

Williamson County Livestock Show- Contests Rules & Information 2025

Tentative Schedule – This is a come and go contest format

	Check-in:	Contest Starts
Ag Product Identification	9:00 am – 11:00 am	9:15 am
Awards Ceremony	<i>Approximately noon or immediately following completion of tabulation.</i>	
Consumer Decision Making	9:00 am – 11:00 am	9:15 am
Awards Ceremony	<i>Approximately noon or immediately following completion of tabulation.</i>	
Livestock Skillathon	9:00 am – 11:00 am	9:15 am
Awards Ceremony	<i>Approximately noon or immediately following completion of tabulation.</i>	

General Rules for all WCLA Contests

1. Rules and Guidelines

All contests will be conducted by the WCLA Contest Committee. Should problems or issues arise, the contest superintendent’s decision will be final. Cell phones, smart watches and other electronic devices are prohibited during contest participation. Any participants found on their electronic devices will be removed from the competition and scan trans will not be scored.

2. Membership

Participants must be a bona fide Williamson County 4-H member or FFA member, and a member of the Williamson County Livestock Association.

3. Age Divisions

There will be three (3) age divisions (Junior, Intermediate, and Senior) in all contests.

Age divisions are determined by a participant’s grade as of August 31, 2025 as follows:

Age Division	Grades	
Junior	3*, 4, or 5	<i>*Must be at least 8 years old</i>
Intermediate	6, 7, or 8	
Senior	9, 10, 11, or 12	

4. Members per team

This contest is individual only.

Juniors may move up to the Intermediate age division when participating on a team that has true Intermediates (based upon grades listed above) on it. No individual may move down to a younger age division.

5. Academic Eligibility of Participants

According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H/FFA member must be deemed “eligible” to compete in this event.

6. Entry Fee

There is a \$5 entry fee per member per contest. Cash payments will be accepted at registration.

7. Awards

The top five (5) individuals in each age division in each contest will receive awards.

8. Auxiliary Aids/Special Accommodations

If a contestant is participating in this event requires auxiliary aids or special accommodations, please notify the contest superintendent at the same time that entry materials are due.

9. Scan Sheet Rules

The Universal Form A Scan Sheet will be used. The WCLA Contest Committee will provide scan sheets. Participants do not need to bring their own. There will be no correcting of missing or incorrect team numbers or contestant names in the tabulation room. The way in which the scantron arrives to tabulation, is the way in which it will be processed. Those with missing or incorrect information will be disqualified and will not be eligible for individual awards.

Agriculture Production Identification Contest Rules

1. **Contest Format.**
 - a. 20 Texas agricultural products are selected and exhibited at separate stations. Products can range from garlic to ribeye steak.
 - b. Contestants select the correct identification of each product from four possible answers.
 - c. Each station also has one multiple choice question pertaining to the product on display.
 - i. Questions are general to the industry that produced the product, (i.e. Texas' national ranking, economic impact to Texas, general nutritional content, region of production) or specific to the individual product that is on display (i.e. cooking method, use, growing season, specific nutrition of the cut or variety).
 - d. Contestants are given 30 seconds at each station to answer both questions.
 - e. Contestants must advance from one exhibit to the next when instructed to do so.
 - f. Contestants must evaluate each exhibit in sequence and will not be allowed to return to any exhibit after advancing.
 - g. The contest will be open for all youth and adults present to walk-through the exhibits following the completion of the contest.
2. **Scoring.** Contestants will receive five points for each product that is correctly identified and five points for each question that is correctly answered. However, for points to be awarded on questions pertaining directly to the product displayed, the product must be correctly identified. (Total possible points: 200 per individual.)
3. **Ties:** Five stations will be selected as tie breakers in advance of the contest. Individuals with the highest cumulative scores at these five stations will win any ties. If ties remain, winners will be determined by a method designated by the contest officials.
4. **Study Guide and Resources.** The Texas 4-H Ag Product Identification Study can be found at the following link:
https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/agproductid_resource_guide.pdf
5. **Scan Sheet.** The Agricultural Product Identification Form scan sheet, Form #API-3 will be used. This form will be provided for all contestants. Completed scan sheets will not be returned to the participants or advisors.

Consumer Decision Making Contest Rules

1. **Classes.** Classes will be selected by the Consumer Decision Making Committee members and chosen using criteria included in the current Consumer Decision Making Study Guide. Contestants will judge a total of 6 classes from the current Texas 4-H Categories and Descriptions There will be 7 minutes allowed for judging of each class. Reasons will not be given by any age division.
2. **Class Placings.** All classes will be placed, and cuts will be determined, by contest committee members, using the current 4-H Consumer Decision Making Study Guide, with the exception of mystery classes, which will be selected by the committee. Copies of the correct placings, cuts, and situations, will be available to each FFA advisor and 4-H CDM Coach. Scan sheets will NOT be returned to the participants or to any County Extension Agent or Ag Science Teacher.
3. **What to Bring.** Scan sheets will be used for tabulation and one will be provided to each contestant. Each 4-H member should bring their own **calculator, clipboard, manila folder**, and at least **2, #2 pencils** to mark their scan sheet and for notetaking. Contestants must be careful not to make any stray or extra marks to prevent problems when the scan sheets are scored.
4. **What Not to Bring.** Paper will be provided on the day of the contest. **NO additional paper** materials will be allowed in the judging area. Cell phones will not be allowed to be used as calculators.
5. **Scan Sheets.** The Universal Form A Scan Sheet will be used. The WCLA Contest Committee will provide scan sheets. Participants do not need to bring their own.
6. **Contest Study Materials.** Refer to the following website for study materials and additional guidelines: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/consumer-education/>

