

4-H Livestock Curriculum Committee Meeting  
November 20, 2003  
Boscawen

Present: Debby Robie, Denise Smith, Kate and Ted Sartell, Jolee Chase.

Agenda items:

ESE Shows review: None of the sheep people were involved in ESE except for Jolee. The program has stayed the same size for the last three years. Still working on trying to get more NH members to go. The show ran smoothly and everyone did well. The big issue at the meeting in October was the members who showed in short shirts that let their underwear and bare backs show. (Not a great look as the general public stopped at the show ring.) It is an issue that we are working on and hope that all of the New England 4-H shows will put in their policy books that the youth need to wear a white shirt with collar that is tucked into their pants. One suggestion by the committee is that all 4-H shows should have an exhibitor's meeting before the show begins to go over the rules so there would not be any surprises when it came time to do the fit and show or type classes. Also on clothing issues was that of youth not wearing appropriate foot wear at the fairs this year; again something that should be taken care of at an exhibitors meeting.

Denise reported on the Beef show at ESE. The members all did well but they need some work on their judging and skills classes. Prices for animals were good. At the October ESE meeting all states were given a beef animal science kit that will help the youth learn how to judge meat. Candy Carter has the other beef kit that can be used by any 4-H beef club that would like to use it.

We talked about members in the sheep program not having to qualify for the Big E. There was a great deal of discussion on this and all felt that the animal needs to have received a blue ribbon in its type class in order to go ESE. The extension person would be the one who would sign off so that the member could go. Not sure that this can even work as the date to send in entries to the ESE is before a number of fairs that NH members may show in anyways. Something we still need to work on.

This got the group talking about judges and ribbons. The group would like Lisa to mail out the judges list that we put together last year. Ted and others felt that it was time to look over the list and maybe drop some of the names. One big issue is that the committee feels that the judges are giving out too many blue ribbons. This is not a good practice and youth are not being told that their animals may not be up to breed standard or being fed right. The committee feels that we should look over the Guidelines for 4-H Animal Show Judges and make some changes. Also brought up was the issue of two shows that took place this year were the judges were related to youth who were showing animals. This too is something we should add to the Show Judges information and the superintendents packets is that Fairs bring in judges not related to any of the show persons.

Sheep Clinic plans are in the works. The dates are July 9-11, at the 4-H Youth Center in New Boston. The cost will be around \$50. Ted is working with Cheshire Fair and hopes to add a

couple of classes or programs to their 4-H sheep show that will be the next learning step to those who were involved in the clinic and youth who could not make that weekend.

We talked about Livestock Judging and I showed the group the new book from the National Source Book. We also talked about the workshop that Jeff Jorden did at the November Conference and how he is willing to work with a group of leader on a state livestock judging program. All are very interested in this. Carol and Jolee will be talking and working with Jeff to set up a meeting the first of the year.

All of the members thought that adding skill-a-thons to shows and having the state boxes was a great idea.

The other program we talked about was the State Market Lamb. Ted and Jolee will talk to Mark Johnson about adding more educational components to the booklet. The committee feels that the youth need to show their lamb in a fit and show class and try to show in more than one fair. They should have to show their record to one of the market lamb committee members at least once during the summer to show that they are keeping true records. Jolee and Ted will talk to Mark and look at updating the workbook. The committee also wants to have a weight listed as to what a lamb needs to weigh before sold in the auction. Carol told the group that the Sheep & Wool Growers Association is looking into buying a good scale that we can use to weigh the lambs at the Fair.

We also looked over the new Sheep Resource handbook from Ohio State. Hillsborough County is already using this as one of their reference books as well as the CCS sheep books. The committee thought it would be nice if each county had one of these books in their office. A real good deal for \$8.00. **Up to date news Carol called to order the book today and was told that the 2004 source book no longer carries the Sheep Resource book as the price has gone up. Lisa or Jolee will call Ohio and see if we can get the books directly from them and what the cost would be.**

The committee asked that when these minutes go out if Lisa could list the names of the people that are on the Livestock Committee and enclose the list of judges for the sheep and beef programs.

Recorder,

Jolee