

Sheep and Goat Department 2026 Programs, Shows, and Premiums

Superintendent – Ian Devine

Assistant – Jade Elias

Assistant – Aine Devine

General: Admission is at the discretion of the superintendent and is curated to facilitate educational opportunities, varieties of experience, and stability and tone in the department.

Sheep and goat exhibitors should plan to participate in the sheep or goat show as applicable and the Cavalcade. Additionally, eligible animals may participate in the Rare Breed Show and interested exhibitors may participate in the Costume Show. Educational programs are available throughout the fair, and individual exhibitors may be asked to participate.

All entrants must be in compliance with admission, behavior, and health standards as outlined in the individual Sheep and Goat sections.

Please read all rules and regulations regarding entries, stock, premiums, and health regulations.

Sheep and Goat Show classes may be combined at discretion of judge or superintendent.

Animals are admitted to the show at the discretion of the superintendent and judge. To ensure safety and biosecurity, animals that do not behave or are insufficiently controlled will be rejected.

Except for the Rare Breeds Show, Cavalcade, and Goat and Horse Agility Face-off, all events are in the small livestock arena at the end of the sheep barn.

Education Awards: A rosette, premium, and sponsored prize will be awarded to an exhibitor or group for indelible educational contributions to the fair. Consideration will be given to exhibitor and animal interactions with the public and may include participation in other educational programs. At this writing, one award for sheep contributions and one award for goat contributions are sponsored.

A rosette and premium will recognize the winner of the Stall Prize for educational displays on stalls. Please confine displays to your own pen area and ensure any decorations are out of nibbling reach!

A sponsored prize will recognize youth exhibitors who participate in Question and Answer programs, contingent on funding. These are available to youth exhibitors and are intended to encourage agricultural education, public speaking, and civic involvement.

Fiber Crafting:

Fiber crafting demonstrations will be continuous during the day on Thursday and Friday and may be available at other times. Learn about spinning, carding, felting, weaving, macrame, and anything and everything related to wool and mohair. Exhibitors are encouraged to participate!



Ruby

Homestead
Nigerian
milking doe
from Five
Rooster Farm

Featured at the
Nigerian Dwarf
Goat Program

Ruby has cosponsored the Educational Award for the past five years.

Program Schedule

Please consider the schedule a best intention. The schedule of events may change closer to the fair. Consult schedule posted at the ring for most up-to-date information.

Thursday

9:00-5:00: Fiber Crafting Demonstrations (Sheep and goat barns)

10:00-1:00: Meet the Critters: Question and Answer Programs
every thirty minutes

1:00: Sheep Shearing

3:30: Goat and Horse Agility Face-off (Horse arena at south gate)

5:00: Handling Clinic (Sheep)

6:00: Handling Clinic (Goats)

Friday

9:00: Sheep and Goat Handling Show: Goat Classes

10:00: Sheep and Goat Handling Show: Sheep Classes (Adult
handling to follow)

11:00-2:00: Sheep Show: Production Classes

11:00-5:00: Fiber Crafting Demonstrations (Sheep and goat barns)

2:00: Sheep Shearing

4:00: Dam/Daughter Show

5:00: Soap Making Workshop

6:00: Milking demonstration (Nigerian dwarf goats)

7:00: Milking demonstration (Sable goats)

Saturday

9:00-12:00: Goat Show: Production Classes

12:00: Cavalcade

2:00: Sheep Shearing

3:00: Nigerian Dwarf Goat Program

6:00: Milking demonstration (Nigerian dwarf goats)

7:00: Milking demonstration (Sable goats)

Sunday

11:00: Costume Show

1:00: Sheep Shearing

2:00: On-farm Meat Production and Right to Farm Regulations



Thaddius

Dorset ram from
Brook Monster Farm

Greeting a first-time
fair-goer

Meet the Critters Question and Answer Programs: Thursday, 10:00-1:00

Meet sheep and goats and have all your questions answered. In these interactive programs, you can see individual sheep and goats of different types, ask questions about them and their care, and meet them as time allows. Programs every thirty minutes.

Sheep Shearing: Thursday, 1:00

See a sheep shearing demonstration from Mary Lake, a professional shearer in Tunbridge. Learn about considerations for different grades of wool and different types of sheep.

Goat and Horse Agility Face-off: Thursday, 3:30

Watch as horses and goats face off in an agility and gymkhana challenge at the horse arena by the south gate.

Handling Clinic (Sheep): Thursday, 5:00

An opportunity for sheep handlers of all ages to improve their skills working with Rae Stephenson, state champion showman.

Handling Clinic (Goats): Friday, 6:00

An opportunity for goat handlers of all ages to improve their skills working with Rae Stephenson, state champion showman.



Bilbo
Cotswold ram
Fiction Farm

Feta
Alpine goat
Hummingbug Hillfarm
Feta has been pillaging and picking pockets in the
Sheep and Goat Department for many years. Secure
your consumables!

Fitting and Handling Show: Friday, 9:00

Youth Goat Handling Classes

Friday, 9:00

Fitting and Showing Classes are judged on appearance of the animal (condition, grooming, etc.), appearance of the exhibitor (neatness, presentation of animal, etc.), and exhibitor's handling of the animal in the ring (leading, poise, knowledge of the animal's type and individual characteristics and history, etc.).

