

Department 18F1 Goats

Approved 11/13/2025

Superintendent – Nikki Cashen

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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.

FAIR WEEK SCHEDULE

Saturday 8am: Must be in place

Saturday am: Goat weigh-in directly following sheep

Saturday 6pm: Record Books due

Monday 1:30pm: Goat Show

Wednesday 11am: Mandatory Sale Exhibitor Meeting

Thursday 4pm: IFF Youth Livestock Auction

1. Animals must be in the owner's possession by May 1st of the current year.
2. All goats exhibited must have a legible scrapie tag.
3. Horns are optional.
4. Animals with testicles or portions of testicles will be disqualified.
5. Training spike collars will be permitted for use if needed for the safety/control of the animal.
6. All market goats must be declared by the specified date and method, as published by the county extension office.
7. **Goats must be in place by 8am on the first Saturday of fair**, unless different arrangements were made with the superintendent prior to the start of fair.
8. **Weigh-in for market goats will be directly after the conclusion of sheep weigh-in**, on the first Saturday of the fair.
9. Market goats must weigh a minimum of 50 pounds at weigh-in. Animals not meeting the minimum weight will not be allowed to sell. Underweight animals may be shown in Showmanship and the applicable pet or breeding class.
10. Class sizes and splits will be determined after weigh in and prior to show.
11. A youth may show two goats in the market division. Wethers and does will show together by weight.
12. To qualify for Homegrown Market Goat the exhibitor must own the doe before kidding which the kid came from and must have raised the kid from birth. Kids shown in the Homegrown class must be properly tagged as a market goat. This class is in addition to the regular market classes.
13. **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.
14. **Does may only show in one section – either as a market animal OR a breeding animal.**
15. **The Meat Goat Show will be on Monday at 1:30pm, starting with showmanship.**
16. 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 goats.
17. **Please make sure you read the Ionia Free Fair Youth Livestock Auction section for further information and details.**
18. Goats will be released at 12am (midnight) on the last Saturday of the fair, or at the discretion of the superintendent.
19. All pens must be cleaned prior to the exhibitor leaving the fairgrounds.
20. The superintendent reserves the right to remove any animal from the fair based on safety and health concerns.
21. 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

Market Goat

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

Champion/Reserve Light Weight Goat

Champion/Reserve Middle Weight Goat

Champion/Reserve Heavy Weight Goat

Grand Champion/Reserve Champion Overall Market Goat

Champion/Reserve Homegrown Market Goat

Meat Goat Breeding Doe

Overall award, ribbons 1-8 place

Doe kid (under 1 year old)

Doe, 1 and under 2 years

Doe, 2 years and older

Supreme Champion Breeding Doe

Pet Class

Ribbons 1-8 place

Wether goat of any age, that is a pet only.