



Recent County Event: Favorite Foods Day

Favorite Foods Day was held January 7, 2023 in Weaverville.

*Great job to all the participants who made dishes, centerpieces, and drawings!
Thank you Junction City 4-H & Trinity Alps 4-H for hosting!*



Special report on the day from Junction City 4-H member Avalon Koeller:

Hello, my name is Avalon Koeller. I attended Favorite Foods Day in Weaverville, California. The theme for this year's event was "Movie Match-up". There were close to 15 participants showing food. For the book cover contest there were 4 entries. Two entries were used as the cover, but all the entries were displayed at the event.

Trinity Alps and Junction City co-hosted the event. I was the only participant from Junction City 4-H. I made soft pretzels. It was a fun day and I hope to do it again next year.

Important Dates

- March 15
State 4-H Shooting Sports Match Registration Due
- March 15
Beekeeping Mini Grant Application Due
- March 17
State 4-H Hybrid Archery Tournament Registration Due
- March 31
AgDiscovery Summer Camp Application Due
- May 1
Trinity 4-H Livestock Market Agreement Due

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Note from Community Educator Erin Paradis

We have a lot of fun and exciting events coming up so be sure to join us in all of the fun. If you have any questions about the upcoming events, please email ecparadis@ucanr.edu or call 530-224-4900. Don't forget send us an article and pictures of the events you attend.

Did you know everyone is welcome to attend the 4-H council meetings, including youth members? Our next council meeting is **Monday, April 10th** at the Hayfork 4-H office. If you would like to add an item to the agenda, please send me an email. A copy of past agendas and minutes can be found online.

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Upcoming Trinity County 4-H Events

Come participate in these fun events!



Presentation Day

Saturday, March 11, 2023, 10:30 AM sign-in *(Please note change of date)*

Van Duzen School, Mad River

Host: Southern Trinity 4-H

Review the [UC 4-H Presentation Manual & Guidelines](#)

Quiz Bowl & Textile Day

Saturday, April 1, 2023, 9:30 AM sign-in

Host: Junction City 4-H

Small Animal Field Day

Saturday, April 22, 2023, 10:00 AM sign-in

Trinity County Fairgrounds, Hayfork

Avian judging, Rabbit judging, and Goat Show

Hosts: Hayfork Timberjacks 4-H & Southern Trinity 4-H

2023 Trinity County Fair

Thursday, July 13 - Sunday, July 16, 2023

Trinity County Fairgrounds, Hayfork

Get ready for this year's county fair "Fair Season in the Best Season"!



2023 Exhibitor's Premium Book & 2023 Trinity County Fair entry form available soon at [Trinity County Fair](#)

Trinity 4-H Livestock Market Agreement 2023

Review and sign the [Trinity 4-H Livestock Market Agreement 2023](#). Form must be signed by the youth member, parent, and market animal project leader. Mail completed form to:

Trinity 4-H, PO Box 490, Hayfork CA 96041

Form due May 1, 2023

Trinity 4-H Livestock Market Rules 4H26 2023

Market rules have been updated for 2023. Review the [Trinity 4-H Livestock Market Rules 4H26 2023](#).

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

Trinity County Fair requires all Junior Livestock exhibitors to complete YQCA training. This can be done online or in-person, and will cover food safety, animal well-being, and character development.

A certificate of completion for the training must accompany the Trinity County Fair entry form.

Register for [YQCA training](#). *(Please note YQCA has a new website as of January 2023)*



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2023 State 4-H Fashion Revue

Saturday, May 27, 2023
UC Davis, Wellman Hall

Fashion Revue focuses on selecting, constructing, accessorizing, and/or modeling clothing and textile projects. Junior, intermediate, and senior 4-H members can showcase entries in seven different categories for the 2023 State Fashion Revue:

- * Traditional
- * Consumer Science Purchased (\$50.00 limit)
- * Make It With Wool
- * Costume Challenge
- * Softie Challenge
- * Leather Creations
- * Quilts

Review the [requirements for 2023 State 4-H Fashion Revue](#) and [categories for 2023 State 4-H Fashion Revue](#)

Registration will open in the Spring



2023 California 4-H State Field Day

Saturday, May 27, 2023
UC Davis, Wellman Hall & Hart Hall

State Field Day will feature various competitions along with a day of picnicking and family fun.