Livestock Skillathon Rules

1. Objective

The Livestock Skill-a-thon contest tests a 4-H member's knowledge and comprehension of animal science and livestock management practices. The contest provides an opportunity for youth to gain and develop production livestock skills and life skills through a competitive environment.

4. CONTEST METHOD OF CONDUCT

The contest will be divided into four areas: identification, judging (which consist of meat cuts, wool and/or hay classes), quizzes (quality assurance quiz, and industry quiz.). Contestants will be divided into groups and have time limits for each station area.

The contest will utilize a scantron form. #480-5b (Meat Skill-a-thon)

While competing in the event, there will be no conferring between contestants or between a contestant and anyone else except as directed by contest officials. Contestants will be allowed specific time limits to complete each individual class.

Contestants may use a blank steno pad or a clipboard, blank paper, and a calculator. The contestants may bring no books, notes, pamphlets, or other reference material into the contest area. All electronic communication devices of any kind are prohibited. Contest officials reserve the right to check all contestant's notepads or clipboards to make sure they are blank just prior to the contest. Violators are subject to contest dismissal.

Contestants are not to pick up or touch any item that is being identified or evaluated in the individual competition classes, unless otherwise directed by contest officials. (The exception is wool classes)

Coaches are invited to review contest materials in the contest area at the conclusion of the event.

5. **CONTEST CLASSES** The following is a list of common skill-a-thon classes. Please note that actual classes may deviate from this list to keep current with a rapidly changing livestock industry. All pictures, equipment items, retail meat cuts, feed samples, judging classes, and quizzes will be developed using resources obtained from Texas A&M University and West Texas A&M University.

Identification

Livestock equipment Identification: Identify the proper name for pieces of equipment used in livestock production. Participants are no longer required to indicate the equipment use.

Livestock Breed Identification: Identify from photographs or pictures livestock (beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goat) breeds. Contestants must also match the breed with the most appropriate description supplied for each breed.

Retail meat cut identification: Identify beef, lamb, and pork retail cuts from the National 4-H Meat Judging Retail ID List. Contestants will identify the retail cut specie, primal cut, and retail cut name.

Feed Sample Identification: identify various samples of feeds and indicate their classification.

Judging (One Classes will be Selected)

Wool Judging class: Rank a class of four fleeces and answer questions about the class.

Retail Meat Judging class: Rank a class of four retail meat cuts (beef, pork, or lamb) and answer questions about the class.

Quiz

Quality Assurance exercise: Demonstrate how to read a medicine label, calculate withdrawal times, complete a treatment record, and make responsible management decisions regarding quality assurance.

Scan Sheet

The following scan sheet will be used. All scantrons will be provided by the WCLA committee.
Meat Skillathon, 480-5b:

Contest Resources

This list is just some of the potential resource information available. Please feel free to utilize other sources as you deem appropriate.

Swine Resources

National Swine Registry Skill-a-thon Training <https://nationalswine.com/resources/resources-main.php>

- Texas A&M Swine Skill-a-thon study guide <https://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestockspecies/swine/skillathon/>
- Oklahoma State Swine Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/swine>
- National Pork Board : <http://www.pork.org/youth-and-education/skillathon-quiz-bowl/>

Beef Resources

- Texas A&M Beef Skill-a-thon <https://beefskillathon.tamu.edu/>
- Iowa State Beef Skill-a-thon <https://www.ans.iastate.edu/beef-skillathon>
- Oklahoma State Cattle Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle/>

Sheep & Goat Resources

- Sheep and Goat programs - <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/livestock-species/sheep-goats/>
- Iowa State Sheep Skill-a-thon <https://www.ans.iastate.edu/sheep-skillathon>
- Oklahoma State Sheep Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/sheep>
- Oklahoma State Goat Breeds - <http://afs.okstate.edu/breeds/goats>
- Maryland Small Ruminant Page - <https://www.sheepandgoat.com/skillathon>

Meat Judging and Identification Resources

- <http://www.meatscience.org/students/meat-judging-program/meat-judging-resources/>
- <http://aggiemeat.tamu.edu/meat-identification-pictures/>
- <https://aggiemeat.tamu.edu/example-classes/>

Equipment Identification

- Nasco - <https://www.enasco.com/>