



Sheboygan County 4-H  
**General Livestock Committee**  
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Sheboygan, WI 53081  
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## *Sheboygan County 4-H General Livestock Project Project Record Form*

The purpose of the Sheboygan County 4-H General Livestock Project Record is for 4-H and FFA members:

- To develop and practice the life skill of record keeping through detailed records of their market animal project.
- To have an awareness of project expenses and break-even cost associated with their market animal project.
- To determine production factors (i.e. rate of gain, feed expenses per animal, feed cost per pound of gain, feed efficiency, etc) associated with their market animal project.

The project record is **NOT REQUIRED**, but may be completed by a 4-H or FFA member for points towards their minimum 8 points required for qualifying for the Meat Animal Sale. Youth will receive:

- Two (2) points for completing pages 3-7
- Four (4) points for completing pages 3-15

Youth will still be required to attend one (1) specie-specific meeting and a meat quality assurance training to fulfill their minimum requirements for qualifying for the Meat Animal Sale.

Project records and information contained in the project records will remain confidential. Information may be used to establish a baseline of expenses to share collectively with future project members.

Project records will be returned to project members after the county fair and can be used as part of their club's project record requirement.

**Project records are due to UW-Extension  
August 15 only if earning points to count toward qualifying  
for the Meat Animal Sale.**

Additional project records may be found on the web at  
<http://sheboygan.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/beef-sheep-swine-projects/>



# *Sheboygan County 4-H Beef, Sheep, and Swine Project Record*

**Due to Sheboygan County UW-Extension by August 15<sup>th</sup>**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club/FFA Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Project \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (as of Jan. 1) \_\_\_\_\_

## **FINANCIAL AGREEMENT**

The financial agreement I have with my parents in the project is:

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## **PROJECT GOALS**

My goals for this project year are: (please list)

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## **EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES/LEADERSHIP TAKEN**

List all activities you participated in that helped you learn something for your project, i.e. workshops, videos, tours, shows, etc. and any time you shared your knowledge and skills with others.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/TOPIC</b>

**WEIGH-IN INFORMATION AND TARGET WEIGHT ESTIMATION**

(Up to 4 animals per exhibitor may be weighed, tagged and recorded here)

To calculate growing days – count days from initial weigh-in (February – Steers; May – Hogs & Lambs) to final official weigh-in at the County Fair.

Ear Tag #	Beginning Weight	Projected Target Weight	Rate of Gain Needed to Reach Target

\*Rate of Gain = (Projected Target Weight – Beginning Weight) ÷ Number of Days from Initial to Final Weigh-in)

\*\*Please note this rate of gain value will not be your actual rate of gain calculated at county fair. It is only a estimate to help you determine how fast you need your project animal to grow to achieve the desired finish weight for county fair.

**PROJECT EXPENSES**

Please list all expenses associated with your project animals, including the beginning value of animal(s), equipment purchased, vet & drug costs, feed, bedding, fly spray, trucking costs, exhibitor fees, etc. Be sure to include an estimated value for home grown or supplies items.

*Please note, expenses should be related to your market animal project only, and not a breeding project.*

**PROJECT ANIMAL PURCHASE**

Selection of a project animal should be done carefully, with consideration to breed, size and quality. Size and quality are especially important, and while management and nutrition have great influence on both, it is a big help to begin with a good animal. You want to select the best project animals you can afford. Be sure that the price you pay is consistent with your objectives. Purchasing project animals at high prices actually does not guarantee success or mean easier management.

\*List purchase price for your project animals. If you're animal(s) is home bred & raised, please indicate a value for your animal(s)

Date	Purchased From	Cost
<b>(A) Animal Purchases</b>		<b>\$</b>

Questions:

List questions you asked the breeder/seller when you selected your animal and prior to taking the animal home:

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**FEED EXPENSES**

Feed represents 60 to 75 percent of the total cost to raise your market animals. Therefore, a carefully planned nutrition program is crucial in raising your market animals. You have to supply your animals with the proper nutrients on a regular schedule to allow your animal to grow quickly and efficiently in a short time period.

While it is important to choose feed that allows animals to grow quickly it is also important to do this economically. Many commercially available mixes (not necessarily "show feeds") may be more economical with the same rate of gain.

\*List all feed expenses for your project animals including feed additives such as Paylean, Show Bloom, etc. List either number of bags or pounds purchased. Give a "value" for homegrown feeds used (i.e. hay, corn, etc). Predict feed expenses up to the day you will market your project animal. List "predict" for the date.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of Feed Purchased (i.e. Grower, Finisher, Additives, etc)</b>	<b>Amount (pounds or # of bags)</b>	<b>Cost</b>
<b>(B) Total Pounds Feed Fed</b>			
<b>(C) Total Feed Expenses</b>			<b>\$</b>

### VETERINARY & MEDICAL EXPENSES

Maintaining and improving herd health is one of the key issues in economical market livestock production. It is much less expensive and more efficient to prevent disease than to treat it. Establish a good veterinary client-patient relationship (VCPR). Develop a proper health program which includes vaccinations, deworming (both internal & external) and use of other animal health products.

\*List all medical expenses for your project animals, including veterinary related, purchase of vaccines, dewormers, animal health care products, and health certificates.

Date	Item	Cost
<b>(D) Total Veterinary &amp; Medical Expenses</b>		<b>\$</b>

### OTHER EXPENSES

\*List all other expenses associated with your project (i.e. bedding, fly spray, show supplies & equipment, show entry fees, etc.)

