Good Morning Gator Nation!!!

Happy Gator Homecoming!!! Here are our announcements:

* **GCF&R Market Steer Validation – Tomorrow**
* **FINAL ORDER FOR MAJOR TAGS!!!**
* **Last Day for Fresh Country Fundraiser!**
* **Major Show Entries**
* **Major Show Quality Counts**
* **Major Lamb & Goat Tag-in**
* **GCF&R Breeding Beef & Commercial Heifer Tag-In**
* **District LDEs**
* **Holes in Pasture**
* **Mag Flakes**

**Activity Calendar**

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**FFA Calendar**

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**GCF&R Market Steer Validation – Tomorrow**

Validation will take place tomorrow morning from 8-10 am at the fairgrounds. We will be leaving the barn at 7 am, Ms. Murphy and I will be hauling. Be there prior to in order to load your calves.

* ALL STEERS BEING ENTERED IN GCF&R MUST ATTEND, REGARDLESS IF THEY ALREADY HAVE A MAJOR TAG OR NOT
* Have a parent attend to sign paperwork as well

**FINAL ORDER FOR MAJOR TAGS!!!**

Here is the final major show tag order list for 2025 spring shows.

Sheep/Goat Validation: October 23, 4:30pm-6:30pm @ Fairgrounds

Heifer Validation: October 24, 4:30pm-5:30pm @ Fairgrounds

Swine Validation: November 19, 4:30-6:30pm @ Santa Fe Ag Barn

Here is what County Extension has on file as of this morning. If you do not have your tags, get them now!

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**Last Day for Fresh Country Fundraiser!**

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**Major Show Entries**

It is already time to make notice about entry fees for major shows. All Major Show Entry Fees will be collected via RevTrack as we have done in years past. Visit: <https://dickinson-isd.revtrak.net/dhs/cte/dhs-cte-agriculture-science/#/v/dhs-ffa-entry-fees>

to access RevTrack and pay your fees. Within the system there are dropdown menus you will use to specify which show, etc. Please make sure that you are accounting for all of your fees totaled (Entry + parking passes + grounds passes, etc.).

Those of you that entered 2025 Fort Worth, please have your fees paid in full no later than 15 November.

**Major Show Quality Counts**

Any student (regardless of grade level) that intends to show at a Major Show (Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth, San Angelo, etc.) MUST HAVE a Quality Counts number. These numbers are obtained by the student taking an on-line animal science test, with unlimited attempts, until they reach a minimum score of at least 70%.

There are age breaks in this system now:

Juniors are now grades 3-5

Intermediates  grades 6-8

Senior grades 9-12

\*\*\*Quality Counts must be REDONE when you advance from one level to the next, meaning those of you who were in Junior High last year and had Quality Counts completed must now redo it at the SENIOR level, etc.

If you are planning on showing at a Texas Major, you must get this done in time for us to complete your entry paperwork. We cannot submit entries on you without this being completed.

Start by visiting: <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/product/quality-counts/01t4x000008HBZdAAO>

You will “Add this to cart” but there is no fee for this. Once you enter all of your information it will prompt you to take the test. Do so as many times as needed to.

Get this done as soon as possible. We will complete Major Entries at our next monthly FFA meeting, Wednesday, November 6th. **That is only 19 days away.**

**Major Lamb & Goat Tag-In**

Major Lamb & Goat Tag-In will take place Wednesday, 23 October from 4:30-6:30 at the Galveston County Fairgrounds. Since our exhibitors are hauling their own animals, Mrs. Sizemore will meet you at the fairgrounds to sign your paperwork.

**Major Heifer Tag-In**

Those of you with NEW heifers that are getting tagged for majors that were not tagged in back in June, we will be loading immediately after school next Thursday (24 October), to haul to the fairgrounds for validation. Have an official copy of your Breed Registration Paperwork that you will be leaving with the school. This will be maintained in the Heifer Binder for the year. You must have a parent meet us there to sign your paperwork at validation at the Fairgrounds. Times for Tag-In are 4:30-5:30. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Harp will be hauling.

**GCF&R Breeding Beef & Commercial Heifer Tag-In**

NEXT SATURDAY, 26 October, will be Fair Tag-In for Breeding Beef & Commercial Heifers. Be sure to have your official registration papers on hand. Mr. Edenfield & Mr. Harp will be hauling, leaving the barn at 7:00 am on Saturday. Be sure to arrive early to load your animal before it is time to leave.

**District LDEs**

Gulf Coast District LDEs will take place on Tuesday, November 5th at Goose Creek Memorial High School in Baytown. If you are attending, please mark your calendars to prepare.

**Holes in Pasture**

Maintenance is aware that not all of the busted plumbing clean-out lids in the pasture have been repaired. It is on their agenda to finish up and will be as soon as they are able. In the interim, avoid walking cattle through these areas. There are discussions that are happening in regards to the eventual ability to turn cattle out to the large pasture. We know that there is a significant need for this to occur, we ask for just a bit more patience and candor on the matter. There are a great deal of factors on this matter and the safety and well-being of our livestock is at the apex of this we assure you.

**Mag Flakes**

Our shipment of Mag Flakes for the arenas have arrived. Due to prospect show activity and such, we will be distributing those in the arenas on Monday, October 28th. This means both arenas will be closed Mon. October 28th – Halloween Thursday, October 31st. Hopefully in that time frame we can acquire some humidity, but if not we will be soaking the arenas and need to maintain their closure to get the Mag Flakes working to keep the dust down.  We will post an additional reminder in next week’s newsletter.

Have a great weekend. Let us know if you have questions or need help. Especially today, and as always:

**GO GATORS!**

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Very Respectfully,

**Mitch Robinson**

**Ag Science Teacher / Barn Manager**

**Dickinson High School - Dickinson ISD**

P.O. Drawer Z

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