffolk
9. Crossbred
10. All Other Breeds

Classes

1. Spring ewe lambs born after January 1, 2026
2. Fall ewe lambs born September 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
3. Yearling ewe 1 year and under 2 years of age
4. Aged ewe over two years
5. Springs ram lambs born after January 1, 2026
6. Fall ram lambs born September 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
7. Yearling ram 1 year and under 2 years of age
8. Aged ram over two years
9. Best pair of ewes (any age)
10. Best breeding pair (1 ewe, 1 ram any age)
11. Flock (1 ram any age, 1 ewe lamb any age, 1 yearling ewe, 1 aged ewe)
12. Little Tikes Exhibition Class
13. Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Swine

Superintendent – Josie Rosenburg (573) 202-4678

Awards

Supreme Gilt (Rosette and Award)
Supreme Boar (Rosette and Award)
Preview Market Class (Rosette)

Herdsmanship Award –
One exhibitor of the hog barn will be selected that displays good sportsmanship like conduct, by being respectful and celebrating the successes of others. This exhibitor shall consistently maintain a clean and tidy stall/pen space, all while exemplifying

Breeds - Junior and Open

1. Berkshire
2. Chester White
3. Duroc
4. Hampshire
5. Poland China
6. Spot
7. Tamworth
8. Yorkshire
9. Crossbred
10. All Other Breeds

Classes

1. Gilts farrowed March 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026
2. Gilts farrowed February 1, 2026 – February 29, 2026
3. Gilts farrowed January 1, 2026 – January 31, 2026
4. Gilts farrowed December 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
5. Gilts farrowed November 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025
6. Boars farrowed March 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026
7. Boars farrowed February 1, 2026 – February 28, 2026
8. Boars farrowed January 1, 2026 – January 31, 2026
9. Boars farrowed December 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
10. Boars farrowed November 1, 2025 – November 30, 2025
11. Little Tikes Exhibition Class
12. Preview Market Class (Rosette)