Goat handling classes	1st	2nd	3rd
Novice (ages 8 and under)	8	6	4
Junior (9-13)	8	6	4
Senior (14-17)	8	6	4
Showing Reserve Champion: Rosette and prizes as available			
Showing Champion: Rosette and prizes as available			

Youth Sheep Handling Classes

Friday, 10:00

Fitting and Showing Classes are judged on appearance of the animal (condition, grooming, etc.), appearance of the exhibitor (neatness, presentation of animal, etc.), and exhibitor's handling of the animal in the ring (leading, poise, knowledge of the animal's type and individual characteristics and history, etc.).

Sheep handling classes	1st	2nd	3rd
Novice (ages 8 and under)	8	6	4
Junior (9-13)	8	6	4
Senior (14-17)	8	6	4
Showing Reserve Champion: Rosette and prizes as available			
Showing Champion: Rosette and prizes as available			

Adult Sheep and Goat Handling Class

Friday, following youth classes

Adult showing is judged as with juniors and open to all sheep and goat exhibitors.

Adult Showing: Rosette and prizes as available
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Sheep Show: Production Classes

Friday, 11:00

Animals judged on health, production potential, and breed characteristics.

Open sheep classes	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Ram lamb	10	8	6	3
Yearling ram	10	8	6	3
Mature ram	12	9	7	4
Ewe lamb	10	8	6	3
Yearling ewe	10	8	6	3
Mature ewe	12	9	7	4
Ram Best of breed	12			
Ewe Best of breed	12			
Champion meat ewe: Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion fiber ewe Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion meat ram Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion fiber ram Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Reserve Champion: Rosette and prizes as available				
Best in Show: Rosette and prizes as available				

Lamb classes are for animals from birth through eleven months as of the first day of the fair. Yearling classes are for animals from eleven months and one day through two years as of the first day of the fair.



Lilac
Navajo-Churro ewe
SDG Farm
Serenading the goats

Emmy-lou
Tunis ewe
Macora Farm

Sheep Shearing: Friday, 2:00

See a sheep shearing demonstration from Mary Lake, a professional shearer in Tunbridge. Learn about considerations for different grades of wool and different breeds of sheep.

Dam/Daughter Show: Friday, 4:00

Learn how local producers make breeding decisions and see production improvement through multiple generations of animals.

Soap Making Workshop: Friday, 5:00

Learn to make soap with Huntress Haven Farm with particular attention to local and natural color techniques.

Milking Demonstration: Friday, 6:00

See a milking demonstration with Nigerian dwarf goats from The Tucker Farm, a small-scale goat dairy in Tunbridge.

Milking Demonstration: Friday, 7:00

See a milking demonstration with Sable goats.



Lulabelle
Long-wool Leicester ewe
Vermont Rooted Hearts Homestead



Goat Show: Production Classes

Saturday, 9:00

Animals judged on health and production potential (milk, meat, fiber, land management, and reproductive success).

Open goat classes	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Wether	10	8	6	3
Junior doe	10	8	6	3
Yearling doe	10	8	6	3
Mature dry doe	12	9	7	4
Mature milking doe	12	9	7	4
Best of breed	12	8		
Champion meat goat: Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion fiber goat: Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion dairy goat: Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Champion homestead goat: Rosette and prizes as available	20			
Reserve Champion: Rosette and prizes as available				
Best in Show: Rosette and prizes as available				

Junior classes are for animals from birth through eleven months as of the first day of the fair. Yearling classes are for animals from eleven months and one day through two years as of the first day of the fair. Any animal who has bred will be judged as a mature doe regardless of age.

Participation in run-off categories including Champion Meat Goat, Champion Fiber Goat, Champion Dairy Goat, Champion Homestead Goat, and Best in Show are by judge's invitation and may involve multiple animals from a breed or class. An individual animal may be eligible for multiple run-off categories.



Gunther
Romney ram
Fools Farm

Alma
Homestead Nigerian doe
Hutchinson Heritage Homestead

Cavalcade: Saturday, 12:00

See livestock of all breeds and species as they parade past the grandstand.

Sheep Shearing: Saturday, 2:00

See a sheep shearing demonstration from Mary Lake, a professional shearer in Tunbridge. Learn about considerations for different grades of wool and different breeds of sheep.

Nigerian Dwarf Goats: Saturday, 3:00

Meet Nigerian dwarf goats and learn about the care and maintenance of homestead goats with Aine Devine of Five Rooster Farm in Northfield. Aine has been milking, training, and working with goats since she was four years old and conducts educational programs around the state. Her goats are prized by lovers of horned goats throughout the Northeast.

Rare Breed Show: Saturday, 4:00

Rare breed sheep and goats may participate in the Rare Breed Show. The Rare Breed Show is in the Frazier Arena. Please consult Rare Breed Department for details.

Milking Demonstration: Saturday, 6:00

See a milking demonstration with Nigerian dwarf goats from The Tucker Farm, a small-scale goat dairy in Tunbridge.

Milking Demonstration: Friday, 7:00

See a milking demonstration with Sable goats.

Sheep and Goat Department Costume Show: Sunday, 11:00

Interested exhibitors may participate in the Sheep and Goat Department Costume Show. Premiums are offered for first, second, and third place (\$10/6/3) in the People's Choice and Judge's Choice categories, with additional sponsored prizes as available.

Sheep Shearing: Sunday, 1:00

See a sheep shearing demonstration from Mary Lake, a professional shearer in Tunbridge. Learn about considerations for different grades of wool and different breeds of sheep.

On-farm Meat Production and Right to Farm Regulations:

Sunday, 2:00

Learn about considerations in on-farm meat production, state slaughter requirements, and right to farm legislation and regulations with responsible meat producers from around Vermont.

