The 4-H Livestock Skill-a-thon contest will provide opportunities for youth enrolled in 4-H to gain and develop production livestock skills, and life skills, by engaging them in a pleasant, yet competitive environment which focuses on the range of their knowledge and comprehension of animal science and livestock management practices.

- The 2015 District 1 4-H Livestock Skillathon will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas
- 4-H Connect will open on September 28, 2015, and will close on October 19, 2015, at midnight. Counties must have entries certified by October 21, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. There will be no onsite registration. There will be no refunds.
- Entry fee will be $10.00 for each participant.
- For questions, comments, or concerns, please contact:
  JD Ragland – District 1 Livestock Skillathon Superintendent – (806) 468-5543, j-ragland@tamu.edu
  Shawnte Clawson – Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development
  (806) 677-5600, sfclawson@ag.tamu.edu
- Attached, you will find contest rules and guidelines, and other contest specifics.

Rules and Regulations
Teams: Each county is encouraged to enter unlimited individuals and teams. Teams consist of three or four members. In teams in which there are four members, all will compete; but the member receiving the lowest overall score will be automatically declared the alternate. The scores of the alternate will not be included in any of the team totals, but will be considered in making all individual awards. Teams consisting of three members will have no alternate, and all members’ scores will count in determining individual and team awards.
**Age Divisions**
Contestants must be currently enrolled 4-H members, and academically eligible. Ages will be determined as of August 31, 2015. Age divisions are:
- Juniors—minimum age 8 and in the third grade as of August 31, 2015, grades 3, 4 and 5
- Intermediates—grades 6, 7 and 8
- Seniors—maximum age 18 as of August 31, 2015, grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

**Awards**
Individual and team awards will be given in all age (Junior, Intermediate and Senior) divisions:
- Top 3 teams overall
- Top 10 individuals overall

**Study Guide**
a. An extensive study guide has been provided. This is meant to provide guidance in preparing your youth of the content of the livestock skillathon. However, it is not meant to be absolute content for the contest.
b. [http://www.geauga4h.org/skillathon.htm](http://www.geauga4h.org/skillathon.htm)
c. [http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/AGMANIA/FEEDID/INDEX.asp](http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agripedia/AGMANIA/FEEDID/INDEX.asp)
d. [http://www.sheepandgoat.com/#!online-quizzes/c9r1](http://www.sheepandgoat.com/#!online-quizzes/c9r1)
e. [http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds](http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds)

**Procedures**

A. **Livestock Equipment Identifications:**
   - 100 points – (25 items)
   - Identify the proper name and uses for pieces of equipment used in livestock production.
   - A list of equipment and potential uses will be provided.
   - The Nasco equipment online magazine is a good resource for pictures of equipment you may not have on hand.

B. **Livestock Breed Identification:**
   - 100 points – (25 animals)
   - Identify from photographs or pictures of livestock (beef, swine, sheep, and goat) breeds.
   - Contestant must also match the breed with the most appropriate description supplied for each breed.

C. **Retail meat cut identification:**
   - 50 points – (10 cuts)
   - Identify beef, lamb, and pork retail cuts from the National 4H Meat Judging Retail ID List.
   - Very basic retail cuts to be used in this contest

D. **Feedstuff Identification:**
   - 50 points – (10 samples)
   - Identify the proper name for livestock feeds and identify each corresponding nutrient group. Feed samples and lists of feed names and nutrient groups will be provided.

E. **Quality Assurance:**
   - 100 points – (10 questions)
   - Demonstrate how to read a medicine label, calculate withdrawal times, complete a treatment record, and make responsible management decisions regarding quality assurance.

F. **Quiz**
   - 90 points
   - Complete a (30 question) multiple choice quiz concerning the total livestock industry.
   - All questions will be derived from the sample questions in the study guide for the 2015 contest.
Below are additional classes or learning purposes and **not to count in the contest point total**. These classes will be set up if available so to demonstrate for a more direct comparison of the national contest set up at the NAILE, North American International Livestock Exposition, in Louisville, KY. These classes will only be used in the event of a needed tie breaker. These additional classes are not guaranteed to be available nor limited to this list. Additional classes will be added if available to align to the NAILE Contest classes.

G. **Animal Breeding Scenario and Exercise**
   - 100 points – (10 questions)
   - Evaluate a breeding/marketing animal scenario and make animal selection/marketing decisions based upon performance/visual data to rank breeding animals or market them for use within the situation.

H. **Wool Judging Class:**
   - 50 points
   - Rank a class of four similar fleeces of wool.
   - c. Answer 5 questions about the class.

I. **Meat Judging Class:**
   - 50 points
   - Rank a class of four similar retail cuts of meat.
   - Answer 5 questions about the class.
   - Class will be beef primal cuts or steaks.

J. **Hay Judging Class**
   - 50 points
   - Rank a class of four similar fleeces of wool.
   - Answer 5 questions about the classes