There are many competitions to participate in:

- ⇒ State Presentation Day
- ⇒ State Fashion Revue
- ⇒ STEM Shark Tank
- ⇒ VEX IQ Robot Competition & Exhibition
- ⇒ State Film Festival
- ⇒ Plus more

One new contest will be added that will qualify top participants to attend a national event.

Learn more about [2023 California 4-H State Field Day](#)

Review [specific competition descriptions & rules](#) (Tip: hover your webpage pointer over the "Competitions" title at the top of the page for the drop-down box to appear)

Registration will open in the Spring



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2023 State 4-H Hybrid Archery Tournament



Sunday, May 28, 2023; River Oaks Firearms Training Center, Winton, Merced County
Tuesday, May 30, 2023; Postal targets due

This tournament offers both in-person and postal match options.
Registration due March 17, 2023

Join hosts Merced County 4-H & River Oaks Range for the 2nd annual State 4-H Hybrid Archery Tournament!

Divisions include Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and Leader. Categories include:

- ⇒ Long Bow without sights
- ⇒ Recurve without sights
- ⇒ Recurve with sights
- ⇒ Compound without sights
- ⇒ Compound with sights

Review [Tournament Rules & Information](#)

Register for [2023 State 4-H Hybrid Archery Tournament](#)

2023 State 4-H Shooting Sports Match



Monday, June 12, 2023; Postal targets due

This tournament is a postal match.
Registration due March 15, 2023

It's time to sharpen up your shooting skills and start preparing for the 39th annual State 4-H Shooting Sports Match, hosted by Siskiyou County 4-H Council!

Divisions include Junior, Intermediate, Senior, and Leader. Categories include:

- ⇒ Air Rifle
- ⇒ Sporter Air Rifle
- ⇒ .22 Rifle Open Sights
- ⇒ .22 Rifle Iron Peep
- ⇒ .22 Rifle Telescope Sights
- ⇒ .22 Competition Rifle
- ⇒ .22 Hand Gun
- ⇒ American Skeet
- ⇒ American Trap

Review rules & **Register** for [2023 State 4-H Shooting Sports Match](#)

Article on Trinity County Fair Market Animals

Trinity County Fair & Swine Product Evaluation

Larry C Forero, UCCE Livestock Advisor for Shasta & Trinity Counties

This is the second of four articles associated with market animal carcasses. Livestock market animal projects are an important component of the Trinity County 4-H Program. The Trinity County Fair Junior Livestock Committee obtains carcass data on market animals exhibited and sold at Trinity County Fair. The process of evaluating carcasses is described in this article.

Federal Meat Inspection

First and foremost all hogs are processed at a USDA Inspected Facility (for the 2022 Fair: Olson Meat Company in Orland). USDA Inspection is mandated on all meat entering the retail, wholesale, restaurant and institutional trades. USDA Federal Meat inspectors are part of the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS). The intent of their inspection is to safeguard the consumers' health by eliminating unfit meat from consumer channels. This inspection ensures sanitary harvest and processing facilities along with the animal's good health. Federal veterinarians conduct necessary inspections (live, carcass, and visceral). (Nuemann, A. L. & Lusby, K. (1977). *Beef Cattle Production*. Wiley.)

Federal Meat Grading

Determination of the meat product's quality and yield grade is an optional service paid for by the processor. USDA Meat Grading personnel use a uniform, standardized data collection method to determine the meat carcass attributes.

