

2020 Livestock Interview Guidelines

As this year continues to evolve, we are moving forward with a different form of Livestock Interviews. Livestock interviews will include: Beef, Goat, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, Rabbit and Dairy Cattle projects. Thank you for volunteering to interview livestock members in your own club. I will cover a few points in this document that will guide you in what our expectations are for this interview judging.

- Dates -
 - When you will get a list of who you need to interview
 - When we would like the grades submitted back to us
- Format of interviews
- Sample interview questions
- Grading rubric

Dates

Once entries are in (August 28) we will email (and mail a hard copy) to the organizational advisors an Excel document of all your club members with their livestock projects. This form will have the class name, the exhibitor name, an entry number, and a column for you to record the grade. We would like the organizational advisor to maintain a “turn-in” copy, in which they organize all grades received from the volunteers that have agreed to interview members in their club.

Please email the “turn-in” copy to Jacci smith.11005@osu.edu by **September 14** at noon.

Format of Interviews

As the health department is still limiting meetings to 10 people, we realize that this will hinder your ability to do a mass interview session. Please do the best you can. Our goal is to provide youth with an interview experience, that puts an emphasis on the book and getting the youth to share about their projects. You can conduct these virtually if you would like, just be sure that you are able to see the completion of the book. Another idea is a drive through interview, where youth may not even need to get out of the car. Or, break the club up into project areas (or other sub-groups of no more than 10 youth) and have one volunteer (that is willing to interview) interview those youth. Be sure to remember that in-person interviews fall under the [Ohio 4-H in person meeting guidelines](#).

Here is a general overview of what should happen during the interview:

YOU MUST INTERVIEW AND REVIEW EACH PROJECT BOOK – for some kids this will be several different books!! Take about 5-10 minutes to interview each exhibitor. Exhibitors with many livestock projects may take longer. Put exhibitors at ease. You may adjust your questions to match the age/abilities of the exhibitor. Some books may have a pink ½ page stapled to front of their book, this is for youth with special needs & should be read before the interview & taken into account. Point out areas where they

have done well and offer constructive comments about ways to improve. Encourage them to keep up the good work and continue project work in that area.

Grade ribbons will be available for youth to pick up when they come to the fair to show. They will be on a table under the overhang of the Jr. Fair Office (near Restrooms).

Sample interview questions

- Tell me some things you learned while doing your project this year.
- What did you enjoy about raising your animal? What things didn't you like about the project?
- Where did you house your animal? What type of shelter did you provide?
- What did you feed your animal? Did you have a withdrawal time for your feed?
- Did your animal need any medications? What were the medications for? How was it administered?
- Show me and tell me about the types of records you kept as part of raising your animal. Why are records important?
- What health management practices or biosecurity measures did you follow while raising your animal?
- What activities did you do for your project this year? Demonstration, field trip, etc.

Grading Rubric

If an exhibitor has not brought their project book, their grade should automatically drop one letter grade

	A	B	C
Project book completion	2/3 or more of the expected pages of the book are completed	½ -2/3 of the expected pages of the book are completed	Less than ½ of the expected pages of the project book are completed/ did not bring book
Interview	Exhibitor is knowledgeable, cooperative, has been working with their project animals	Exhibitor seems to not care about their project, doesn't seem to be doing their own work, or exhibits a poor attitude	Exhibitor is uncooperative or completely unprepared or unresponsive to questions.

Outstanding's- Youth goes above and beyond! Youth gives thoughtful answers to questions asked. Youth seems engaged and focused on the interview and generally wants to convey their projects information to the judge. The expected pages of the project book are filled out and even extra was done. For example, if a Beginner youth completes several pages of the record book that are marked for Intermediate or Advanced youth to complete, they have gone above and beyond. Youth will receive a light blue flat outstanding ribbon to designate their achievement.