



MOBILE COUNTY 4-H ANIMAL SCIENCE CLUB NEWS

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JUNE FIELD TRIP

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who attended our great trip to the Lucedale Livestock Producers Auction House on June 17. We had a total of **20** attending.

Thanks also to the Bryson family for coordinating this educational field trip.

I appreciate the 4-H'ers who read their letter and wore their green Animal Science T-shirts!



Dates to Remember:

- **July 11**—Mock Show Workshop
- **July 24-26**—AL Jr. Cattlemen Round-Up
- **Sept. 1**—Market Steer Ear Tag Order Deadline
- **Sept. 26**—Market Steer Weigh-In, Evan's Farm in Wilmer
- **Oct. 1**—Market Steer Ownership & Weigh-In
- **Oct. 15**—Market Steer Entry
- **Oct. 23-Nov. 1**—Greater Gulf State Fair Dates
- **Oct. 23**—Steer Show Weigh-in
- **Oct. 24**—Steer Show & Sale
- **Dec. 1**—Steer Show Recognition Program

2ND ANNUAL MOBILE COUNTY MOCK SHOW

WHEN: Saturday, July 11

WHERE: AgriEd Pavilion—Behind Jon Archer Agricultural Center at 1070 Schillinger Road, North

TIME: Check-In from 8:30am till 9:00am

The Second Annual Mobile County Mock Show is next week-end and you should have called your President, Sarah Dickinson, and registered for this program.

Remember, this is a chance for you to get your steer out and used to being in the ring—and a chance for you to practice showmanship without the stress of an actual show.

Mr. Ken Kelley, Regional Extension Animal Science and Forages Agent, will “act” as our Judge for the event. He will also be on hand to give out expert advice!



If you are not an exhibitor, please attend

this event anyway, as your help will be needed and many lessons can be learned by your participation. As a 4-H club member, everyone has a job to do!

2009 ALABAMA JUNIOR CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION ROUND-UP

July 3rd was the deadline to register your cattle for the Alabama Junior Cattlemen's Association Round-up. I hope everyone who wanted to exhibit their steers or heifers sent their money and paperwork in on time. If you missed the cattle deadline, please plan to participate in the many other events available.

Mobile County Schedule of Events



Sarah arrives Wednesday, as our AJCA Youth Board member. Barns open for Cattle Thursday 8:00 a.m.

FRIDAY'S EVENTS July 24, 2009

- 4:45 am** The 4-H van will leave the Jon Archer parking lot: *Emily & Trip Volnoff, Tyler Graham, Jason Jarvis, Mr. Scott Skelton & (room for 1 more).*
- 5:00 AM** The 4-H Van will leave the Hotel parking lot of the Hampton Inn; located on Hwy 158 (Exit 13 toward Mobile College). Those transporting cattle and **riding with their parents** are: *The Bedgood Families, the Bryson's, the Dickinson's, the Miller's, the Mims', the Bufkin/Williams, and Ellis Paul Rodgers.*
- EVERYONE** should arrive at the Garrett Coliseum by: 8:00 A.M. Teague Arena
- 8:00 am** **Mobile County GROUP Photo:** *Parents/Volunteers/4-H 'ers*
- 8:00 am** **Photography Contest:** Teague Arena Office: Turn in photos—*Sarah, Emily, Mariah, Abbie H, Catherine, Courtney, Ellis Paul, Whitney, Brittany, Taylor, Madison, and Mica*
- 8:00 am** **Poster Contest:** Teague Arena Office: Turn in Posters: *Sarah, Brittany, Jason, Madison B.*
- 8:30 am** **Public Speaking Contest:** OUTSIDE Teague Arena: (We ALL WILL listen to Speeches)
- 10:00 am** **Cattle Judging Contest:** Teague Bleachers: ALL
- 12:00- 2:00 pm** **Lunch:** If time allows, Downtown Montgomery and **Group Tour** of the FREE Cattlemen's "Moo-seum" located on South Bainbridge St. (You **WILL** need **MONEY** for lunch: probably at Wendy's)
- 1:30-3:30 pm** **Cattle Check-in**
- 4:00 pm** **Team Grooming Contest** Begins: *Ellis Paul, Abbi B., Brooke*
- 6:15 pm** **Awards Announcement** and PHOTOS will be taken!
- 6:45 pm** **FREE Cook Out** and Volleyball Tournament : *Sarah, Mariah, Ellis Paul, Brooke, Emily, Jason, Trip, Jacob, Taylor, Mr. Scott Skelton, Mr. Christian Bryson, & Mrs. Allison Evans* (You **Do NOT** need money for SUPPER)
- 9:00 pm** **Check into** Comfort Inn Gunter Hotel 4480 Northchase Blvd.
- 9:30-10:00 pm** (Maybe) have time for a **quick** swim in pool
- 10:30-11:00 pm** **Lights OUT!!! DO NOT leave hotel room! Your door will be on camera!**



