



Department 7 SHEEP

2026
"Bright Lights & Fair Nights"

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUGUST	3	4	5	6	7 Entry Deadline	8
9	10 Online entry deadline	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 FAIR OPENS	22
23	24	25	26 5-10 am Arrival	27 9:00 am Exhibitor's Meeting & Substitutions 1:00 Breed Classes	28 9:00 Wool & Breed Classes 6:30 Featured breed: Dorpers	29 9:00 Market & Breed Classes followed by Junior Show 6:30 Exhibitors Barbeque
30 Fair Closes 8:00 pm release	31	Sept 1	2	3	4 Premium Office Closed	5

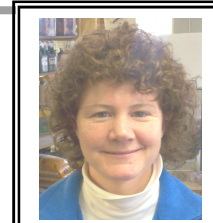


SUPERINTENDENT:

Seth Matthews
Weiser, Idaho

WOOL SUPERVISOR:

Patti Matthews
Weiser, Idaho



ENTRY: Entries close Aug. 7. Entries must be postmarked by this date. **Any late entries are subject to double entry fees and prior approval of the Superintendent.** You may submit your entries online. **Online deadline is Aug. 10.** Payment must be made with entry. Only Visa and MasterCard accepted online. www.idahofair.com.

1. The Management reserves the right to close entries whenever available space (**two animals per pen**) is filled. Entries must be made on forms supplied by the Western Idaho Fair. **Entry forms must be completely filled out** and must include the ear tag and registration number of all animals entered and the names and registration numbers of both sire and dam. **Ringside entries are prohibited;** groups must be entered at time of entry. Members of groups must be entered and shown in appropriate individual classes.
2. **FEES:** A charge of \$6.00 per animal will be made. (\$12.00 per animal if late entry) A charge of \$2.00 per entry will be made for fleece. A charge of \$3.00 per animal for the Junior Show, \$5.00 per animal if not entered in the open show. **No refunds on entry fees.**
3. **PASSES:** Each exhibitor may purchase two exhibitor tickets for personal use at a cost of \$20.00 each. A helper's pass may be purchased for \$20.00 for every three animals entered. **Remittance** for entry fees and exhibitor passes **must accompany entries.** Passes required for entry on the grounds
4. **PARKING:** Livestock exhibitors will be issued two vehicle parking permits. For more information see General Rules and Information on page 4 or Website under General Rules.
5. **CAMPING:** See General Rules and Information on page 4 or Website under General Rules. **No** overnight camping, including on the west side of the sheep barn (includes not using crockpots, camp stoves, etc.). Pop-up canopies are ok, especially if grooming stands are set up inside for fair goer viewing.
6. **ARRIVAL:** Sheep may arrive after 5:00 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26 and must be on the grounds by 10:00 a.m. **Any change from specified arrival time must have special permission from the Department Superintendent.** Pens will be assigned and posted in the sheep show ring. **Fleeces** must be delivered to the Wool Booth between **9:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon.** (See Division 16 rules)
7. Exhibitors are requested to carefully read the information listed under **Rules and Regulations** in the printed section or on the website.
8. **JUDGING SCHEDULE:**
Thursday, Aug. 27 – 1:00 p.m. Breed classes for: Colored (fine/medium), Colored (long/coarse), Dorset Advantage
Friday, Aug. 28 – 9:00 a.m. Wool Judging followed by Breed classes for: Dorset, Suffolk, Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire.
Friday, Aug. 28 – 6:30 p.m. Dorpers, The Featured Breed for 2026.
Saturday, Aug. 29 – 9:00 a.m. Market Lamb Class followed by breed classes for: Other Recognized Wool Breeds (fine/medium), Other Recognized Wool Breeds (long/coarse) & Other Recognized Meat Breeds, followed by **Special Junior Show.**
Saturday, Aug. 29 – 6:30 p.m. Exhibitors Barbeque
 * The featured breed will be chosen the previous year, based on entries and other factors. If after the entries are in for the current year and there are not enough entries in the featured breed to have a show, the Superintendent will choose another breed. It will be announced after entries are closed, prior to the beginning of the Fair.
9. **RELEASE:** Exhibits must remain in place until 8:00 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30. A **"Release Slip"** from the Department Superintendent will be required for transportation of livestock from the grounds.

