

## **DIVISION 6013.1 - 4-H COUNTRY HAM PROJECT**

Dr. Gregg Rentfrow, Consultant

Ham Check-in, Wednesday, August 19, 2026 (12:00pm – 4:00 pm) in Cloverville

Ham Speech Day, Thursday, August 20, 2026

- Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. in South Wing; presentations begin at 9:00 a.m.
  - Country Ham Judging begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Awards Presentation will begin at approximately 5 pm EST

Project entry must meet all the requirements for the class; otherwise, entry will be disqualified.

1. County Agents will register hams at Ham Check-in.
2. All participants are to report to the State Fair and Exposition Center in the South Wing Section for Ham Day Registration. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. EST. Registration times for each county will vary – the participants' county 4-H agent will provide them with the exact time that they can register.
3. See General Rules applying to all 4-H exhibitors and general rules applying to 4-H demonstrations and judging events. All participants must be registered electronically through the State Fair Entry Department by the deadline. A copy of the contract and registration for the hams should be sent to: Dr. Gregg Rentfrow, University of Kentucky, Animal Science Department, 205 Garrigus Bldg., Lexington, KY 40546-0215 by TBA.
4. There is no limit to the number of youth who may participate from a county.
5. All youth must exhibit one country ham at the Kentucky State Fair. Any youth disregarding this rule will forfeit the ham, entry fee, and all awards associated within the guidelines. All forfeited hams will go to the University of Kentucky Meat Program for distribution.
6. All youth must participate in a presentation on the appropriate topic. Presentations must be between 3 to 5 minutes in length at the State Contest. Junior (9-13 years of age), Senior (14 – 18 years of age).
7. A one-time penalty of two points will be subtracted from the speaker's total score for time errors (under/over time). Seniors who fail to give at least a 2-minute speech will forfeit their ham.
8. No visual aids will be used during presentation. Costumes and posters are considered visual aids.
9. The use of notes are optional. Points will not be added or subtracted for the use of notes unless the speaker uses them in a distracting manner.
10. Class champions in the Junior and Senior Division will be considered for Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in each level. Grand and Reserve Champions will be determined by the combination of the two highest scores from the 4-Hers Presentation (60%) and ham (40%) through a "Call Back" process.
11. There will not be any premiums for this division.

Class ages are 4-H age (NOT current age at time of State Fair):

### Junior Division

545	9 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
546	10 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
547	11 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
548	12 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
549	13 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked

### Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development

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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.



**Senior Division**

550	14 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
551	15 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked
552	16-18 years old	Smoked & Non-Smoked

Awards are sponsored by the Kentucky Ham Producers Association and the Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture.

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