SATURDAY'S Events: July 25, 2009

- 8:30-9:00 am** FREE breakfast at Hotel
- 9:15** Return to Teague Arena
- 9:30 am** **Team Salesmanship Contest** begins: *Sarah, Taylor, & Whitney*
- 12:00** **Build a Better Burger Contest** begins: *(2 Mobile Cty. Teams) 1. Ellis Paul, Whitney and Taylor ; 2. Mica, Tyler, and Emily*
EVERYONE needs to be available to cheer **BOTH** teams on!!!
- LUNCH**—We will eat hamburgers in the RV Campground "on the Hill", Compliments of Mr. Scott and the Bryson Family .
EVERYONE is invited!!!
- 2:00 pm** **Awards** announcement and PHOTO taken
- 2:30 pm** **Showmanship Contest:** *Sarah, Courtney, Catherine, Taylor, Jacob, Madison M., Madison B. Mica, Brooke, Abbi B., Bryce, Ellis Paul, Wyatt, & Brittany*
- Supper**—You **WILL** need Money for Supper

AJCA Round-up—Mobile county Schedule of Events (Continue)

SUNDAY'S Events:

7:00 am Free breakfast at Hotel---Check-out

8:00 am AJCA Cattle Show

Lunch? Supper? Not sure what time we will depart for home..... (You WILL Need Money)



NOTES:

AJCA Trip for 4-H'ers includes:

- 🐄 Free Hotel room for 2 nights, 1 supper and 2 lunches
- 🐄 Comfort Inn located 4480 North Chase Blvd. (2 miles from Coliseum) 334-270-0099 Our special 4-H Hotel Rate — \$75.24 per night for 4-H'ers (4 rooms reserved—to be paid with 4-H Club funds) (4 rooms reserved—to be paid by individual 4-H volunteer parents)
- 🐄 Bring money for drinks, 2 lunches and 2 suppers.
- 🐄 Bring clothes and toiletries for 3 days Wear Mobile County shirts purchased by Mr. Scott Skelton for Fair and/or AJCA 2008 shirts if you have them.
- 🐄 Bring a jacket, wear closed toed shoes (**No flip flops in Barns!!**) swimsuit (if you want to swim) It WILL be HOT! but dress appropriately.

HALTER BREAKING TIPS

Types of Halters. Some people prefer halters with chains, others rope halters. A halter with a padded nose band is recommended to prevent serious injury and scarring of the nose. A correctly fitted halter will apply pressure over the nose, not behind the ears. For proper fit, the nose piece should be up on the nose just under the eye.

Halter Breaking by Dragging the Halter. Put the halter on your calf, pull on the lead rope a couple of times and then drop the rope. Leave the halter on the calf, the rope will drag on the ground. As the calf walks, it will step on the lead rope and pull its head around. This will teach the calf to respond to pressure. Let the calf wear the halter and drag the lead rope for several days.

Halter Breaking by Tying. Tie your calf to a post in a slip-knot. The calf learns to stop the pressure on his head by coming forward. For several days, a calf may be tied in its stall between feeding, watering and exercise periods. The length of the rope should be long enough for the calf to eat and lie down, but not so long as to get tangled up. Do not leave an unbroken calf tied and unattended.

Training to Lead. When teaching to lead, pull on the lead rope and then give slack so the animal comes forward.

Give and take, don't jerk on the rope, release the pressure as the calf responds,. When the animal learns that the rope loosens when it walks, it will lead. Ask someone to walk behind the calf to make it move when it stops instead of pulling on its head constantly. Reward the calf with a handful of hay or feed.

No, No's. There are several methods not to use when training a calf to lead. Never—

- Tie the calf behind a vehicle and pull
- Hit the calf with stick or whip
- Pull on the rope with hard jerks
- Use an "electric prod"



Training for the Show Ring. As soon as the calf begins to lead, begin daily exercise and practice proper show ring procedures. Daily exercise is important to condition the animal and have it respond to the handler. Daily exercise should include feet placement. This will prepare your animal for the show ring.

