

TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

February 4, 2020

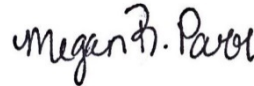
MEMORANDUM

TO: District 8 County Extension Agents

FROM: Donald W. Kelm  
District Extension Administrator



Megan R. Parr  
Extension Program Specialist  
4-H Youth Development



SUBJECT: 2020 DISTRICT 8 4-H TARLETON SPRING JUDGING CONTESTS

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**Events:** Range Evaluation  
Range & Pasture Grass Identification  
Wool Judging & Evaluation  
Mohair Judging & Evaluation  
Entomology Identification  
Ag Product Identification  
Livestock Skillathon

**Event Date:** Friday, April 3, 2020

**Location:** Tarleton State University  
Agricultural Center  
Ag Mechanics Building  
County Road 518  
Stephenville, TX 76401

The GPS coordinates you can use are [32.237415, -98.201903](https://goo.gl/maps/GKnfyxjCZBt).  
<https://goo.gl/maps/GKnfyxjCZBt>

**Entry Deadline:** All entries will be completed on 4-H Connect at <https://texas.4honline.com/>.  
Opens: Monday, March 2, 2020  
Closes: Friday, March 20, 2020

**County Approvals:** County offices need to approve registrations on 4-H Connect by Monday, March 23, 2020.

**Entry Fee:** \$10 per member per event

**Central District 8 | 4-H Youth Development**  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
1229 N US Hwy 281 | Stephenville, Texas 76401  
[megan.parr@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:megan.parr@ag.tamu.edu) | <http://d84-h.tamu.edu>  
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**Late Entries:**

Late entries will be permitted with an additional:

- \$20 late fee per 4-H member up to 60 hours after the regular contest deadline.
- \$50 late fee per 4-H member after 60 hours and up to the time of check-in on-site at an event

**Auxiliary Aids or  
Special  
Accommodations:**

If you have any participants requiring auxiliary aids or special accommodations, please let us know at the time of entry.

## D8 4-H TARLETON SPRING JUDGING CONTESTS

### Schedule

Registration opens at 7:30 am and will be open all day.

Registration will be at the Ag Mechanics Building at the Tarleton Agricultural Center.

Tarleton State University  
 Agricultural Center  
 Ag Mechanics Building  
 County Road 518  
 Stephenville, TX 76401

The GPS coordinates you can use are [32.237415, -98.201903](https://www.google.com/maps/place/32.237415,-98.201903).

<https://goo.gl/maps/GKnfyxjCZBt>

	Check-in by:	Orientation/Contest Starts
Livestock Skillathon	“Come-and-Go Format” See rules for details.	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Entomology Identification	7:45 am	8:00 am
Mohair Judging & Evaluation	8:45 am	9:00 am
Range & Pasture Grass Identification (Plant ID)	8:45 am	9:00 am
Range Evaluation	9:45 am	10:00 am
Wool Judging & Evaluation	11:15 am	11:30 pm
Awards Ceremony #1	<i>Approximately 1:00 pm or immediately following completion of tabulation for Entomology, Mohair, Wool, Range Evaluation, Livestock Skillathon and Range &amp; Pasture Grass (Plant ID) contests.</i>	
Ag Product Identification	1:45 pm	2:00 pm
Awards Ceremony #2	<i>Approximately 3:30 pm or immediately following completion of tabulation for Ag Product Identification.</i>	

## D8 4-H TARLETON SPRING JUDGING CONTESTS

### *General Rules for all Tarleton-hosted contests*

**1. Rules and Guidelines**

All District contests will be conducted by the rules printed in the District 8 General Rules and Guidelines and in the 2020 Texas 4-H Roundup Guide. If an inconsistency exists, the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide rules will always supersede District policies, rules, and guidelines. All contests listed in the Texas 4-H Roundup Guide will be included in District Contest, provided there are sufficient entries.

**2. Membership**

Participants must be a bona fide 4-H member, currently enrolled in their respective county program.

