



## ***Recommendations for enhanced protocols and procedures to promote continued wellness of exhibitors, guests and animals during the current COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic***

Georgia 4H, Georgia FFA and the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) encourage organizations in Georgia to provide safe and educational youth livestock exhibition opportunities. Recommendations based upon current guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC); the Georgia Department of Public Health (GA DPH); the University of Georgia (UGA); and the Governor's Office (Executive Orders) have been compiled to assist these organizations with the planning and execution of youth livestock exhibition events during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our collective goal is for livestock exhibition events to be held as safely as possible for both animal and public health.

Please remember that programming is fluid and could change at any moment. When advertising for shows/events, please be sure to include a statement concerning the option to cancel or postpone the event should additional requirements or circumstances warrant changes and additional information is needed for exhibitors. If organizer plans to postpone or cancel the event, please notify GDA Livestock/Poultry Office at (404) 656-3665 to allow GDA to update the special show/sale permit and inform staff.

We encourage the leadership of Georgia livestock exhibition events to use the following recommendations:

- If you have been sick or exposed to anyone with COVID-19, please do not attend the event;
- Review and observe CDC's recommendations when hosting a livestock show or event <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/animals/events-animal-activities.html> ;
- Review the local and county requirements and Governor's current executive orders <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders> ;
- Provide training to workers concerning social distancing, personal protective equipment usage and CDC, GA DPH, UGA guidelines and Governor's executive orders;
- Ensure that hand sanitation stations (washing, sanitizer) are set up and readily accessible;
- Have other supplies available such as extra masks, sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer;
- Host livestock shows outside if possible;
- If livestock facility buildings are used, please keep doors and windows open to ventilate;
- If fans are used, do not direct airflow across one person to the next – best for fans to be tilted to blow downward;
- Practice social distancing always - allocate 6-foot distancing for check in, weigh in, staging of classes, in the show ring and in the spectator stands
- Limit class size based on the square footage of the designated show ring to provide opportunities for social distancing;



- Items sold in a concession stand should be individually packaged. People working in the concession stand should always wear masks and gloves. Price items to limit the need for returning change;
- Sanitize the pens, concession stand area and show ring daily before and after the show <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>;
- Allocate appropriate space when stalling exhibitor's projects; Encourage exhibitors to keep their tack area near their stalls have their own tack space and not share with other families. Do not share meals in the tack area with other individuals that are not within the family unit;
- Face masks are required in buildings on UGA property and recommended at all other facilities when social distancing cannot be achieved;
- Offer a mask to the judge. If they plan to ask the youth questions (primarily during showmanship) encourage the judge to wear a mask. Encourage the judge to not shake the exhibitors' hands. Share with the exhibitors that there will be no handshaking with the judge or extended visiting with the judge throughout the day of judging;
- If you have someone handing out awards/taking placings, they should wear a mask and gloves while performing such duties;
- It is recommended that one person announce on a microphone the entire day – do not share. Make sure to wipe down the microphone before and afterwards. If possible, provide the judge with a separate microphone. Have the announcer share throughout the day the request for social distancing and handwashing;
- Sanitize tables and chairs used before and afterwards;
- If you have a holding area and allow adults to escort youth in that holding area, limit one adult with each child/animal. Once the exhibitor/animal enters the ring, clear the area of adults to the seating area;
- Maximize the ring. This may mean that you present your class differently to allow seating/viewing from both sides of the ring;
- If livestock opportunity is being hosted by **Georgia 4-H, UGA Extension**:
  - Be in alignment with the current guidance that the UGA Extension/4-H is following during the event;
  - Refer to the "4-H Tools to Support Day Programming" (Staff Only, 2020 COVID-19 Response-Tools to Support 4-H Day Programming in County Extension Offices) and subsequent information resulting from any changes to the Governor's Executive Order 06.11.20.01 Empowering a Healthy Georgia;
- If the event is being held at a county facility:
  - Extension staff must also be in alignment with the local and county's guidance;
  - Post provided signage for UGA Extension and/or local Board of Education concerning safety and health guidelines.

We realize that there are quite a few items listed above and it will take additional thought and manpower to offer a livestock show/event during the COVID-19 response. We hope the above information will help organizations be successful and transparent to their exhibitors regarding the additional effort that is taking place to ensure a safe environment for both exhibitors and animals during their youth livestock exhibition show.