10. **CHECK IN:** All registration papers must correspond with ear tags (Official Registration) and be checked in with the Superintendent 24 hours prior to the scheduled showing. **Substitutions:** A clerk and the Superintendent will be available in the department to make substitutions on **Thursday, Aug. 27; from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.** Substitutions will be allowed up to 12 hours prior to judging. Prior to Judging, the Superintendent will inspect all exhibits in the department to determine if they are entered correctly. In cases where it is obvious that entries are not correctly posted due to clerical error, the Superintendent must contact the Premium Office in order for a change to be made.
11. **All entries must be fitted for show and must be presented in the Show Ring in order to receive premiums.**
12. There will be a limit of **Two Premiums in the Individual Classes and One Premium in the Pair and Group Classes per Exhibitor.**
13. All livestock pens and stalls are to be cleaned by 10:00 a.m. daily and exhibitors are responsible to see that all aisles by their exhibits are clean and free of equipment and clutter. Trimming and grooming in the aisles will not be allowed. **Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning any areas used for trimming and grooming, including those outside the barn.** Exhibitors using **straw** must clean their pens prior to leaving the grounds Sunday Aug. 30.
14. All pens must be identified with the exhibitor's name and breed of sheep. Exhibitors are encouraged to add additional information about their breed. **Signage is required (farm banner, signs, etc. identifying the breeder)**
15. Only one person will be allowed to assist the showman or owner in the ring.
16. Exhibitors are requested to read the General Rules and Regulations in the front of this Exhibitors Handbook or on the website www.idahofair.com carefully. **Entry is deemed acceptance of the Rules.**

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Sheep must be sound, in good health, and free of communicable diseases. These include any symptoms or indications of: Blue Tongue, Sore Mouth, foot rot, sore sheath, Club Lamb Fungus, Ked, Orf, or Scrapie. All breeding sheep of any age must be identified with a Federal Scrapie Program identification number. Out-of-state sheep must meet Idaho import requirements (call the Idaho Sheep and Goat Board at 208-334-3315) and must have an **Entry Permit** and Certificate of Veterinary Inspection dated no earlier than 30 days prior to arrival at the Western Idaho Fair. All sheep on the fairgrounds will be checked by an inspector from the Idaho Sheep Commission or a licensed veterinarian.

BASE DATES:

Yearling	Sept. 2024 through Aug. 2025
Fall Lamb	Sept. 2025 through Jan. 2026
Spring Lamb	Feb. 2026 through June 2026

Only those animals that have lamb teeth will be eligible to show in lamb classes, and only those animals with yearling teeth will be permitted to show in yearling classes.

NOTE: If entries in any Division listed below are from only 1 (one) exhibitor, those entries will be shown in "Other Recognized Breeds". No individual breed show will be held when there is only one exhibitor entered in a particular breed. See criteria for establishing and maintaining breed shows in General Livestock Rules. If a breed falls below the required numbers (at least 2 exhibitors with a total of 10 animals), the breed will be placed on probation for one year. If a breed falls below the requirements for two years, the breed will be dropped.

