

SO YOU WANT TO SHOW AN ANIMAL PROJECT?

WHY SHOULD YOU?

1. Scholarships!! College opportunities!
2. Life Experiences!
3. Responsibility!
4. Awards!
5. FUN!
6. Meet new friends!
7. Traveling! (Options: Houston, San Angelo, San Antonio, Austin, etc.)

WHY NOT?

1. If you are constantly busy and don't think you will have time, DON'T DO IT!
2. If it is a financial burden to your family, DON'T DO IT!

***YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RAISE AN ANIMAL PROJECT IF YOU ARE IN AN AG CLASS!
IT IS MERELY AN ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY WE GIVE OUR STUDENTS!!**

How does it work?

1. You purchase a show quality animal
2. You feed the show quality animal show quality feed in a "proper" environment
3. You work with that animal the way the Advisors advise you to. It is a COMMITMENT!
4. You go to the show (Prospect Show, County Show, and/or a Major Show)
5. You attempt to "make the sale" by showing your animal to the best of your ability
 - *If you get advice from an Advisor about your project and don't take it, you could be lowering your chances of making the sale; however, it is your animal and you may choose to do otherwise.
6. You are responsible for all costs associated with the project - animal, feed, vet, etc.
7. This is YOUR project. It is not your parents, siblings, or your teachers' project. YOU are responsible for the care of your animal.

What now? HERE ARE SOME MORE QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF!

1. Do you have time for the project?
2. Do you have the funds to invest into your project?
3. Are you willing to work hard in order to succeed?
4. Do you have a place to keep your animal?
5. Do you have support to take you to shows, help you feed, help you work with your animals?
6. HAVE YOU TALKED TO A FFA ADVISOR? WHICH ANIMAL?

*Now that you have asked yourself these questions,
decided which project is right for you, and have a plan...LOOK AT YOUR OPTIONS!*

OPTIONS...

1. WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO TO SHOW AN ANIMAL PROJECT?
 - a. Be a member of the FFA
 - b. Ask your parents to become a part of the Manor FFA Alumni
 - c. represent Manor FFA with character, integrity, and leadership at all events and shows
2. WHAT IS THE NUMBER ONE GOAL OF AN ANIMAL PROJECT?

To teach a student character, integrity, and leadership!
3. WHAT IS THE SECOND GOAL?

To raise the project, work hard, put in many hours, and hopefully to make the sale and be rewarded at the end! Does this always happen? NO! There are no guarantees with any animal project or that there will even be a show.

So now what?

- If an animal is not fed “show quality” feed then you will NOT have a show quality animal
- ALL animals must have clean water all day, every day!
- Animals will NOT grow if you do not take care of them.
- Advisors can help you find animals or you can purchase on your own, but remember not ALL animals are show animals! Trying to “save” money with projects by purchasing a “good deal” will not always save you money. YOU PAY FOR WHAT YOU GET!
- Be prepared to care for that animal from the day you purchase it - this means time, money, and resources must be readily available. This includes but is not limited to feed, equipment, shavings, medications, supplements, vet bills, etc.

Helpful Tips:

- You must PASS to show! No PASS, No SHOW!
- ALL animals will have a “validation” date and entry deadline, watch for these dates. If you miss these you will not show.
- It is your project. Take care of it. It is not there for your parents, siblings, or your teachers to take care of. Be responsible.
- YOU DO NOT NEED TO RAISE AN ANIMAL TO BE IN THE FFA! There are many more opportunities available to you, contact your advisor for more information.

