

# Thomas County 4-H Events

## Junior Producer Days

Junior producer days are held to provide educational material and hands-on experiences for youth, parents, leaders, and extension agents.

### 2026 Junior Beef Producer Day

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Cost: \$20/person

(Registration Deadline: Feb 13, 2026)

### 2026 Junior Sheep Producer Day

Date: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Cost: \$20/person

(Registration Deadline: March 20, 2026)

[Kansas Junior Producer Days](#)

Thomas County Fair

## 4-H Council Scholarship

Thomas County 4-H Council Scholarships are open to Thomas County high school seniors enrolled in 4-H. An application with high school transcript, 500 Word essay, and a reference letter from a non-family 4-H Leader, Project Leader, or Extension Agent. Applications are available at the Extension Office and must be turned in by **March 16th**. [Click here](#) for an application. [Click here](#) for Guidelines.



July 26th - August 1st



## Small Animal Weigh-In

Small animal weigh-in will be held **April 18th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm** at the Thomas County Fairgrounds. Make-up day if necessary will be **April 25th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm**. Regular visual tags are \$3 each. Please let the extension office know if you are needing **Kansas State Fair or KJLS tags BEFORE weigh-in and how many.** Please have your livestock ready and bring cash or check to purchase tags.

We need volunteers to help unload, load, and move the animals during weigh-in. Please contact the office if you are able to help!



## YQCA Training Required for all Livestock Participants

The Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification training will be required for 4-H members ages 8-18 to be able to show and sell their livestock this year for fair. 7 year-olds are encouraged to attend, but will not become certified. **Species that require certification include beef, hogs, sheep, goats, poultry and rabbits.** This training focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and life skill development. The office will be hosting two in-person dates (will be announced soon) for members to receive their certificate. If they cannot attend either in-person date they are able to complete the training online. In-person training locations and dates are to be determined. The training will be \$3/participant in-person or \$12 online. All certificates of completion are due to the office by July 1st. For questions and to register, please call the Extension Office at 785-460-4582.

## Shooting Sports Projects

4-H members who are enrolling in the various shooting sports disciplines must enroll via 4-H Online in a timely manner so they will receive full educational benefit of the sport. 4-H members must be 8 years old before Jan. 1 of 2026 to participate in shooting sports. Spring State Qualifier: March 14th, Deadline: February 28

More information can be found here:

[Local Shooting Sports Qualifiers](#)

## Horse Papers

Horse Identification papers are due to the Extension Office on May 1st. The 4-H Horse ID Certificate has been updated for the 2025 4-H program year. Please destroy previous versions of the ID form and use the update certificate moving forward. The form must be front and back only, not two separate pages and must have a standard-sized photo attached with all markings visible. Here is the [new form](#).



## **21st: NW Super Saturday Judging Contests and Workshop - Hays**

This year's Super Saturday judging event will take place on March 21st at Fort Hays State University. There will be 8 judging contests—Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Life Skills, Livestock, Livestock Skill-A-Thon, Photography and Wildlife Skills for 4-H & FFA youth 7 - 18. You can judge at 1 or all of these great contests. There will also be several workshops in the afternoon to help 4-H'ers explore project learning. Watch for more info as these activities are finalized!

For more questions, contact Robyn Trussel at [rdeines@ksu.edu](mailto:rdeines@ksu.edu), 785-798-5020; or Chandra Plate [cplate@ksu.edu](mailto:cplate@ksu.edu) or 620-388-7157

### **4-H County Club Day**

County Club Day will be held on March 27nd at Colby Community College. Now is the time to start thinking about how you might like to participate.

Categories are:

- ◆ Model Meetings
- ◆ Public Speaking
- ◆ Project Talks
- ◆ Demonstrations & Project Talks
- ◆ Instrument Solo
- ◆ Piano Solo
- ◆ Skits
- ◆ Reading

**All entries are due by:**

**5:00 pm on Wednesday, March 18th.**

**Call the Extension Office to sign-up. 785-460-4582**

*Email Tracy at [tfagan@ksu.edu](mailto:tfagan@ksu.edu)*

*or Helen at [hpgiefer@ksu.edu](mailto:hpgiefer@ksu.edu)*

4-H Club Day is an exciting opportunity for participants to showcase their 4-H projects, talents, and skills developed throughout the year. Each presentation is carefully evaluated by experienced judges who assess the content, delivery, and overall quality of the work. Participants receive ribbons as awards, with different colors representing levels of achievement—typically purple for outstanding work, blue for excellent, red for good, and white for lacking minimum requirements. This event not only recognizes individual and/or group accomplishments but also helps young people build confidence, develop public speaking abilities, and learn to accept constructive feedback in a supportive environment