Good Morning Gator Nation!!!

Take notice, we have a few very important items going out today. With fair in the coming days everything can get awfully busy, mark your calendar accordingly. Here are our updates for the week:

CLOSE THE BARN DOORS AT NIGHT – We are too close to fair to welcome something bad to happen

* **Special Fair Updates**
* **Ear Tag Order Deadline**
* **FFA Meeting (Mandatory Fair Exhibitor Attendance)**
* **Barn Clean-Up**
* **Swine Barn Washrack**
* **Barn Walk-Thru Door**

**Activity Calendar**

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**Show/Clinic Calendar**

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**Special Fair Updates**

**Dickinson FFA**

**Galveston County Fair & Rodeo Information**

* Please read through the exhibitor packet carefully for GCFR rules, there  have been some changes.
* The student is responsible for the daily care of their animal project(s) and stall(s) during the fair.
* Exhibitor Wristbands gain you entry to the fair each day. Students must wear THEIR wristband at all times. If a wristband breaks, it may be replaced at the livestock office one time, if it breaks again or it is lost, it will cost the exhibitor $5.
* Your Exhibitor Number must be worn during your show. If you lose your number, please go to the livestock office.
* If you need paperwork regarding commitments, auction/commitment add-ons, substitute exhibitor, stand-in exhibitor, proof of delivery, etc. please get with your species advisor or the livestock office.
* All students are excused from school the day of their show and the day after. However, it is up to the parents if their child comes to the fairgrounds or goes to school. Please notify an Ag Teacher if your student will be attending school. You still must arrange for your animal to be cared for. If a student is excused they must check in with an Ag Teacher on duty by 8:30 AM for attendance. If a student is excused and not present, the school will be notified of the truancy.
* On school days, there will be 2 or more Ag Teachers on duty at the fairgrounds during school hours (8:30a-2:30p) daily. Students are **NOT** allowed to leave the fairgrounds during school hours unless permitted by an Ag Teacher or with their parent/guardian.
* If a market animal exhibitor makes auction or their animal places high enough and their animal must stay on the grounds, that student will be excused for the rest of the week.
* If your livestock project makes the Jr Market Auction, you are required to attend the auction on April 17th. **NO BUYER GIFTS ALLOWED ON GCF&R PREMISES.** Pictures will be taken with the buyer and exhibitor only. Exhibitor, parent, guardian, shall NOT approach Buyer for special considerations. Exhibitors selling in the Auction are prohibited from making any substitutions of items sold.
* The student is responsible for getting to and from the fairgrounds daily. They must also bring their own food/drinks or money to purchase food from the vendors on site.
* Students will need to bring their own feed and supplies needed to care for their animal. It is suggested to keep items in a lockable showbox.
* Show boxes will be brought to the fairgrounds on Thursday, April 11th. If you would like for us to take your showbox, please have it in the middle drive of the barn with your last name and designated area marked on your box. You are responsible for picking up your box and any other personal items from the fairgrounds by Sunday April 21st.
* The FFA will purchase Tractor Supply Shavings for use while at the fairgrounds. These will be on site in our box trailer if you wish to use them.
* Students while there with their projects are representatives of Dickinson FFA and should dress and behave appropriately while on the fairgrounds. All DISD Student Code of Conduct rules apply.
* All animals returning to the barn still must be properly cared for until their departure date on or before Saturday April 27th.
* Non-Auction animals will return to the Ag Barn on the dates specified in the livestock schedule. You are responsible for seeking a buyer or commitment for your animal. All animals (except for second year breeding heifers) must leave the Ag Barn on or before April 27th. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
* Commitment animals will be hauled back to the fairgrounds at 7:00 AM on 4/27.
* Once animals have been removed from the barn on 4/27 students will be responsible for cleaning out pens, lockers, and storage areas and removing all personal items **BEFORE** the barn clean up on 5/4.
* **Mandatory Barn Clean Out!** Saturday May 4th 9:00 AM. Bring ALL barn keys with you. Only upon completion of a satisfactory barn clean up and returning your keys, your barn deposit will be returned to you. Barn deposits will only be returned on Barn Clean Up Day and can not be rolled over to next year. Failure to attend will result in forfeiture of barn deposit and risk of not being allowed in the barn next year. Excused absence from barn clean up consists of medical emergency with doctors note, or UIL event with note from coach/sponsor (48 hours in advance)
* If keys are not returned on or before 5/4, your deposit will be forfeited.
* Barn Keys will be reassigned for those requiring barn access after the barn clean up day (officers, breeding heifer exhibitors, etc.). If returning, new barn keys will be issued at the barn contract meeting

FOR ANY QUESTIONS:

PLEASE GET WITH YOUR SPECIES ADVISOR OR MR. MENOTTI

Let’s have a great and successful fair!

**Ear Tag Order Deadline**

Ordering Major Steer & Heifer, Hogs, Sheep, & Goats Ear Tags under the “Regular” time frame is set to close on April 3rd. This is next Wednesday. Thus far, as of Monday of this week, only one student has ordered their ear tag:



\***Note**\* the above list is just what County Extension sent out on Monday. If you have ordered in the interim, you will not appear on this list.

If you do not get your tag ordered by the deadline you will have an opportunity to do so under the “LATE” order timeframe which is set to end on May 28th, but there is an additional charge. If you need or believe that you will want a tag or tags, do so now to avoid the additional fees.

**Tag Order Deadlines:**

ALL SPECIES Early: **April 3**

ALL SPECIES Late: **May 28**

**ORDER** [**HERE**](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/major-show-validation-tag-orders-for-2024-sfot-2024-2025-steer-tickets-852289539957?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**FFA Meeting (Mandatory Fair Exhibitor Attendance)**

We will be holding our regular April FFA Chapter Meeting on Wednesday, 3 April at 6:00 pm in the Vintage Gym. Additionally, there will also be an Alumni Association meeting taking place simultaneously in the DHS Library. We will need all parents to attend the Alumni meeting as we have some important administrative objectives to complete. Upon that meeting’s completion, we can all gather in the Vintage Gym for fair packet distribution. All GCF&R Exhibitors must be in attendance.

**Barn Clean-Up**

As previously stated, there will be a MANDATORY BARN CLEAN-UP for all barn exhibitors on Saturday, 4 May. Prior to the date of the Barn Clean-Up:

* Ensure that your pen, locker/storage area are cleaned thoroughly, and that all supplies, and personal effects are taken home
* Bring BOTH of your barn proxy cards (Keys) the day of Barn Clean-Up

A barn walk-thru will be completed after school on Friday, 3 May. This is when we will verify that pens are cleaned out and personal items have been taken home.

(Failure in completing either of these items will result in forfeiture of your Barn Deposit)

**Swine Barn Washrack**

Just a reminder, cattle that are currently stalled within the show arena, do not use the washracks to dump/fill water troughs or to clean out feed pans. There is a red water hose, fed from the supply closet, that has been set up for you to do this.

**Barn Walk-Thru Door**

It has been brought to our attention that the entrance walk-thru door to the barn has been having some proxy card reader malfunctions. We have submitted a work order request to have this looked at and repaired.

Have a great and weekend and a very Happy Easter. Let us know if you have any questions or need assistance. As always,

**GO GATORS!**

A cartoon of a crocodile

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**Mitch Robinson**

**Ag Science Teacher / Barn Manager**

**Dickinson High School - Dickinson ISD**

P.O. Drawer Z

Dickinson, TX  77539

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