

Grundy County Fair Auction Guidebook

Auction Information and Personnel

The livestock auction will take place at 7:00 PM on Sunday, July 26th, 2026. It will be held at the Grundy County Fairgrounds. Everyone is invited to join us for our Pork Chop Dinner starting at 4:00 PM, with the auction to follow. Tickets can be found at Grundy4H.com.

Auction Committee

- Cash Biros
- Luke Brockman
- Bill Chapin
- Ron Frye
- Austin Granby
- Doreen Harlow
- Steve Jorstad
- Mike Lowery
- Erik Olsen
- David Siedentop
- Brooke Katcher

Auctioneers

- Richard Olson
- Erik Olson

Auction Rules and Guidelines

Auction Overview

Each lot will be represented by its owners in the Auction Sale Ring and will be available for viewing in each of their respective livestock barns. With the exception of Carcass Lots (see below), no Lambs, Hogs, or Beef will be available for possession by buyers through the Auction. Buyers and Exhibitors are free to make private arrangements for the purchase of these live animals; however, the Auction itself will have no responsibilities in this type of transaction. All lots of Lambs, Hogs, and Beef (live and carcass) will be sold by the pound. Dairy Baskets, Goats, Poultry, Eggs, and Rabbits will be sold by the head (basket or dozen eggs). Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, and private sale live animals are available for buyers to take possession after the conclusion of Best of 4-H on Monday, July 27, 2026. Fresh eggs will be substituted for actual display eggs. For live Lambs, Hogs, and Beef, buyers will pay the difference between the winning bid price and the value of the animal as determined by the Auction Committee. Buyers of all Carcasses, Goats, Poultry (per head when sold by pen), Rabbits (per head when sold by pen), Eggs (per dozen), and Dairy products will pay the full winning bid costs. Exhibitors must make arrangements to care for and market all exhibited live animals through release at the end of the 4-H Fair. Exhibitors are responsible for marketing any exhibition Carcasses that do not qualify for the Auction.

Auction Rules

1. To be eligible to place any animal in the Livestock Auction, 4-H members must have attended (or have excused absences) for 2/3 of the scheduled club meetings. This rule does not apply to exhibition eligibility.
2. All exhibitors qualifying to participate in the auction must be present at the auction. Failure to attend without approval from the Auction Committee may result in deletion of the lot from the sale.
3. Members have the right not to sell qualifying live animals or carcasses in the auction but must communicate this with the respective superintendent at the close of exhibition classes.
4. No animals will be transported to Chenoa Locker for processing.
5. The auction sale order is listed on page 11 of the fairbook and provides a list of potential lots for sale and will not change from year to year.
6. Pictures will be required of each 4-H'er with their auction animal, and each 4-H'er is required to be at the auction. Attempts will be made to take photographs during each show; however, your cooperation in providing photos prior to the fair is appreciated.

7. The Supreme Champion Market Lamb, Hog, and Beef animals will be sold first in the auction, unless removed from the sale by the seller's choice or by virtue of attendance in Rule 1.
 - a. The sale order of the supreme champions will follow the fixed order of lamb, hog, and beef. There will be no rotation of species beginning with the 2026 auction.
 - b. If one or more of the supreme champions are not sold for any reason, there will be no replacement by any other animal, and that lot will not be filled.
8. All species of eligible carcass animals exhibited in the lamb, hog, and beef carcass classes will be sold together after the sale of the supreme champions, unless removed from the sale by the seller's choice or by virtue of attendance in Rule 1.
 - a. The sale order of the carcass animals will follow the fixed order of lamb, hog, and beef. There will be no rotation of species beginning with the 2026 Auction
 - b. If one or more of the carcasses are not sold for any reason, there will be no replacement by any other carcass, and that Lot will not be filled.
 - c. Carcasses will NOT be sold on a premium-only basis. Buyers will be responsible for taking possession of the carcass or donating it to 4-H to be auctioned at a later date, with proceeds to be used to benefit the overall Grundy County, Illinois 4-H Program.
 - d. Based on the number of animals exhibited in the carcass classes, the number qualifying for auction will be as described below in the case of an odd number of carcasses shown, rounding up will be used to determine the number that will sell (i.e., 5 exhibited, so the top 3 may sell).
 - i. Lamb – top half of class exhibited with a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 carcasses, sold as whole carcasses.
 - ii. Hog – top half of class exhibited with a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 carcasses, sold as whole carcasses.
 - iii. Beef – whole rather than half carcasses will sell in two lots (1/2 carcass per lot). The top half of class exhibited a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 whole carcasses that may be sold. Purchasers of the first have the right to purchase the second lot at the same price per pound. If they do not, the second lot will be auctioned.
9. Exhibitors are not responsible for the kill fees for animals qualifying for the auction. Kill fees and processing fees for auctioned carcasses are paid by the buyer or 4-H if donated back to the 4-H program. Kill fees and other processing fees are paid by the exhibitor for carcasses not sold in the auction
10. For additional rules concerning lamb, hog, and beef, see the Premiere Carcass Class information in each Division.