**3. Age Divisions**

There will be three (3) age divisions (Junior, Intermediate, and Senior) in all contests.

Age divisions are determined by a participant’s grade as of August 31, 2019 as follows:

<b>Age Division</b>	<b>Grades</b>	
Junior	3*, 4, or 5	<i>*Must be at least 8 years old</i>
Intermediate	6, 7, or 8	
Senior	9, 10, 11, or 12*	<i>*Must not be older than 18 years old</i>

Only Senior aged members may advance to the state qualifying competition at Texas 4-H Roundup in the qualifying contests.

**4. Participation/Entries**

4-H members must be certified by the County Extension Agent to participate at any District 4-H event.

**5. Team per county**

There is no limit to the number of teams a county may enter in the district contest.

**6. Members per team**

These are team events; therefore, entrants are encouraged to be part of a team. Each team will have at least three (3) and no more than four (4) members. Individual entries will be allowed, only if there are not enough individuals in the county to make up a team.

*Note:* A County can only have a maximum of 2 individual entries per age division. If there are 3 individuals wanting to judge in the same age division, they must be considered a team entry.

All team members must be from the same county and within the same age division. Exception: Juniors may move up to the Intermediate age division when participating on a team that has true Intermediates (based upon grades listed above) on it. No one may move up to the Senior age division. No individual may move down to a younger age division.

**7. Multiple Entries at Tarleton Spring Judging Contests**

4-H members may participate in multiple events. The schedule is built to allow youth to participate in multiple contests on the same day. Lunch will be on your own, so youth will need to be prepared if planning to compete in contests that are around lunch time.

## **8. Academic Eligibility of Participants**

According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H member must be deemed “eligible” to compete in an event that takes place on a weekday or weekend. All 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or home school must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility:

- Complete a “Declaration of Eligibility Form”  
OR
- Name of 4-H member must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee.

If a 4-H member is ineligible for a 4-H competitive event, the agent must notify the 4-H member, his/her parents, and the district office, by letter, of this situation. If the parent has any questions, he/she should be referred to the school administrator.

## **9. Entry Fee**

There is a \$10 entry fee per member per contest. All entries must be submitted through 4-H Connect by the entry due date.

## **10. Late Fees**

Late entries will be permitted with an additional \$20 late fee per 4-H member 60 hours after the regular contest deadline. \$50 late fee per member after 60 hours and up to the time of the check-in on-site at the event.

## **11. Awards**

The top three (3) teams and the top five (5) individuals in each age division in each contest will receive awards.

## **12. Auxiliary Aids/Special Accommodations**

If 4-H members that are participating in District 4-H events require auxiliary aids or special accommodations, please notify the District Office at the same time that entry materials are due.

## **13. These are invitational only contests. These contests are invitational at Texas 4-H Roundup:**

- Ag Product ID *open to intermediates*
- Entomology *open to intermediates*
- Livestock Skill-a-thon *open to intermediates*
- Range Evaluation *open to intermediates*
- Range & Pasture Grass Identification *open to intermediates*
- Wool Judging – Only Senior (9th – 12th grades).
- Mohair Judging - Only Senior (9th – 12th grades).

## **D8 4-H TARLETON SPRING JUDGING CONTESTS**

### *Wool Judging & Evaluation*

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The Wool Contest tests a 4-H member's knowledge and ability to determine the grade, rank, and categorize wool. The contest provides an opportunity for youth to compete and develop skills that can be used on a sheep ranching operation, within the wool industry, or agricultural teaching field.

