

Department 18D – Swine

Approved 11/13/2025 Superintendent – Rob Badder 616-902-4141

Youth must be enrolled in 4-H by May 1st to exhibit at fair.

Youth must be registered for the Fair by June 25th.

Entry must be made on FairEntry online.

This document is for informational purposes only.

1. Animals must be in the owner's possession by May 1st of the current year.
2. All swine exhibited must have a Premise ID 840 tag.
3. All swine must have two doses of Influenza H1N2 vaccine documented to enter fairgrounds. Vaccines will be provided on a date/time as specified by the Superintendent.
4. All swine must be declared by the specified date and method, as published by the county extension office. Limit of 5 animals can be declared per exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors can bring and show two hogs, any combination of gilt and barrow.
6. Wood shavings are the only bedding that may be used in the pens.
7. **Swine must be in place by 8am on the first Sunday of fair**, unless different arrangements were made with the superintendent prior to the start of fair.
8. **Weigh-in for swine will be 9am -12pm** on the first Sunday of the fair.
9. **To be eligible for market show and sale, hogs must weigh between 220 pounds and 300 pounds.**
10. Hogs that weigh 200-220 pounds may show in Showmanship and the no-sale class. Hogs in the no-sale class are NOT eligible to sell and must be removed from the grounds within 72 hours of their arrival. The exhibitor will receive a placing award.
11. Hogs weighing less than 200 pounds OR over 300 pounds at weigh-in may not be shown and must go home immediately.
12. Animals that do not meet the specified weight requirements will have the opportunity to be weighed a second time, at the end of the specified weigh in period.
13. Class sizes and splits will be determined after weigh in and prior to show.
14. If hogs are shaved or clipped the hair must be a minimum of ½ inch long.
15. To qualify for Homegrown Market Hog the exhibitor must own the sow before birth which the hog came from and must have raised the hog from birth. Hogs shown in the Homegrown class must be properly tagged as a market hog. This class is in addition to the regular market classes.
16. **The required educational component as declared by the Ionia County 4-H Livestock Committee must be met in order to show.** The requirements and details are available in section 18Y.
17. **The Swine Show will be on Tuesday at 8am, starting with showmanship.**
18. Animals owned by an FFA Chapter may be exhibited by the chapter or exhibitor caring for them. An FFA Chapter may sell only two market hogs.
19. **Please make sure you read the Ionia Free Fair Youth Livestock Auction section for further information and details.**
20. Swine will be released at 12am (midnight) on the last Saturday of the fair, or at the discretion of the superintendent.
21. All pens must be cleaned prior to the exhibitor leaving the fairgrounds.
22. The superintendent reserves the right to remove any animal from the fair based on safety and health concerns.
23. The Ionia Free Fair Veterinarian reserves the right to remove any animal from the fair based on the health condition or appearance of the animal.

Ionia Free Fair is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged articles prior to, during or after the Fair.

Showmanship

Champion Overall and Division award, ribbons 1-8 place

- First Year Exhibitor - any age
- Senior Showmanship, age 15-19
- Intermediate Showmanship, age 12-14
- Junior Showmanship, age 8-11

Participation ribbon, special award

- Cloverbud Showmanship, age 5-7

Showman will use the same hog in all showmanship drives, unless specified by the judge or superintendent on the day of the show.

FAIR WEEK SCHEDULE

- Sunday 8am: Must be in place
- Sunday 8am-12pm: Swine weigh-in
- Sunday 6pm: Record Books due
- Tuesday 8am: Swine Show
- Wednesday 11am: Mandatory Sale Exhibitor Meeting
- Thursday 4pm: IFF Youth Livestock Auction

Market Hog

Champion Overall and Division award, ribbons for 1-8 place

- Under/Over Weight No Sale Market
- Champion/Reserve Light Weight Gilt
- Champion/Reserve Middle Weight Gilt
- Champion/Reserve Heavy Weight Gilt
- Champion/Reserve Market Gilt
- Champion/Reserve Light Weight Barrow
- Champion/Reserve Middle Weight Barrow
- Champion/Reserve Heavy Weight Barrow
- Grand/Reserve Market Barrow
- Grand/Reserve Champion Overall Hog
- Champion/Reserve Homegrown Hog