

DIVISION E - SWINE

Superintendent: Jennifer Chamelin
Assistant Superintendent: Sheryl Bennett
Superintendent: Christine Johnston

Phone: 717-451-8139
Phone: 410-313-1912
Phone: 410-708-0135

Email: jchameli@umd.edu
Email: sherylb@umd.edu
Email: gcjohnston0@gmail.com

The fitting and preparation of all animals for exhibit is the responsibility of the Exhibitor. Exhibitors may receive guidance only from immediate family members, Maryland 4-H/FFA Members and appointed UME Volunteers/FFA Advisors.

Division Rules & Regulations:

1. Exhibitors and their exhibits must comply with the "General State Fair Rules & Regulations", "General 4-H and FFA Rules & Regulations", "Animal Rules & Regulations", the "Maryland 4-H Code of Animal Science Ethics", the "Health Regulations for Livestock Exhibited in Maryland", these "Division Rules & Regulations" and the applicable "Section Rules & Regulations".
2. **Entries:** Entries will be received on Wednesday, August 26th from 12:00 noon - 9:00 P.M. and Thursday, August 27th from 7:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. in the Swine Barn. **All animals must be in place by 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 27th.** Exhibitors must remain in the stalls assigned to them by the Superintendent. **Weigh-in will start immediately after the 11:00 am exhibitor orientation. Thursday August 27th.** Refer to "Schedule of Events" and "4-H/FFA Exhibit Entry Information" for additional information. Do not bring Tack/Décor before Tuesday, August 25th.

Pre-entry is required. **YOU MUST USE THE INTERNET ENTRY SYSTEMS FOUND AT www.marylandstatefair.com Internet entries are due July 15th. Please see the "General Rules" section of the Maryland State Fair website for full information on 2026 Entry system.** Exhibitors without internet access should contact their County Extension Educator for assistance. All release forms are to be completed via the online entry system at time of registration. Reminder you must have completed the Animal Husbandry & Quality Assurance program to be able to exhibit your animals. Check with your county to make sure you are current with this requirement.