Resource: Kansas 4-H Beef Curriculum Notebook, by Jessie Miller, Kevin Miller, Josh Merrill, Larry Tibbs & Jackie Buckl

SHOWMANSHIP TIPS

Good showmanship improves the look of your calf while letting you exhibit your skills in front of a crowd. Many things can make an individual stand out in showmanship class.

- 🐄 Wear a nice button-down shirt with jeans in a showring.
- 🐄 Carry a scotch comb in the back pocket of your jeans so you can fix the animal's hair if it gets messed up.
- 🐄 When walking, place the lead strap of the halter in your right hand and the showstick in your left hand. Let the extra strap dangle from your right hand. If it touches the ground it is too long.
- 🐄 Upon entering the ring, walk forward in a clockwise direction on the left side of the animal.
- 🐄 When turning your calf, always try to turn to your right (into the animal). If you go left, your calf might step on you.
- 🐄 Keep adequate space (3-4 feet) between your calf and others.
- 🐄 **Always keep your eye on the judge.** You don't want to miss his instructions.
- 🐄 When you are positioning the calf, face towards the animal. To do this, put the lead strap in your left hand and your showstick in your right hand. Hold the calf's head up and alert.
- 🐄 Once you are stopped and have the halter in the correct hand, you need to "set up" the legs. The legs need to be square under the animal's body. To move any "un-set" feet, use your showstick. If a foot needs to be moved back wards, gently push the point of the stick into the skin between the toes until the hoof is in the desired spot. Train your calf to stand still for at least ten minutes at a time.
- 🐄 After the feet are correctly set, make sure the calf's top is straight. Some animals may be "high-loined." If your calf is one of these, you can use your showstick to push it down making the top appear straighter.
- 🐄 When the animal is set, you can both relax a little bit. Keep the animal calm by scratching its belly with your showstick. Remember this is a tactic used to keep the calf calm, so don't try to go too fast or hard with the stick. A slow, easy pace is desired.
- 🐄 Always be courteous to others in the showring. Never block other cattle from the judge's view. When circling, be sure to help a stalled calf in front of you by tapping its tail with your showstick or wait for the ring helper. Keep line straight.

Resource: Kansas 4-H Beef Curriculum Notebook, by Jessie Miller, Kevin Miller, Josh Merrill, Larry Tibbs & Jackie Buckley

FARM VISITS

If you have not gotten on my calendar for a farm visit, please call me and schedule this AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Summer will be over and school will be back in session before we know it! (August 10 to be exact.) I have only three dates left open in July: 6th, 7th, & 8th. Remember, I also work with Classroom in the Forest: Forest in the Classroom—and this project kicks off again in September. I can come any-time—morning or evening. Contact me at 574-8445 or leave a message at 331-9314 to reserve a date & time through September.



I always take lots of photo's, but this year Mr. Doug Earl, President of the Mobile County Cattlemen's Association has a special request. So plan to be dressed, (in more than flip flops and pajamas) for our farm visit!



4-H—Making the Best, Better!



TO: 4-H Animal Science Club Members, Parents and Volunteers

Happy Independence Day!

I hope you learned a lot from Dr. Lisa Kriese-Anderson's visit with our club. Please put her lessons to good use, and practice good record keeping techniques.

Let me know what kind of response you get from our marketing DVD. Remember, give them to NEW Buyers. Buyers already on the buyers list do not need them. Feel free to copy as many CD's as you need.

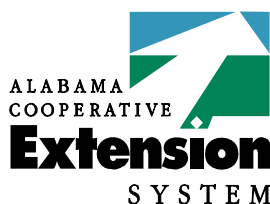
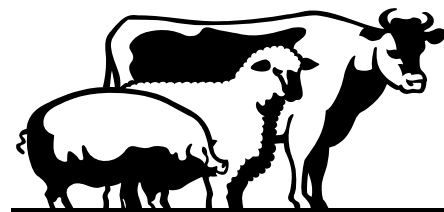
July is a busy month! With the Mock Show on July 11 and the Alabama Junior Cattlemen's Association Round-up on July 24-26.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maranda J. Marks".

Maranda Marks
County Agent Assistant



*Alabama A&M and
Auburn Universities*