11. All remaining species of market animals qualifying for the sale by virtue of exhibition standings will be sold immediately following the sale of carcass animals, unless removed from the sale by the seller's choice or by virtue of attendance in Rule 1
 - a. Live lambs, hogs, and beef will qualify for the sale by virtue of placing in the top 5 of each species rather than on designation as a Champion or Reserve Champion. The exception being carcass and rate-of-gain classes, the number of which will sell as seen under Sections 8d and 11e.
 - b. The sale order will be as follows: Dairy, poultry, poultry eggs, rabbits, and goats, followed by qualifying lambs, hogs, and beef. There will be no rotation of species beginning with the 2026 auction.
 - c. Both dairy baskets and dozens of eggs may be resold one time. The seller receives the proceeds of the first sale, and the proceeds from the second sale will be used for the benefit of the overall Grundy County, Illinois 4-H Program. The winning bid of the second sale takes possession of the baskets and the eggs.
 - d. If one or more of the animals are not sold for any reason, there will be no replacement by any other animal, and that lot will not be filled.
 - e. Based on the number of animals exhibited in the rate-of-gain classes, the number qualifying for auction will be as described below - in the case of an odd number of exhibited animals, rounding up will be used to determine the number sold (i.e., 5 exhibited, so the top 3 will sell).
 - i. Lamb – top half with a minimum of 2
 - ii. Beef – top half with a minimum of 2
 - iii. Swine – no rate-of-gain class exists
12. Following the sale of the qualifying sale animals, bonus lambs, hogs, and beef will be sold. Goats, rabbits, poultry, eggs, and dairy are not eligible for bonus sales.
 - a. Any lamb, hog, or beef exhibitor who has not qualified by virtue of Top 5 or other rate-of-gain or carcass class will be allowed to sell one animal or carcass (lamb, hog, or beef - live or carcass), as long as the 4-H member has met the attendance requirement of Rule 1.
 - b. The sale order of the bonus animals will follow the fixed order of lamb, hog, and beef. There will be no rotation of species beginning with the 2026 auction
 - c. Animals will be randomly ordered within their species.
13. All carcass buyers are responsible for contacting Chenoa Locker, 8 North Veto, Chenoa, IL 61726 (815) 945-7323 with cutting instructions and meat pick-up arrangements on Monday, July 27, 2026. Buyers are responsible for the associated kill and processing fees. Buyers of carcass animals will be responsible for the carcass, either by taking ownership or donation to be auctioned, with proceeds to be used to benefit the overall Grundy County, Illinois 4-H Program.

14. The following information will be published prior to the sale of all animals and will be available on a receipt at the time of checkout:
 - a. Name of 4-H'er
 - b. Weight of animal
 - c. Class and Placing of Animal
 - d. Lot #
15. Live lamb, hog, and beef and their respective carcass lots will be sold on a live weight per pound basis as determined by the pre-show weigh-in.
 - a. Buyers of live lambs, hogs, and beef will pay only the difference between the bid price and the value of the animal as determined by the Auction Committee.
 - b. Buyers of lambs, hogs, and beef carcasses will be required to pay the full per-pound bid price for the ½ or whole carcass and either take possession of the carcass or donate it to 4-H for sale at a future date, with proceeds to be used to benefit the overall Grundy County, Illinois 4-H Program.
16. Goats, poultry, and rabbit projects will be sold by the head multiplied by the number of animals in poultry and rabbit pens (i.e., pen of 3 chickens is the winning bid price times 3). Buyers will pay full winning bid costs rather than a “premium- only” amount. Eggs will be sold by the dozen, and dairy by the basket.
17. Checks should be made payable to Grundy County 4-H Association, and are requested the night of the sale, but can be delivered to Extension Staff on the Fairgrounds before 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 27, 2026, or the Grundy County Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. The Extension Office is located at 4004 N. Division St. (Farm Bureau Building) in Morris, Illinois. All buyers must check out immediately after the auction.
18. A commission of no more than 5% will be assessed on every lot sold. The commission supports auction expenses. In the event of an inadequately low bid that does not or barely covers the commission, the fee may be waived by the Auction Committee in order to benefit the seller.