3. **Ownership:** All breeding swine must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor and **registered in exhibitor's name only by July 1** of the current year. Entries received with "Papers Pending" will not be accepted. Registration papers will be checked by the Superintendents. A bill of sale is not acceptable. Market hogs must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor by June 1 of the current year and registration papers for purebred market hogs must reflect ownership of June 1st or earlier..
4. **Breeding Show:**
 - Classes will be offered for all of the following breeds regardless of entry numbers. **There will not be an AOB division.** The recognized breeds are: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spots, Tamworth, and Yorkshire. All breeding swine must be purebreds, with pedigrees and ownership verified by registration papers issued by a bona fide breed registry. Exhibitors are limited to no more than two entries per breed in each major breed class.
 - Exhibitors will be permitted to substitute one animal for another animal, in the same class, within the breed. **Breed Association Official registration papers must be provided to the superintendents to verify ownership. Registrations are to be in the name of the 4-H'er, not the farm or family name by July 1, 2026.**
5. **Market Show:** Purebred market classes will be offered as part of the market show. Purebred market hogs **MUST** have Breed Association papers to show in the purebred market classes. Purebred classes will be offered for all of the following breeds regardless of entry numbers. There will not be an AOB division. The recognized breeds are: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spots, Tamworth, and Yorkshire There is also a market hog Crossbred division.
 - All market hogs will be weighed as feeder pigs and must be ear tagged with a Maryland 4-H/FFA Livestock Tag.
 - All market hogs must be born January 1, 2026 or after.
 - **New for 2026: There is not a minimum rate of gain/average daily gain requirement for market hogs to be able to show and sell at the Maryland State Fair. Market hogs must meet the 235-lb minimum weight. Starting weight and date must be verified by the County 4-H Extension Educator / FFA Advisor at the initial county market hog tagging/weighing event.**
 - To qualify for Market Hog classes, hogs must weigh at least 235 pounds and no more than 300 pounds at weigh-in. Please note, **THERE WILL BE NO MARKET EXHIBITION CLASSES.** At the Superintendent's discretion, the minimum show weight may be lowered if large numbers of hogs fail to meet the set minimum due to adverse growing conditions. **An animal that does not meet the weight requirements remains eligible to be shown in Showmanship classes only if that animal is the only animal that the exhibitor has entered for the swine show. (please see General Rules & Regulations –Animal section rule #10)**
6. Gilts may be entered and shown in market classes or breeding classes **but not both.**
7. **Bred and Owned Classes: Exhibitors** in the Bred and Owned Classes in 4-H/FFA animal divisions must be the breeder and the first and continuous owner of the animal entered. "Breeder" is defined as the recorded owner of the dam at the time of breeding/service. "First Owner" is defined as the recorded owner of the dam at the time the animal was born. Animals exhibited in the Breeding Gilt, Boar, and Purebred Market Bred and Owned classes will be verified by the breed registration papers. Per Maryland State Fair, there will not be a Bred and Owned Class for crossbred market hogs.
8. **A bedding fee will be charged at the time of entry to cover the initial bedding (Wood Shavings) that will be supplied by the Fair. Additional bedding (wood shavings) is the responsibility of the exhibitor. A limited amount of shavings will also be available for purchase on the grounds. Exhibitors are responsible for cleaning their pens; prior to leaving all exhibitors must check-out with superintendent. Exhibitors not cleaning their pens will forfeit all premiums.**
9. Swine can be clipped; however, clipping must be completed prior to arrival at the Maryland State Fair.
10. **Exhibitor Animal Fitting Guidelines**
 - a. **Conditioner Use:** Exhibitors are permitted to use conditioners on their animals. Conditioners are defined as any product specifically designed to improve the health, appearance, and well-being of the animal's coat, and skin. These products may include but are not limited to: 1) Coat conditioners and 2) Skin moisturizers.
 - b. **Prohibited Fitting Products:** The use of other fitting products that alter the animal's natural appearance is strictly prohibited. These prohibited products include but are not limited to: 1) Paints and dyes, 2) Adhesives, 3) Hair builders or enhancers, 4) Aerosol sprays intended to change the color or texture of the coat, 5) Any substance designed to sculpt, shape, or enhance the physical attributes of the animal beyond its natural form.
 - c. **Inspections and Compliance:** All animals will be subject to inspection by fair officials to ensure compliance with these guidelines. Exhibitors found using prohibited fitting products will be subject to disqualification and potential further penalties as determined by the fair management.
11. **Loose feed pans are not to be left in pens. Pigs must have adequate fresh, clean water at all times with a manufactured pig waterer system or with a pipe waterer.**
12. **Washing of swine projects MUST be done in the designated wash areas. Washing or rinsing animals in the aisles are not permitted.**
13. Refer to Youth Livestock Sale Rules found in 4-H/FFA Division X, Section XIV for additional information pertaining to market hog sale animals.
14. **4-H/FFA EXHIBITOR ORIENTATION – Thursday, August 27, 2026 – 11:00 AM – Swine Show Ring**
15. **Swine release schedule will be announced at the fair. Animals are not permitted to be removed prior to the approved release time. Premiums will be forfeited for those animals removed prior to the release time.**

SHOWMANSHIP – Section 1

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. **Pre-entry on the appropriate entry form is required.** Exhibitors will compete according to their 4-H Age (age as of 1/1/2026). Previous Champions may not compete in any class except the Champion Challenge (refer to “4-H and FFA Fitting & Showmanship Regulations” for additional information).
2. Showmanship Grand Champion will be eligible to participate in the 4-H/FFA All-Star Showmanship for Market Livestock Contest on Sunday August 30 2026, 5:00 P.M. See Division X, Section XV – 4-H/FFA All-Star Showmanship Contest for rules.

CLASSES

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| E1 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 18) | E6 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Sr Champion - Rosette & Award |
| E2 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 17) | E7 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Sr Reserve Champion – Rosette |
| E3 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 16) | E11 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Int Champion - Rosette & Award |
| E4 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 15) | E12 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Int. Reserve Champion – Rosette |
| E5 Showmanship - Senior (4-H Age 14) | E16 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Jr Champion - Rosette & Award |
| E8 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 13) | E17 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Jr Reserve Champion – Rosette |
| E9 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 12) | E18 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Showmanship Grand Champion - Rosette & Award |
| E10 Showmanship - Intermediate (4-H Age 11) | E19 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – Showmanship Reserve Grand Champion - Rosette |
| E13 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 10) | E20 Dean’s Champion Challenge |
| E14 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 9) | |
| E15 Showmanship - Junior (4-H Age 8) | |

BREEDING SWINE – Sections 2-12

Berkshire-2 Chester White-3 Duroc-4 Hampshire-5 Hereford-6 Landrace-7 Poland China-8 Spots-9 Tamworth-10 Yorkshire-11

