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| **Taylor County 4-H Swine Management Plan**  **2012-2013 Show Season** | | |
| **Month/Date** | **Event or Activity** | **Mentor Assignment or Task** |
| ***September 2012***  **September 12** | Coordination Meeting  Project Visits | Mentor and agent will meet with the Smith, Jones and Williams families in Merkel to discuss the role of a mentor and the specific assistance the families need. Bill and Susie Smith, Bob Jones, and Patty Williams are the 4-Hers assigned to John Doe, Taylor County 4-H Swine Mentor.  Mentor will begin home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the Merkel community with their new projects. |
| **October 2012**  **October 15** | Project Visits  Health Management Program | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the management of swine projects. Mentor will attempt to conduct project visits twice during October.  Dr. Church will castrate boar pigs and provide other medication as needed. Mentor will assist new feeders in handling and managing projects. |
| **November 2012**  **November 10** | Project Visits  Feeds and Nutrition Workshop –Smith Farm | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families the management of swine projects. Mentor will attempt to conduct project visits twice during November.  Mentor will conduct a Feeds and Nutrition Workshop for assigned 4-H members and other interest swine project participants. |
| **December 2012**  **December 10** | Project Visits  Showmanship Clinic –County Show Barn | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the management of swine projects. Mentor will attempt to conduct project visits twice during December.  Mentor will conduct a showmanship clinic for assigned 4-H members and other interested swine project participants. |
| **January 2013**  **January 19** | Project Visits  County Show | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the management of swine projects leading into the county show.  Assist assigned 4-Hers (and other 4-H families as needed) in preparing and exhibiting projects at the county show. |
| **February 2013** | Project Visits | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the management of swine projects and in preparation for major shows. Mentor will help communicate arrival dates/times, departmental rules and other needed information. |
| **March 2013** | Project Visits | Mentor will conduct home project visits to help assigned 4-Hers/families in the management of swine projects and in preparation for major shows. Mentor will help communicate arrival dates/times, departmental rules and other needed information. |

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| **Communication Plan:**  (Method and frequency of communication between mentor/agent/4-H families)  **Methods:**  Face-to-face meetings, telephone and email will be used in Mentor/Agent communication.  **Mentor Contact Information Agent Contact Information**  Phone #: 325-555-234% Phone #: 325-555-987^  Email: jrdoe@hotmail.com Email: agent@tamu.edu  Agent/Mentor communication or conferences will include a progress report from the mentor regarding assigned projects, including health or feed management suggestions or concerns. Report will also include the tasks performed by mentor. Communication should occur as often as needed, but a minimum of once each month. Face-to-face meetings may be scheduled on certain day(s) and time(s) each month (1st and 3rd Monday at 10:00 a.m., AgriLife Extension Office) or as determined by agent and mentor each month. Agent should be contacted by mentor as soon as possible if a project(s) is displaying disease symptoms or other health issues. Agent/mentor communication will always include discussion on support needed from agent and AgriLife Extension office  Mentor will communicate with assigned 4-Hers/families on a frequent basis. Communication methods will be determined between mentor and each 4-H family. If a 4-H family is not home or available during the project visit, the mentor will utilize the “Project Visit Checklist” form to leave instructions and suggestions regarding the management of the projects and to make sure the family is aware of the visit.  Agents will maintain good communication with 4-H Livestock Mentor and 4-H families throughout the project year. |
| **Resources:**  (Facilities, equipment, publications, and other materials available to the mentor. 4-H members recommended as teen leaders to assist with events and activities as needed)  **Mentor has the following resources available**:  **County Livestock Trailer** – Contact AgriLife Extension Office to reserve or check out trailer to assist with livestock transportation.  **County Show Barn** –Mentor may use the County Show Barn to conduct workshops and clinics. Contact AgriLife Extension Office to reserve the facility.  **Publications** –Agent can assist mentor in obtaining publications and educational materials (4-H Swine Leader Guide, Show Rules, & etc.).  **Resource People:**  Dr. Boss Hogg DVM – offered to present information on disease prevention and other health management topics.  Rosco P. Coltrain –Senior Merkel 4-H club member with excellent experience and skills in swine showmanship. |

***AgriLife Extension agents are responsible for the county 4-H program and the supervision of all 4-H livestock projects, including the management of state validations and stock show entries. The primary goal of the 4-H Livestock Mentor Program is to help provide new and/or inexperienced 4-H families the additional support they need to be successful in reaching their goals. The mentor program is designed to help with the retention of 4-H members in the livestock program and serves as a tool to promote and grow participation.***

***4-H Livestock Mentors are volunteers that provide assigned 4-H families the additional support needed through individual consultation and other learning opportunities. Only individuals that are recruited or approved by agents and attend required training can officially serve as a 4-H Livestock Mentor.******4-H Livestock******Mentors serve as volunteers at the request and under the direction of an AgriLife Extension agent.***