



# MERCER COUNTY 4-H/FFA INVESTMENT IN YOUTH COUNTRY HAM SALE RULES 2016



*The Mercer County 4-H/FFA Investment in Youth Sale is a subsidiary entity of the Mercer County 4-H Council, Inc. Mercer County FFA is a cooperating partner with the Mercer County 4-H Council, Inc., for this event. All rules, conduct, fundraising, and financially-related activities must conform to the rules of Kentucky 4-H and the Federal tax laws applicable to 4-H entities.*

## **RULES APPLYING TO YOUTH PARTICIPANTS**

1. Age Requirements: 4-H
  - I. Age is determined according to Federal rules for establishing age in the 4-H program which is age as of January 1 of current program year.
  - II. Youth must be ages 9-18.
  - III. All decisions regarding questions of 4-H youth age and resulting participation are the sole responsibility of the 4-H Agent(s).
2. Youth may sell one and only one country ham in the Investment in Youth Sale annually.
3. Educational Requirements: 4-H Youth:
  - A. Must complete a minimum of 6 hours of Certified Livestock Leader-led instruction as a member of the Mercer County 4-H Country Ham Club during the program year.
    - a. Documentation of completion of hours is the responsibility of youth. Youth must sign in at every event in which they participate.
    - b. Certified Livestock Leaders are responsible for ensuring documentation paperwork is provided to Extension Staff, hours are recorded accurately, and hours that should be awarded per event are provided to Extension Staff responsible for maintaining records.
    - c. All decisions regarding 4-H youth compliance with educational requirements is the sole responsibility of the 4-H Agent(s).
  - B. Must be currently enrolled in Mercer County 4-H.
4. Marketing Requirement:
  - A. All youth planning to sell must participate in the "Sales, Marketing, and Communications" educational workshop that will be provided by 4-H/FFA in the spring/summer each year. Youth ages 9 and up must have attended this workshop at least once.
  - B. All youth planning to sell must contact a minimum of 5 community members or businesses regarding the sale. Youth may ask contacts to attend the sale, provide a donation to the Mercer County 4-H/FFA Investment in Youth Sale friends account, or to personally bid on the youth's animal.
  - C. All marketing contacts must be documented by youth on the marketing requirement/marketing contacts form. All marketing contacts must be documented to count towards the 5 contact minimum requirement.
  - D. The five minimum marketing contacts must be made by every consignor every year and must be complete by the date of the October pre-sale, mandatory meeting. The marketing requirement/marketing contacts form must be completed and turned in no later than the October pre-sale, mandatory meeting.

## 5. Sale Eligibility

- A. Youth must complete the 4-H project thru Mercer County 4-H by presenting a speech and exhibiting the ham at Ky State Fair on Thursday, August 18, 2016
- B. Present a speech at the Mercer County 4-H County-wide contest.
  - I. Speech can be on any topic, youth may present their country ham speech if they choose.
  - II. Mercer County 4-H Speech Contest will be on November 17, 2015.
- C. Present a demonstration at the Mercer County 4-H County-wide contest.
  - I. Demonstration (How to speeches with props, posters, etc.) topics can be on anything. Refer to the Mercer County 4-H Demonstration Categories.
  - II. Mercer County 4-H Demonstration Contest will be on March 29, 2016.
- D. Youth must share their 4-H experience and promote the Country Ham Youth Investment Sale with a formal community group/organization.
  - I. Youth will be paired up so that experience 4-H country ham participant will go with a first time participant.
  - II. There will a sign-up sheet for youth to choose from a list of local groups.
- E. Each participant will create a display about their project for the night of the sale. This Should include photos, ribbons, records and awards. Displays are due September 1. and will be on display throughout the community prior to the sale.
- F. Consignor MUST participate in organized fund raising event, raising minimum of \$100.00, those raising \$200.00 or more will have their commission fees waived. The highest Jr. & Sr. Youth Sellers will receive a special award.

## 6. Sale Committee Participation Requirement:

- A. A parent/guardian of each participating youth is required to attend at least one Sale Committee meetings. Youth must attend all meetings called as “mandatory.”
- B. Every youth participant shall take an active role (as determined by the Youth Investment Committee) on at least two subcommittees of the Sale Committee, one of which shall be the Sale Set-up/Take-down Committee.
  - 1) Sale Logistics – including arranging for facility, arrangements for set up and tear down, all audiovisual equipment, and decoration, etc.
  - 2) Advertising and marketing.
  - 3) Appreciation Breakfast – food
  - 4) Appreciation Breakfast – all other arrangements
  - 5) Youth participation – including t-shirt design and selection, exhibition of displays, tokens of appreciation for buyers and supporters, etc.
  - 6) Fundraising for both Sale and Friends account
  - 7) Education
  - 8) Other *ad hoc* committees as created by the Sale Committee or Supervisory Committee
- C. All youth participants and at least one parent/guardian of every youth participant shall participate in the set-up and tear-down of the Sale and any related Sale-day events (such as Appreciation Dinner).

7. Consignors must wear official current program year Mercer County 4-H/FFA Investment in Youth t-shirts during the auction and any related activities attached to the Sale (e.g., during Appreciation Breakfast)

8. All youth must complete an “Intent to Participate” form by March 17 of the Sale year and return it to the Mercer County Cooperative Extension Office, 1007 Lexington Road, Harrodsburg, Ky 40330. Form must include all requested information and signatures to be considered complete. Requests for exceptions in a particular year may be addressed in

writing to the Supervisory Committee until the date of the last sales, marketing, and communications workshop.

9. Sale order will be determined by participant's scores from the Kentucky State Fair. The highest 2 youth will be allowed to choose when they sell their ham during the sale
10. Under no circumstances may ham be donated back to consignor. If the buyer donates the ham back, **the ham must go directly to the Ham Committee and will used as silent auction at another event.**
11. Commission fee will be 6% for Country Ham Projects and will be paid to the Youth Investment Committee. Youth those raising \$200.00 or more will have their commission fees waived.
12. Requirements for Youth to Receive Sale Proceeds:
  - A. Youth and parent/guardian must have participated in the take-down/clean- up after the Sale as determined by the Youth Investment Committee.
  - B. Buyer's plaque and thank you letter must be delivered by December 1. **All checks must be picked up and cashed by December 31 or the money will remain with the youth investment funds.**
13. Only consignor MUST sell their own project at the sale.