- DIVISION 1 – MARKET LAMBS**
- DIVISION 2 – DORSET**
- DIVISION 3 – HAMPSHIRE**
- DIVISION 4 – NAVAJO CHURRO**
- DIVISION 5 – COLORED – FINE OR MEDIUM WOOL**
- DIVISION 6 – COLORED – LONG COARSE WOOL**
- DIVISION 7 – SUFFOLK**
- DIVISION 8 – SOUTHDOWN**
- DIVISION 9 – SHROPSHIRE**
- DIVISION 10 – OTHER RECOGNIZED WOOL BREEDS
FINE OR MEDIUM WOOL**
- DIVISION 11 – OTHER RECOGNIZED WOOL BREEDS
LONG COARSE WOOL**
- DIVISION 12 – OTHER RECOGNIZED MEAT BREEDS**
- DIVISION 13 – DORPER**
- DIVISION 14 – DORSET ADVANTAGE**
- DIVISION 15 – SPECIAL JUNIOR SHOW**
- DIVISION 16 – WOOL**

PREMIUMS:

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
\$40	\$35	\$30	\$25	\$20	\$15	\$11	\$9

All Grand Champions and Reserve Grand Champions will receive Rosettes.

DIVISION 1 – MARKET LAMB CLASS

Only one Market lamb class will be held, with all breeds competing. The class will be limited to two (2) animals per exhibitor. **All lambs must have been slick sheared at least 14 days before show date.** Exhibitors must check with the Superintendent for time schedule for weighing. Market Lambs are not eligible for any other classes.

Market Class:

1. All Breeds competing

DIVISION 2 through 15 – BREED CLASSES

Ram Classes:

2. Yearling Ram
3. Fall Ram Lamb
4. Spring Ram Lamb
5. Pair of Ram Lambs
6. **Grand Champion Ram**
7. **Reserve Grand Champion Ram**

Ewe Classes:

8. Aged Ewe – 2 years and older
9. Pair of Aged Ewes
10. Yearling Ewe
11. Pair of Yearling Ewes
12. Fall Ewe Lamb
13. Spring Ewe Lamb
14. Pair of Ewe Lambs
15. **Grand Champion Ewe**
16. **Reserve Grand Champion Ewe**
17. Best Pair: 2 animals, either sex, bred & owned by exhibitor.
18. Produce of Dam: 2 animals, either sex, not to be twins. **Dam must be shown with class.**
19. Breeders' Young Flock: 1 ram lamb, 2 ewe lambs, bred & owned by exhibitor.
20. Get-of-Sire: 4 animals, any age, both sexes represented, all by one sire. Sire number must be listed on Entry. Must be bred & owned by exhibitor.
21. Flock: 1 ram, 2 yearling ewes and 2 ewe lambs.

Note: On entry form use **ear tag number** not the name of the animal. Also mark if you intend to use shavings or straw.

Special Awards – Each Breed

Premier Breeder - Each BreedRosette
Premier Exhibitor – Each BreedRosette

Special Awards – Overall Breeds

Premier Breeder Award: This award to be made to the breeder winning the most points in the **individual** classes on the top five (5) animals bred by him and exhibited by him or others. (No more than two (2) rams can be included in the five)**Hay Bag**

Premier Exhibitor Award: This award to be made to the exhibitor winning the most points in the **individual** classes on the top five (5) animals **owned and exhibited** by him. (No more than two (2) rams can be included in the five).....**Hay Bag**

- To receive either of these awards, there must be two or more exhibitors in each breed.

Shepherds Award:

The first place or winning **YOUNG FLOCK** of each breed, bred, and owned by exhibitor, eligible to return and compete for this award:.....\$40 \$30 \$20

Supreme Champion Ram

Champion of each Breed Competing.....**Buckle**

Supreme Champion Ewe

Champion of each Breed Competing.....**Buckle**

The Western Idaho Fair will award a special **Barn Prize** of **\$50** to the Exhibitor with the best-kept and decorated pens and best cleaned aisle.

The Idaho Wool Growers Association will award **\$50** for the most attractive exhibit promoting lamb & wool.

The Idaho Wool Growers Association will award **\$50** for both the Supreme Champion Ram and Ewe Fleece and **\$25** for both the Reserve Supreme Champion Ram and Ewe Fleece.



Special Ewe and Lamb Class

All Breeds including Crossbreeds eligible to compete.