Important Information For 4-H'ers and Parents

1. Livestock in the auction will be identified and available for viewing in their respective barns prior to the sale. It is encouraged that the owners be present with their animals to promote the auction, encourage potential bidders, and answer questions from 5:30 to 6:30. All 4-Hers with livestock in the auction are required to attend the auction and go through the sale ring. Failure to be present without prior permission may result in the elimination of the affected lots in the auction. Photos of the sellers and animals will be shown.
2. Market lambs, hogs, and beef will qualify for the auction by placing in the top five of their respective shows (they will not qualify as champion or reserve male, female, breed, etc.). Rate-of-gain and carcass animals will qualify for the sale based on published "top half of animals exhibited" and "minimum number" guidelines. On-the-hoof rate-of-gain class winners will be eligible to show in the top 5 competition.
3. At the time of weigh-in, each exhibitor must provide a biography to be read during the auction.
4. The auction order will be as follows and will not change from year to year: Supreme Market Animals (lambs, hogs then beef), followed by the carcass lots (in the same order) followed by dairy, poultry, poultry eggs, rabbits and goats, followed by qualifying lambs, then hogs, then beef followed by bonus lambs, hogs and beef (live or carcass) and sellers will be randomly ordered within each species. Note that goats, rabbits, poultry, eggs, and dairy do not qualify for bonus animal sales.
5. Buyers of live lambs, hogs, and beef in the Livestock Auction will not have the option to take possession of the animals, unless arranged privately between the buyer and the seller (no animals will be released until after the livestock release on Monday after the Best of 4-H. Buyers of lambs, hogs, and beef will pay to the Grundy County 4-H Association only the difference between the winning bid and the market value as determined by the Auction Committee prior to the auction.
 - a. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of all animals throughout the fair and subsequent marketing of all live animals until livestock release.
 - b. Exhibitors are responsible for marketing of all carcasses that are not sold in the auction.
 - c. There will be no transportation provided to Chenoa Locker.
6. Buyers of live goats, rabbits, poultry, eggs, and dairy in the Livestock Auction will pay the full winning bid price (per head/dozen/basket in each lot). Buyers may arrange with the seller to take possession of the live animals (available to leave the fairgrounds at the conclusion of Best of 4-H on Monday, July 27, 2026). Replacement eggs and dairy

baskets will be given to the successful bidder during the auction (final bidder if there is a resale. Sellers are responsible for the care of all live animals until removal from the fairgrounds after livestock release. If animals are not removed by buyers in a timely fashion (as determined by the relevant superintendent) after livestock release, the 4-H'er will be responsible for the removal and possession of the animals.

7. No carcasses will be sold on a "premium only" basis. Buyers are responsible for taking possession of the carcass meat or donating it to 4-H to be auctioned at a later date, with proceeds to be used for the betterment of the overall 4-H program.
8. Chenoa Locker will not carry any responsibility for the distribution of privately resold carcasses.
9. Whole beef carcasses will sell in two halves (two lots). The buyer of the first lot has the right to purchase the second lot at the same price per pound. If they do not, the second lot will be auctioned.
10. Sellers will be required to submit completed thank you notes for each of their buyers to Brooke Katcher either the night of the auction or sent to the Extension Office ASAP after the auction. All 4-H'er thank you notes must be accounted for before auction checks will be issued to anyone who participated in the Livestock Auction.
11. A commission of no more than 5% of each lot sold will be assessed. The commission supports auction expenses. In the event of an inadequately low bid that does not or barely covers the commission, the commission may be waived by the Auction Committee in order to benefit the seller.

Questions:

Contact one of the following Auction Committee members (not all are listed): Steve Jorstad, Bill Chapin, Dave Siedentop, Austin Granby, Ron Frye, Cash Biros or Luke Brockman