#### **CONTEST METHOD OF CONDUCT**

1. The contest will be divided into two areas: fleece evaluation of grading rail and wool class placing and reasons.
2. The contest will be conducted using a scan sheet or evaluation sheet that will be provided for contestants on the day of the contest. Wool scan sheet, #528-5 will be used. <https://www.judgingcard.com/ScanSheets/samples/528-5-Wool.pdf>
3. While completing the competition, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials.
4. Contestants may use an unmarked clipboard and blank scan sheet or evaluation sheet. Contestants may bring no books, notes, measuring devices or other reference material into the contest area. Contest officials reserve the right to check contestant's clipboard and scan sheet to make sure they are blank. Violators are subject to contest dismissal.
5. Contestants should handle the fleeces with care and respect for fellow contestants. Fleeces should not be rough handled in any manner. Wool locks should be pulled with care and only the minimum amount needed to complete reasons. Contestants will be warned for inappropriate wool handling and contestants can lose their privilege to handle fleeces or take samples.
6. In the event of a team/individual tie, the tie breaker will be the team/individual with the highest rail score. If the rail score doesn't break the tie, then it moves to overall reasons, then placings, and finally reasons score from hardest to easiest placing class.

#### **FLEECE EVALUATION OF GRADING RAIL**

1. The fleece rail may consist of 15-30 fleeces for a total of 150-300 points. The rail may be divided into two rails with approximately 1-2 minutes per fleece.
2. The grading rail consists of three wool quality characteristics: wool quality, staple length, and clean fleece yield.
3. Contestants must determine the quality grade of each fleece. Each row in Table 1 contains a wool quality grade and this is defined by three different systems (blood grade, spin count, and fiber diameter). For this contest, grades are categories by the blood grade system. Contestants will receive 4 points for full credit for each correct wool blood grade selected. If contestants select a blood grade that is one grade above or below the correct grade, they will receive 2 points.
4. Contestants must determine the staple length category that each fleece would be classified into. Within each wool quality grade, there are length specifications that determine the fleece staple length classification. Contestants will receive 2 points for each staple length category correctly answered. No points will be awarded for incorrect answers.

**TABLE 1: WOOL QUALITY GRADE AND LENGTH STANDARDS**

Wool Quality Grades			Staple Lengths		
Blood Grade	Spin Count	Fiber Diameter (Microns)	Staple	French Combing	Clothing
Fine	64s, 70s, 80s	≤ 22.04	>3.00''	3.00''-2.00''	<2.00''
Half	60s and 62s	22.05-24.94	>3.25''	3.25''-2.25''	<2.25''
3/8	56s and 58s	24.95-27.84	>3.50''		<3.50''
1/4	54s and 50s	27.85-30.99	>4.00''		<4.00''
Low 1/4	48s and lower	≥ 31.00	>4.00''		<4.00''

- Contestants will estimate the percent clean fibers based on raw fleece weight. If a contestant is within 4 points above or 4 points below the official percentage yield, they will receive full credit of 4 points. If the constant is within 8 points above or 8 points below the percentage yield, they receive partial credit of 2 points. Table 2 defines the average and normal range of clean fleece yields based on the different blood grade categories.

**TABLE 2: AVERAGE AND NORMAL RANGE OF CLEAN FLEECE YIELDS**

Clean Fleece Yield	Wool Quality Grades (Blood System)				
	Fine	Half	3/8	1/4	Low ¼
Average (%)	50	55	60	65	65
Normal Range (%)	40-60	45-65	50-70	55-75	55-75

**PLACING CLASSES AND REASONS**

- Contestants will place four fleeces within a class based on the amount of clean fibers present. Each placing class is worth 50 points.
- There will be two to four classes.
- Contestants will have 10-15 minutes per class.

**CONTEST RESOURCES**

- Judging Wool & Mohair  
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Judging-Wool-and-Mohair.pdf>
- Texas 4-H Wool Judging Contest General Rules & Information **Updated rules coming soon!**  
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TX-State-4-H-Wool-Judging-9.1.18.pdf>

## CONTEST RESOURCES

- Judging Wool & Mohair  
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Judging-Wool-and-Mohair.pdf>
- Texas 4-H Mohair Judging Contest General Rules & Information *Updated rules coming soon!*  
<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/TX-State-4-H-Mohair-Rules-9.1.18.pdf>