

Sheep Skillathon 2022 Study Guide

*Exhibitors will participate in a livestock skillathon for the species they plan to exhibit at the fair. This study guide includes all topics an exhibitor **might** be tested on. Youth will only be tested on a portion of these items. Example questions are given to help study but may not be the same questions asked.*

Be sure to bring your completed project book and show up in proper show dress code as stated in the Jr. Fair rule book for your species.

STATION 1 – Project Book & Interview and Dress Code

Present your completed project book to the judge. The judge will review your record and award points for completion. You will also be asked a series of questions based on the project you are taking. It will be up to you to properly state which project you are enrolled in when you arrive at the interview station. Questions may include general information about your project goals as well as content-based questions. All questions are based on the Sheep Resource Handbook. *Examples of the types of questions you may be asked are listed at the end of this guide.* Individuals must dress in the appropriate dress code as listed in the Jr. Fair Rule Book for your species market or showmanship exhibition.

STATION 2 – Skills Station: Feed Identification and Feed Tag

You will be asked to identify real feed ingredients commonly found in a lamb feed ration and answer questions about a feed tag. See Chapter 4 of the Sheep Resource handbook to

STATION 3 – Quality Assurance

You will be asked questions about Good Production Practices (GPP) # 7, 8 & 9.

GPP #7: Practice good environmental stewardship

GPP #8: Maintain proper workplace safety

GPP #9: Provide proper animal care

Questions will be pulled from information shared at Quality Assurance training as well as Chapter 13: Caring For Animals in your Sheep Resources Handbook.

STATION 4 – Skillathon Kit Knowledge – Sheep Parts Identification

In this station, you will be asked to identify parts of a lamb. Use Figure 1 on page 11 of your Sheep Resource Handbook for information

STATION 5 – Market or Breeding specific

For this station, you will only participate in the parts in which you are taking a project in. If you are taking a market and breeding project, you will need to complete both stations. If you are only taking breeding, you will only do the breeding station.

For Market Projects: Sheep Products

You will be asked questions about different products that come from a lamb, such as wholesale and retail cuts of meat. You should also be able to tell what wholesale part of the lamb a basic retail cut comes from (for example: loin chop, rib chop, shank roast). See Chapters 6 and 7 of your Sheep Resource Handbook for information on this topic.

For Breeding Projects: Reproduction

You will be asked to define terminology related to reproduction in sheep. For example, you may be asked questions about the heat, artificial insemination, and to locate parts of the female and male reproductive systems. See Chapter 11 of your Sheep Resource Handbook for information on this topic.

TIE BREAKER: Sheep Showmanship

You will be asked questions related to sheep showmanship practices. This station is optional and will only be scored in the case of a tie for award placings. There is no penalty for trying the tie breaker. Information can be found in Chapter 8 of your Sheep Resources Handbook, as well as the Ohio 4-H Sheep Care videos on showmanship and sheep shearing found here: <https://ohio4h.org/sheepcare>.

Sample Interview Questions

All answers can be found in the Sheep Resource Handbook. These are only examples of questions you may be asked.

1. What did you learn this year in your project?
2. What goals did you set this year with your project?
3. What is "docking"?
4. What is "drenching"? How do you do it? What tools do you use?
5. What is a parasite? How can you prevent or treat your lamb for parasites?
6. Name 3 of the most common breeds of sheep in the Midwest.
7. Sheep have 4-compartment stomachs. What group of animals is this called?
8. What are the five main nutrients?
9. A feed that sheep eat that is high in fiber and low in energy is called a _____?
10. What is an ewe? A Ram?