**All information is subject to change
due to COVID-19 restrictions.**

Manor FFA Livestock Projects

When deciding the type of animal project you would like to show, keep in mind that you will get from this project only as much as you are willing to put into it. Some projects require more space, as well as more costs, time, and energy. Each animal takes care and hard work. Remember, there are no “easy” projects if everything is done right.

| | <u>Purchase Deadline</u> | <u>Estimated Cost</u> | <u>Other Information</u> |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Sheep* | October | \$600+ | Fine Wool, Fine Wool Cross, Medium Wool, Southdown, Dorper |
| Goats* | October | \$600+ | Boer Goats Only |
| Swine* | November | \$500+ | Various Breeds |
| Rabbits | September 20 | \$400+ | Californian or New Zealand |
| Chickens* | October 1 | \$500+ | Delivered December |

*School Barn Pen Rent: \$75 a year/per pen (sheep, goats, swine); \$25 per pen for chickens (maximum 25 birds per pen). This is mandatory and includes water, electricity, and the pen. This is due prior to your animal entering the barn.

**FFA Membership Dues are required to show an animal in conjunction with our organization. This applies to all junior and high school members.

Purchasing Animals:

The Ag Teachers will be making several trips to purchase animals. You are free to seek out and purchase your own animals. We ask that you let us know BEFORE you purchase the animal. Market animals exhibited at the county and major livestock shows must be a certain age and type. Please be aware of this when you purchase animals on your own.

Feeding Instructions

It is VERY important that you feed a high quality SHOW feed. Each species has specific instructions. In addition to a regular feed schedule, additives and supplements may be given. Students are asked to carefully measure out the appropriate amount of feed for each animal. This will not only save you money but will ensure that each animal is given the proper amount of nutrition needed to reach the desired body condition.

- You must feed and water your animal **twice a day**. These animals need fresh water. Please clean out their water containers and feeders daily.

Showmanship

Your animal needs to be trained to show. The more time you spend working with your animal, the more successful you will be in the show ring. The Ag Teachers are here to help you in any way possible.

- Pigs: Spend 20 to 30 minutes at least every other day walking and exercising your pig. They need to get used to you and get used to being out of their pen.
- Sheep/Goats: Spend 20 to 30 minutes at least every other day working on setting up your animal and getting them to brace. Practice showing them.
- Rabbits: Take your rabbits out individually, work their hair and try to get them to stay still for about 5 minutes each.

Weight

- Weigh once a week on the same day of the week. Record your weights. This will help us track their progress.

Cleaning Your Pen

EVERYDAY! NO Exceptions. Animals do not need to lie in their own waste. Do not leave waste in your pen, behind your pen, or in a wheelbarrow. Waste is dumped in a designated area. Trash should be put in the dumpster.

Illness

Watch for anything out of the ordinary. Let one of the Ag Teachers know right away if you think your animal may be sick.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Runny Noses | ▪ Missing Hair/Wool |
| ▪ Coughing/Wheezing | ▪ Open sores |
| ▪ Lethargic | ▪ Diarrhea |
| ▪ Scratching/Biting | ▪ No appetite |

Should your animal need medical attention, it is your responsibility to pay for the veterinary fees.

Off-Site

Students wishing to house their projects off-site must have prior approval from the Ag teachers. Students will be responsible for showmanship practice and exercising their animals on their own. We will set up a time to clip/shear animals at the Ag Barn. Students may make arrangements to transport their animal to the barn or they may check out a set of clippers.

Grades

Manor FFA will follow the same rules and regulations that apply to UIL Sanctioned Events. You must pass all of your classes to be eligible to show. Check with your teachers, do make up work, turn in your assignments, and go to tutoring.

Supplies - Purchased by Student

Cattle: Halters, feed pans, water bucket, show stick, show halter, fans, storage bin, grooming supplies, supplements, feed additives, hay & feed.

Sheep/ Goats: Halter, muzzle, hanging feed pan, water bucket, drench gun, blanket & tube, heat lamp, supplements, feed additives, & feed.

Swine: hanging feed pan, heat lamp, show stick, supplements & feed.

Rabbits: Water bottles, feeders, pen, feed & timothy hay.

Poultry: Hanging feeder and water, supplements, feed, shavings.

You may also order from these suppliers:

<http://www.sullivansupply.com/>

<http://www.texasshowsupply.com/>