Premiums:..... 1st - \$50 2nd - \$35 3rd - \$15

Lambs: age 1 day to 30 days.

Entries may be made on first day of open sheep show. Judging will be done by three Judges selected by the Superintendent.

Ewe and Lambs will be judged on the following:

- General Appearance and Conformation of Ewe and Lamb ... 50%
- Decoration and Cleanliness of Pen..... 30%
- Pen Display most promoting the Sheep Industry..... 20%

DIVISION 15

SPECIAL JUNIOR SHEEP SHOW

No ringside entries for the Junior Sheep Show, including Showmanship!

The Junior Show is open to youth from 8-18 years of age on the day of the show. Animals that are eligible to be shown in the Junior Show may be registered or commercial, but they must be owned and shown by the exhibitor. Paperwork will be verified at check-in. Animals that are owned by another owner and shown in the Open Show are ineligible to be shown in the Junior Show except in the Showmanship Class.

All breeds will be shown together. Exhibitors are limited to 2 animals per class. If an exhibitor has 2 entries in one class, the exhibitor must find another youth to assist in showing.

The entry fee is \$3.00 if the same animal has also been entered in the Open Show. If the animal(s) are not entered in the Open Show, then a \$5.00 per animal fee must accompany the entry form (\$10 if after deadline).

Division A – Dorset, Hampshire, Southdown, Shropshire, Other Recognized Meat Breeds, Other Recognized Hair Breeds.

Division B – Navajo-Churro, Colored (fine, medium), Colored (long, coarse), Shetland, Other wool (fine, medium), Other wool (long, coarse).

Premiums:

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
\$15	\$13	\$11	\$9	\$7	\$5	\$3	\$3

All champions and reserve champions will receive rosettes.

Class:

1. Market Lambs – All breeds competing
2. **Champion and Reserve Champion Market Lamb**
3. Division A – Ewe Lamb
4. Division A – Yearling Ewe
5. Division A – Aged Ewes – 2 years and older
6. **Grand and Reserve Ewe Division A**
7. Division A – Best Pair Females – owned by exhibitor OR bred and owned by exhibitor
8. Division B – Ewe Lamb
9. Division B – Yearling Ewe
10. Division B – Aged Ewes – 2 years and older
11. **Grand and Reserve Ewe Division B**
12. Division B – Best Pair Females – owned by exhibitor OR bred and owned by exhibitor
13. Showmanship – Ages 8 – 12
14. Showmanship – Ages 13 – 18
15. **Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Showmanship**

The Western Idaho Fair will award a Rosette and \$10 for the Champion Showmanship and a Rosette and \$5 for Reserve Showmanship.

DIVISION 16 – WOOL

Supervisor: Patti Matthews

Entry Fee - \$3.00 per entry Entry Deadline – Aug. 10

Wool Judging: Friday, Aug. 28, 9:00 a.m.

Purpose:

To create an awareness of the many qualities of wool and its uses. To exhibit results of the **improvement programs** in the sheep and wool industry. To **encourage proper preparation** and grading of wool for market.

RULES:

1. Fleeces must be delivered to the Wool Booth near the Sheep barn between **9:00 a.m.** and no later than **12:00 p.m.** on Wednesday, Aug. 26. The Department Superintendent will give exhibitors an entry tag for each class. The card will include Exhibitor’s name, sheep breed and date sheared. These cards must be completed before the fleece will be accepted. Fleeces will **not be accepted after 12:00 p.m. Wednesday.**
2. All articles entered shall be under the control of the Superintendent of this department. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the safety of the exhibits, but the Exhibitor **assumes all responsibility in case of loss or theft and in no case will the Management of the Western Idaho Fair or the Superintendent be responsible for loss or injury.**
3. Fleeces shall not be more than 12 months growth. In case of long-wooled breeds, whatever the normal growth time is acceptable (for example, a Shetland may be shorn every 6 months).
4. All fleeces entered must have been sheared **from sheep owned by the exhibitor.**

