

Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program Guidebook

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4-H Animal Ownership Dates

The following table identifies the latest date that ownership must be established for animals to be used in 4-H animal science project exhibitions. Some counties may establish earlier ownership deadlines.

For the purposes of 4-H project exhibitions, an animal must be owned or leased by a single 4-H member. The exception to this is with performance animals, including horses, camelids, and dogs, which may be leased by up to two 4-H members as outlined in the Maryland 4-H Performance Animal Lease Guidelines.

Animals that are to be leased for the purpose of 4-H project work must be identified on the Maryland 4-H Animal Lease Guidelines and submitted to the County 4-H Office by June 1st. If a 4-Her exhibits a leased animal at a Spring Show, the registration form must be completed and turned in to the County/City 4-H Office by May 1st. A copy of the completed Lease Documents will be sent to the State 4-H Office by the County/City 4-H office to be placed on file. Some counties may establish earlier deadlines.

Specie – Animal	Ownership Date
ALPACAS	June 1
BEEF – Breeding Animals	July 1
BEEF – Steers	January 1
CAVIES	June 1
DAIRY – Breeding Animals	July 1
DAIRY STEERS – Market	January 1
DAIRY STEERS – Feeder	June 1
DOGS	June 1
GOATS – Dairy	July 1
GOATS – Market Goats	June 1
GOATS – Pygmy	June 1
HORSES	June 1
POULTRY – Breeding Birds	June 1
POULTRY – Market Birds	Determined by County/Event Rules
RABBITS – Breeding Animals	June 1
RABBITS - Market	Determined by County/Event Rules
SHEEP – Breeding Animals	July 1
SHEEP – Market Lambs	June 1
SWINE – Breeding Animals	July 1
SWINE – Market Hogs	June 1