CLASSES

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| E21 Spring Boar - Born between Jan 1 - Feb 29, 2026 | E23 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Champion Boar (Each Breed) - Rosette |
| E22 Spring Boar - Born between Mar 1 - Apr 30, 2026 | E24 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Reserve Champion Boar (Each Breed) - Rosette |
| E25 April Gilt - Born between Apr 1 - Apr 30, 2026 | E30 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Champion Gilt (Each Breed) – Rosette |
| E26 March Gilt - Born between Mar 1 - Mar 31, 2026 | E31 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Reserve Champion Gilt (Each Breed) – Rosette |
| E27 February Gilt - Born between Feb 1 - Feb 29, 2026 | E34 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – Best Bred & Owned Boar for Breeding – Rosette (Each breed) |
| E28 January Gilt - Born between Jan 1 - Jan 31, 2026 | E35 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – Best Bred & Owned Gilt for Breeding – Rosette (Each breed) |
| E29 Senior Gilt - Born between Nov 1 - Dec 31, 2025 | |
| E32 Pair of Gilts - Born between Jan 1 - Apr 30, 2026 | |
| E33 Breeder-Feeder Litter - 1 Boar, 1 Gilt and 1 Barrow—
Born between Jan 1 - Apr 30, 2026 | |

MARKET HOGS – Section 13

Berkshire Chester White Duroc Hampshire Hereford Landrace Poland China Spots Tamworth Yorkshire Crossbreds

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. Exhibitors may enter a maximum of seven (7) animals in the Market Hogs class of which only five (5) may be shown.
2. All animals will be weighed and divided into classes of approximately equal number.
3. There will be purebred and crossbred classes in the market show.
4. The Grand Champion Market Hog MUST be sold through the Youth Livestock Sale. Sale animals may include: Reserve Grand Champion, 3rd through 5th Overall, Breed Champions (Breed Reserve Champion ONLY if Champion is not selling), Crossbred Champions, Crossbred Reserve Champions, Lottery Picks from First Place of Crossbred Classes. Exhibitors are limited to selling a maximum of one species in the Sale. Refer to Youth Livestock Sale Rules found in 4-H/FFA Division X, Section XIV for additional information pertaining to market hog sale animals.

CLASS

- E36 Market Hog - Berkshire
E38 Market Hog – Chester White
E40 Market Hog - Duroc
E42 Market Hog – Hampshire
E44 Market Hog – Hereford
E46 Market Hog - Landrace
E48 Market Hog – Poland China
E50 Market Hog – Spots
E52 Market Hog - Tamworth
E54 Market Hog – Yorkshire
- E60 Market Hog – Crossbreds
- E65 Award Class (Fair Use Only) - Grand Champion Market Hog - Rosette & Award
E66 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – Res. Grand Champ. Market Hog – Rosette & Award
E67 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – 3rd Overall Market Hog
E68 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – 4th Overall Market Hog
E69 Award Class (Fair Use Only) – 5th Overall Market Hog
- E72 Bred & Owned Market Hog

RATE OF GAIN CONTEST – Section 14 / Class E80

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. Pre-entry for this section is not required.
2. After Fair weigh-in, all market hogs that qualify to show will be ranked by average daily gain.
3. Ribbons will be awarded to the 1st – 20th Place contestants. Premiums will be awarded as follows:
1st (\$50), 2nd (\$40), 3rd (\$35), 4th (\$30), 5th (\$29), 6th (\$28), 7th (\$27), 8th (\$26), 9th (\$25), 10th (\$24), 11th – 20th (\$20).

Class 100 – Educational Exhibit

1. 4-H'ers are invited to plan an educational exhibit to be on display during the State Fair in front of the Swine Ring. The exhibit may be an informational poster or other educational display. Youth and adults working together is encouraged. Contact the Superintendent for more info. Each Exhibitor may enter 2 exhibits.
2. 4-H Members enrolled in a Swine project in the current year are eligible to participate. A \$5 Participation Premium will be paid.

CLASS

E100 Swine Educational Exhibit

PREMIUM SCHEDULE	Classes	1st Place	2nd – 20th Place
	Showmanship Classes	\$20	\$15
	Breeding Swine Classes	\$17	\$12
	Market Classes	\$17	\$12

Note: Premiums will not be paid on the following classes: Dean's Champion Challenge.

SPECIAL AWARDS

- The C. Russell Galbreath Memorial Trophy will be presented to the Exhibitor of the Champion Berkshire Gilt, *sponsored by his daughter, Roselynn G. Watkins*
- An award will be presented to the Grand Champion Showman, *sponsored by Dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland*
- Special Best Decorated Pens Awards will be presented to the two (2) county groups maintaining the most attractive and neatest pens/aisles, *sponsored by Maryland State Fair.*

THANK YOU to all of our Maryland State Fair 4-H/FFA Swine Show Award Sponsors!