Carcass Data

The Trinity County Fair Junior Livestock Committee collects carcass data using ultrasound technology as well as physical examinations. The data collected is used to determine hog carcass yield. Backfat is measured at the last rib and includes the skin. Muscle score is determined by subjectively looking at the carcass and assigning a score (3=thick, superior; 2=average; 1=thin). Carcass yield is dependent upon backfat thickness and muscle score.

Dressing percent is calculated by dividing live weight by hot carcass weight then multiplying by 100. For example: live weight=248 lbs; hot carcass weight=173 lbs; dressing percent= $(173/248)*100=69.8\%$. It is interesting to note that hog dressing percentages are typically much higher than other meat species.

Quality Grade

Quality grade is an estimate of the quality of eating experience a consumer should expect from the meat. USDA grades for pork reflect only two levels: Acceptable Grade and Utility Grade. Fresh pork sold in supermarkets can only be Acceptable Grade. It should have a high proportion of lean meat to fat and bone.

The determination of quality grade is based on two factors: firmness and marbling. Firmness is measured on a scale of 1 (very soft) to 5 (very firm). Marbling is measured on a scale of 1 (practically no marbling) to 10 (abundant marbling). Both scales were developed by the National Pork Board. Fresh pork for the US market should have a firmness score of 3 and a marbling score of 2-3.

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Article, cont

Carcass Condition

How hogs are managed when alive and at processing impact meat quality and the eating experience of the consumer. As an exhibitor you can reduce the incidence of the following two problems by assuring animals are managed properly.

I. PSE (Pale, Soft, Exudative) Meat

Pale, soft, exudative (PSE) meat is the result of rapid postmortem pH decline while the muscle temperature is too high. This combination of low pH and high temperature adversely affects muscle proteins, reducing their ability to hold water. It is characterized by an abnormal color, consistency, and water holding capacity, making the meat dry and unattractive to consumers. PSE occurs when severe or rough handling or overuse and/or improper use of electric prods can cause an increase in animal stress.

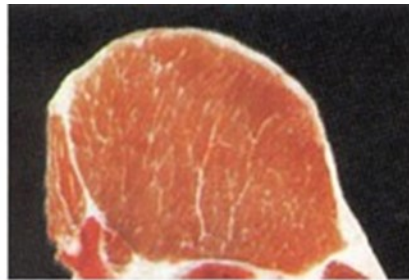
II. DFD (Dark, Firm, Dry) Meat

Dark, firm, dry (DFD) meat is the result of high pH and low muscle glycogen after slaughter. High pH causes the meat to hold water and gives it a dry, sticky texture. DFD occurs from animal stress and exhaustion.



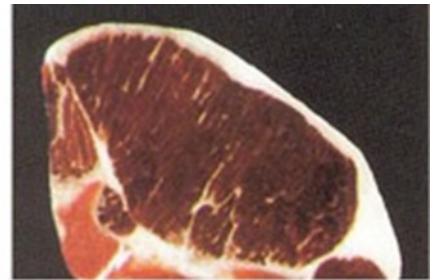
PSE

A rapid drop in meat pH while meat temperature is still high usually causing a breakdown of muscle protein and the meat becoming very pale with pronounced acidity (pH values of 5.4–5.6 immediately after slaughter) and poor flavor. This type of meat is difficult to use or cannot be used at all by butchers or meat processors and is wasted in extreme cases.



Normal

Muscle glycogen is not depleted prior to slaughter and a slow drop in pH occurs postmortem as glycogen is metabolized into lactic acid. The pH eventually drops 6.0–6.2 (depending upon the meat species) which is the optimal range for water binding.



DFD

The muscle glycogen has been used up during the preslaughter period, thus after slaughter, there is little lactic acid production, which results in DFD meat. This meat is of inferior quality as the less pronounced taste and the dark colour is less acceptable to the consumer and has a shorter shelf life due to the abnormally high pH-value of the meat (6.4–6.8).