5. Exhibitor will be allowed **8 entries overall and limited to winning two premiums per class.**
6. A fleece from purebred sheep must be entered in the Breed classification and a fleece from grade or crossbred sheep must be entered in the Commercial classification. A fleece may **not** be entered in both the Purebred class and the Commercial class.
7. Fleeces may be from either sex, excluding wethers.
8. All fleeces must be skirted with **bellies and tags out.**
9. Fleeces **CANNOT** be accepted if:
 - A. Tied with other than paper twine – but **need not be tied.** (The Fair will provide clear plastic bags for the Show.)
 - B. Show insoluble paint.
 - C. Show excessive dung tags, burrs or dung, urine stains and being cotted.
 - D. Weak or broken (fleeces will be disqualified at time of entry or judging).
10. After screening, some fleeces may be removed, so the better fleeces can be properly displayed.
11. Judges' decisions are **final.** Judge may disqualify any entry for just cause and may reassign entries to categories as seem proper.
12. **RELEASE:** Exhibitors must obtain a "Release Slip" from the Department Superintendent before removing exhibits from the grounds, at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30.

SILENT AUCTION (SPECIAL)

Again, this year we will have a silent auction to encourage clean, skirted fleeces (must be very clean). Home spinners, spinning groups and the general public will be notified of the silent auction.

Fleeces to be entered in the silent auction will be open for bid after judging on Thursday. You may indicate the minimum price you would accept when checking in.

The public will write their bid on a ticket attached to the fleece. Bidding will stop at Noon, Sunday August 30.

It will be your responsibility to make contact with the winning bidder. In case of a sale of a fleece, the Superintendent or the Western Idaho Fair will not be held responsible for the collection of money or delivery of the fleece. Fleeces cannot be checked out until 7:30 p.m. Sunday evening.

If you would like your fleece to be entered in the silent auction, please bring it to the attention of the wool supervisor at time of entry.

Premiums: 1st - \$21 2nd - \$19 3rd - \$17 4th - \$15

Fine: 64s & up (Merino, Rambouillet)

Medium: 50 – 62 (Cheviot, Corriedale, Columbia)

Coarse: less than 50 (Border Leicester, Lincoln, Romney, Wensleydale)

Section A – Commercial (Crossbreds)

Class:

1. Ram – Fine
2. Ewe – Fine
3. Ram – Medium
4. Ewe – Medium
5. Ram – Coarse
6. Ewe – Coarse
7. **Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
8. **Reserve Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
9. **Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**
10. **Reserve Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**

Section B – Purebred

11. Ram – Fine
12. Ewe – Fine
13. Ram – Medium
14. Ewe – Medium
15. Ram – Coarse
16. Ewe – Coarse
17. **Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
18. **Reserve Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
19. **Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**
20. **Reserve Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**

Section C – Natural Colored

21. Ram – Fine
22. Ewe – Fine
23. Ram – Medium
24. Ewe – Medium
25. Ram – Coarse
26. Ewe – Coarse
27. **Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
28. **Reserve Grand Champion Ewe Fleece.....Rosette**
29. **Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**
30. **Reserve Grand Champion Ram Fleece.....Rosette**

Section D – Carpet Wool (Navajo Churro, California Red)

31. Ram
32. Ewe

Winners of all above sections compete for:

- Supreme Champion Ewe Fleece..... Wool Bag & Bowl**
Reserve Champion Ewe Fleece..... Wool Bag & Cup
Supreme Champion Ram Fleece..... Wool Bag & Bowl
Reserve Champion Ram Fleece..... Wool Bag & Cup

Please Note:

In 2027 The Western Idaho Fair will move their starting date from the 3rd Friday in August to the 2nd Friday and from 2028 on it will open on the 1st Friday of August. In addition, it will add a 3rd weekend.

2027 – August 13 – 29
 2028 – August 4 – 20
 2029 – August 3 – 19