

Selecting the right market lamb or market goat



Springtime for many 4-H livestock members means selection of their livestock project for exhibition at the county fair. Phillips County currently has 10 members enrolled in the market goat project, while there are 15 members enrolled in the market lamb project.

Statewide, enrollment numbers for the market lamb project have remained fairly consistent throughout recent years, with 1,163 members enrolled for 2013-14.

The livestock project that has enjoyed the biggest jump in members is the market goat project. In 2004-05, there were 714 members enrolled in the market goat project statewide. Nine years later, enrollment numbers have increased to 1,219!

Some people say that to evaluate market lambs, just imagine that you are looking at a miniature steer. The main points to consider when looking at and selecting a market lamb are structure, type and muscling. When the judge is placing the market lamb classes at fair, the amount of finish (fat cover) is also taken into consideration.

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