

Meat Processing

The meat animals exhibited at the fair have been raised to be ready for market at fair time. Your options are to have the animal processed for your own use or to resell it.

Process For Home Use

Fair project meat animals are carefully selected and provided the best care by exhibitors. Qualified judges evaluate entries and pick the best for the sale ring. The quality of sale animals should be of exceptional quality.

How much meat should you expect? A 1,000 pound steer will yield about 440 pounds of packaged meat for your freezer; a 230 pound hog, about 130 pounds; and a 100 pound lamb, about 40 pounds. If the quantity of meat from one animal is too much for your own use, it is very common for two or more people to split the meat. The processor will be able to divide the meat evenly.

A list of area custom and state inspected meat processing plants can be provided upon request. You will need to contact a processor to have the animal slaughtered, arrange to have it transported to the plant, provide instructions on how to cut and package the meat and pick it up when it is ready.

Most processors charge a flat fee for slaughtering, then a per pound charge for cutting, wrapping and freezing.

Resell Opportunity

If you would like to support Oconto County youth but do not need the meat, another option for buyers is to resell their purchase, either privately or through public market channels. Steers and lambs for resale can be transported to Equity Sales Market in Bonduel Monday morning. The money still supports the youth, and the buyer receives a check for market price of the animal, less expenses.

*To all current and future buyers...
thank you for supporting
Oconto County youth!*



SALE OF CHAMPIONS



Sunday, August 20, 2017

12:00 Noon

**Oconto County Fairgrounds
Gillett, WI**

What is the Sale of Champions

The Oconto County Fair Sale of Champions is the culmination of animal production projects for Oconto County 4-H, FFA and Girl/Boy Scout members. Through these projects, youth learn how raise meat animals according to the demands of today's market while developing life skills which will help them become successful adults. The top exhibits are sold to reward youth for excelling in the efficient production of high quality animal products.

Local businesses, individuals, civic and other groups are invited and encouraged to attend and bid at this special sale. The Sale of Champions is an excellent opportunity to support an educational youth activity, and it is a program that every type of business can participate in.

Successful bidders receive a large buyer's ribbon, a photo, have their name displayed on the large Sale of Champions display through next year's fair, and are featured in the appreciation advertisement as well as the following year's fair supplement in the Bonus paper. They will also be invited to the Sale of Champions dinner the Wednesday evening following the fair. Some past buyers have created displays in their businesses which serve as excellent public relations tools long after the fair ends.

The goal of the sale is to generate bid prices that include a small premium over current market price as an incentive for youth to participate in animal projects. All proceeds from project sales, less a small commission to cover market project and sale expenses, go to the exhibitor.

Oconto County Fair

The Oconto County Fair takes place at Zippel Park in Gillett, Wisconsin every August. The dates for this year's fair are August 17 through 20, 2017. For more information about the Oconto County Fair, please call (920)846-2046. Questions in regards to youth agricultural education programs can be directed to UW-Extension Oconto County at (920) 834-6845.

Sale Participation is Easy

Participating in the Sale of Champions as a bidder is an opportunity to be part of one of the most exciting events at the fair.

Buyers are invited to a pre-sale reception at 11:30 a.m. Sunday at the fairgrounds. A variety of snacks representing the products of animals sold are served. At the reception, you can register as a bidder and receive information on the exhibitors selling, animal weights, and current market prices. County animal project committee members and fair board members will be available to answer questions concerning the sale.

The sale begins at 12 noon. Sales will be made by auction bidding. Large animals are sold by the pound. Small market animals and products are sold by the unit. At the completion of bidding on each item, the successful bidder will sign and be given a copy of the purchase confirmation. Payment for purchases at the sale can be made with the sale clerks immediately following the sale. Successful bidders also need to make arrangements for processing your purchases.

Animals to Be Sold

Exhibits that are sold in the Sale of Champions can vary from year to year, but typically the following animals are available for purchase:

- ◆ Champion and top ranked live beef steers, dairy steers, lambs, meat goats and market hogs
- ◆ Champion and top ranked ultrasound beef steers, dairy steers, lambs, meat goats and market hogs
- ◆ Champion pair of roaster chickens, pair of fryer chickens, market duck, market turkey, market goose
- ◆ Champion roaster meat rabbit, fryer meat rabbit, pen of three meat rabbits
- ◆ Cheese for top ranked animals of the dairy cattle show
- ◆ Goat milk products for top ranked animals of the dairy goat show
- ◆ Packages for top ranked exhibit from the horse and dog show