Date	Item	Cost
<b>(E) Total Other Expenses</b>		<b>\$</b>

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	(A) Total Animal Purchases	\$	
	(C) Total Feed Expenses	\$	
	(D) Total Veterinary & Medical Expenses	\$	
	(E) Total Other Expenses	\$	
<b>(F) Total Expenses for</b> _____ <b>project animals (listed on page 2)</b>		<b>\$</b>	

## TREATMENT RECORD FOR VACCINES, MEDICATION, AND MEDICATED FEED

Being a knowledgeable producer includes keeping track of medications given to your animals and keeping track of animal identification. This medication might be found in your feed, medication you have administered, or medication that is prescribed and administered by your veterinarian.

Accurate herd health records are essential to using animal health products correctly and judiciously and to prevent drug residues in the meat.

Date Treatment	Animal/Pen Id	Product	Amount Given	Route (IM, IV, Sub Q, oral)	Preslaughter Withdrawal (#days)	Date Withdrawal Complete	Remarks or Comments

Keep this record for 12 months.





**You will receive 2 points for completing your project record up to this point.**

**To receive an additional 2 points (for a total 4 points) for your project record, you must complete the following pages in addition to the previous pages.**





## SELLING THE PROJECT ANIMAL

### LIVESTOCK MARKET PRICE WATCH

Too often, the first and sometimes only marketing alternative that comes to mind is the Meat Animal Sale at the county fair. Although this marketing opportunity will have a direct economic effect on your market livestock project, you must be aware of and understand other marketing alternatives available to livestock producers.

List monthly the market price for one (1) of your project animals if sold at stockyard. Prices may be found in state farm papers (i.e. Wisconsin State Farmer, The Country Today or Agri-View) or searching on the web. Prices are generally listed as "CWT" or price per hundred weight.

Month	Price as CWT	Price Per Pound (CWT ÷ 100)	Market (i.e. Equity, etc.)
<b>April</b>			
<b>May</b>			
<b>June</b>			
<b>July</b>			
<b>August</b>			

Select one of your animals for this set of calculations: Ear Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

If your animal was sold to market in August, determine the amount you would receive:

Market price per pound: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight of animal: \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_

Total value: \_\_\_\_\_

Commission: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Check off: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Net check: \_\_\_\_\_

Determine your breakeven price:

$$\frac{\text{_____}}{\text{(F) Total expenses (page 4)}} \div \frac{\text{_____}}{\text{Number of animals cared for}} = \frac{\text{_____}}{\text{(G) Average expenses per animal}}$$

$$\frac{\text{_____}}{\text{(G) Average expenses per animal}} \div \frac{\text{_____}}{\text{target weight of animal}} = \frac{\text{_____}}{\text{Breakeven price per pound}}$$

Based on your determined breakeven price did you make a profit or loss on your market animal?

Profit       Loss

## **MARKETING PLAN**

Each year, many adults and representatives of the business community come and participate in the Meat Animal Sale to offer premium prices as a means of rewarding the 4-H or FFA member for his or her extra effort and hard work. You should consider it a reward for your hard work, and not the true value of the animal.

To help maintain the quality of the sale and the number of potential bidders/buyers, it is important for 4-H and FFA members to make individual contacts with potential buyers prior to the sale. These personal contacts help bring in additional bidders/buyers the sale committee may not be aware of. Also, if they are past sale participants, it is a great way to show their past and continued support of youth is greatly appreciated. This small amount of effort before the sale is a matter of courtesy, and by it, you may in turn be rewarded by being offered more bids at the sale.

Please identify actions you did to market your animal prior to selling.

Date/Month	Contact/Business	Action

## PRODUCTION FACTORS

Commercial operations look at key factors (production factors) when analyzing profitability of market animals: a) **Days on feed** is important because each additional day on feed results in more yardage fees, extra feed being consumed, and the opportunity cost of the animal (income not available for next crop of animals); b) **Average daily gain** is important because it is the key production criteria measured for success. Animal comfort, feed rations, animal health and weather will all impact the average daily gain. c) **Feed expenses** are critical because they are the single most important expense. High feed costs (esp. when corn prices are high) can quickly turn an operation into an unprofitable one. For some operations, it may be more important to feed cheaper feed and have higher days on feed.

<i>(Select one of your animals for this set of calculations)</i>		Ear Tag #: _____
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Final Weigh-in Date	-	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Initial Weigh-in Date
		= _____ Days on Feed (1)
		= _____ Total Pounds Gained (2)
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Predicted Final Weight (page 2)	-	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Beginning Weight (page 2)
		= _____ lbs/day Average Rate of Gain (3)
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Pounds Gained (2)	÷	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Days on Feed (1)
		= \$ _____ Feed Expenses / Animal (4)
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Feed Expenses (C, page 6)	÷	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Number of Animals Fed (page 2)
		= \$ _____ Feed Cost / Lb. Of Gain (5)
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Feed Expenses/Animal (4)	÷	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Pounds Gained (2)
		= _____ Lbs. Feed Fed / Animal (6)
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Lbs. Feed Fed (B, page 5)	÷	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Number of Animals (page 2)
		= _____ Lbs. Feed Fed/Lb. Of Gain
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Lbs. Feed Fed (per animal 6)	÷	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> Total Pounds Gained (2)

**FEED EFFICIENCY** – describes the amount of feed consumed by the animal for each pound of gain in body weight. It is an important production criteria because it demonstrates how efficiently animals are converting feed into meat. This can be influenced by diet, genetics, ionophores and implants. An animal that can convert the same diet into more meat should be more profitable.

Based on your experience this year, did you achieve your goals listed on page 1?

Yes       No

If yes, how? \_\_\_\_\_

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If no, why? \_\_\_\_\_

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What challenges did you face this year in raising your market animal? \_\_\_\_\_

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Based on your experience, what would you do the same? \_\_\_\_\_

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Based on your experience, what would you do differently? \_\_\_\_\_

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