

# Animal Sciences Events, 2025

## Hippology

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The term "Hippology" comes from the Greek "hippo", meaning horse, and "ology", meaning "the study of". Participants will be able to demonstrate their experience and knowledge gained in horse judging, quiz bowl, speeches, and practical horse management. Phases of the contest include a written exam, identification of items shown on slides, placing and/or ID of feed tags or feedstuffs, judging, ID stations, and team problems.

State Contest April 5-6  
*-Any # of Senior teams, two Intermediate teams* Entry due March 26

## Horse Judging

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In Horse Judging, youth learn to evaluate a horse's form as it relates to function and compare it to the ideal as well as to other horses. The added benefit is that it gives youth the opportunity to sharpen their decision-making skills and their ability to defend those decisions orally.

Horse Judging School December 14, 2024  
*-Any number of bona fide 4-H/FFA youth* Entry due December 6  
Florida State Fair February 8  
*-One any age team, one Senior team* Entry due January 31  
State Contest April 5  
*-Two Senior teams* Entry due March 26

## Quiz Bowl

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The State 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl is a quiz contest made up of questions pertaining to horse topics. Pairs of four-person teams compete against each other responding to questions asked by a contest moderator. This contest offers horse club members the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and compete head-to-head with other teams.

State Contest *-One Senior team* June 21  
*-Int. division if at least 2 SR teams* Entry due June 13

## Demonstrations & Horse Public Speaking

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Presenting speeches and demonstrations to share knowledge with others is the heart of the 4-H Program. Any State-level Demonstration/Illustrated Talk or Public Speaking speech in the "Horse" category will be presented at the State Horse Events in Gainesville in June, separate from 4-H University. The State competition qualifies youth for Regional and National events.

State Contest June 21  
*-Entries are submitted with 4HU procedure* Entry due June 13  
Demonstrations – qualify County to District to State – all District "blue" qualify for State.  
Public Speaking – qualify County to State – County 1<sup>st</sup> place winners qualify for State.

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## Horse Shows

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Each year 4-H clubs across the state hold countless local and county horse shows. In the spring, each of the four Areas has a qualification show to determine who will be able to participate at the State show. Only the top percentage (determined annually) from each Area qualify to go to the Florida 4-H State Horse Show. The State show has up to 300 entrants. Of those, the 70 highest point-earning Seniors (& Intermediates competing as Seniors) qualify for the Regional Horse Show.

Area Shows – April & May – specific points needed to qualify to State  
State Show – July 10-12, FL State Fairgrounds, Tampa

## Hog and Ham

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Participants experience the total process of pork production from beginning to end. Youth select a feeder pig and grow it to harvesting weight, keeping records on feed amounts and costs, health care, expenses, weights, etc. They harvest the hog, process it into wholesale or retail cuts, cure the hams, and prepare bacon and sausage for smoking. To finish the program, they do a retail comparison project, complete a record book, and present a demonstration or illustrated talk.

\*Prerequisite Workshop\* February 25 (virtual)  
Harvesting week August 12-14

## Livestock Judging

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Livestock Evaluation includes educational activities related to the production and marketing of cattle, sheep, and swine. Along with the typical "placing four animals" classes, events include breeding cattle and swine selection classes, market hog evaluation, and feeder and fed cattle evaluation. Youth gain confidence in their decisions by defending them orally.

Livestock & Meats Evaluation Clinic January 25-26  
- Any number of bona fide 4-H/FFA youth, 11+  
Florida State Fair February 7  
-One any age team Entry due January 31  
State Contest April 12  
-One Senior team Entry due April 4

## Meats Judging

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Much of the information learned in Meats Judging is applicable to day-to-day life, even if the youth pursues a career outside of agriculture. Not only do youth evaluate and compare beef, pork, and lamb carcasses and their wholesale cuts, but also learn retail cut identification and factors affecting meat quality.

State Contest April 19  
-One Senior team, one Intermediate team Entry due April 9

## Poultry Judging

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As in Meats Judging, much of the information learned is applicable to day-to-day life. Youth compare production level of hens, grade carcasses, and learn retail cut identification. Youth will also grade eggs, including exterior quality, interior quality via candling, and broken out egg quality.

State Contest February 14  
-One Senior team, one Jr/Int team Entry due February 2