



CONNECTICUT 4-H ANIMAL PROJECT VERIFICATION



In order to exhibit any animal species, such as dog, dairy, beef, working steer, sheep, swine, llama, alpaca, goat, horse, rabbit, mules, donkeys, reptiles, small animal and poultry, at a Connecticut 4-H Fair for that project year, the project must be owned or leased by **June 1**, (**May 1** for dairy cattle). Connecticut 4-H Animal Project Verification Forms and lease agreements are due at the local 4-H office postmarked by those dates.

Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members in any project area no later than May 1 of the current 4-H year. **All Animal Project Verification forms must be turned in by the stated deadline in order to participate in the 4-H Fair.** Forms may be obtained by calling the 4-H Office or visiting the State 4-H website. State which animal projects you have and number of animals for each species. Be sure that you have all the required signatures, complete information and any photos requested and return completed forms by or before June 1 (May 1 for dairy cattle). For Dairy Cattle - heifers must be owned or leased by May 1st of the year of the show. In all milking age classes, 2 year olds and up, the cow must have been owned or leased on May 1st, before the animal reached her second birth date. Proof of lease or ownership is required.

LEASED ANIMALS

The 4-H program recognizes the educational value of animal projects. We allow leased projects so that a greater number of members will be able to participate. A 4-H member may lease a maximum of two (2) animals in a single project area during the 4-H year. In a leased (or owned) project, the animal **does not** have to be housed at the 4-H member's home. During the time stated in the contract, the **owner** agrees that the 4-H'er has access to the animal for 4-H Fair and other shows agreed upon by the owner and 4-H'er. **An individual who leases an animal to a 4-H member to be used as a 4-H project does so as the owner of the animal and not as a 4-H volunteer. It is assumed that the owner of the animal has insurance coverage on the animal. The lessee of the animal is advised to check to see if their parent/guardian's personal property insurance policies cover the animal during the duration of the lease. The 4-H organization including its volunteers assumes no financial or legal liability for an animal involved in the 4-H program and is not legally involved in the writing, implementation or termination of any lease.** A sample lease form is available from the 4-H Office. Please revise the lease to state the conditions of your particular agreement. For Dairy Cattle: Lease forms must be filled out by the 4-H'er for animals that are co-owned with another person.

All 4-H project animals are shown at the risk of the 4-H member. Any damages to persons or property are the legal and financial responsibility of the 4-H member and parent/guardian who owns/leases the animal. Any 4-H member with an animal project (owned or leased) is advised to check that their parent/guardian's personal property insurance covers the animal.

UPDATING HORSE AND DOG VERIFICATION FORMS

For 4-H Horse or 4-H Dog Project members who submitted a form the previous year, there is an annual update form to complete. **Once an animal project approval form is on file, you will only need to send in this annual update unless you get or lease a new horse or dog.** We realize that there are some unusual situations regarding 4-H horse projects. For example, two 4-H members may share the same horse. For the purpose of entering the 4-H Fair, just state what the situation is.

“An equal opportunity program provider and employer” To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, Stop Code 9410, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.