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2022 Trinity County Fair

Hogs exhibited at the 2022 Trinity County Fair were expected to weigh a minimum of 210 lbs. To qualify for carcass of merit, backfat must have measured between 0.6 to 1.1 inches and ribeye area must have been a minimum of 6.0 square inches adjusted to 250 lbs. Carcasses were then ranked on percent lean with a minimum of 32% required. (Ribeye area was calculated using standard formulas, and the minimum area was set when carcass data was collected using ultrasound.)

How does carcass weight and backfat impact carcass value?

Backfat is simple: hogs must have “enough” but not “too much” (recall the 0.6 to 1.1 inches requirement). Kathleen Shircliff, author of *Pork Evaluation*, offers the following pricing grid as an example to show the relative importance of carcass weight and backfat to establish price (note-not current prices). The trend on backfat is clear; the price per pound is higher if hogs meet the minimum backfat threshold. With carcass weight, the trend is not as clear and could be a function of the desire of a particular packer.

		Backfat (inches)		
		1.00-1.09	0.80-0.99	0.65—0.79
Hot Carcass Weight (lbs)	212.77	\$0.5009/lb	\$0.5201/lb	\$0.5387/lb
	213.34	\$0.5138/lb	\$0.5329/lb	\$0.5514/lb
	214.94	\$0.5038/lb	\$0.5235/lb	\$0.5425/lb

Hog carcasses must be of a minimum size for plant efficiency. USDA estimated the average slaughter weight at 289 lbs in late February 2023. Using the US average dressing percent of 72%, carcass weight is calculated at 208 lbs. One article from Canada suggests a target carcass weight of 212 lbs, with anything under 170 lbs being severely discounted in the market place.

Hogs exhibited at the 2022 Trinity County Fair averaged 258 lbs at weigh-in and had an average hot carcass weight of 182 lbs with an average backfat measurement of 0.94 inches (recall that hogs were likely processed almost a week after weigh-in). While there was some variation in the over 130 hogs shipped, as a group they were well within industry specifications.

AgDiscovery Summer Camp 2023

Sunday, June 4 - Wednesday, June 14, 2023
 California State University, Fresno

Application due March 31, 2023

AgDiscovery is a free summer outreach program offered by USDA to help teenagers explore career opportunities in a broad range of agricultural sciences: animal and veterinary services, plant health and production, food safety and processing, and the overarching business skills needed to move agriculture from farm to fork. You will be introduced to the university’s 1,000-acre diversified farm and food processing facilities before being immersed in real-world experiences.



Learn more & Register for [AgDiscovery Summer Camp 2023](#)

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Enrollment System Change for 2023-2024



Announcement from the State 4-H Office

The California 4-H Youth Development Program is increasing the focus of online system security, reducing our risk of security breaches and cyber-attacks. We are pleased to announce we have successfully identified a vendor that meets our current security standards.

As such, this program year (2022-2023) will be the last year we will be using the 4-HOnline system. Going forward into the 2023-2024 program year, we will be using ZSuite as our new enrollment system.

To complete this transition, family access to 4-HOnline 2.0 will be turned off on June 23, 2023 at 12 PM. Families and volunteers will no longer be able to login to the enrollment system. Families are encouraged to complete enrollments for the 2022-2023 program year prior to June 23, 2023. Families are also encouraged to delay re-enrollment for the 2023-2024 program year until the new system is open on August 15, 2023. If enrollment or re-enrollment is necessary during the interim period, your county staff will work with you to complete the enrollment process.

Beekeeping Mini Grant



Application due March 15, 2023, 11:59 PM

Four mini grants of \$300 each will be awarded to four 4-H adult volunteers leading a beekeeping project in any county. Funds must be used to purchase beekeeping equipment, supplies and curriculum. Preference will be given to those wishing to purchase one bee box, one beehive colony and related start-up supplies to manage a hive.

The equipment is the property of the University of California. It must be held and used in the 4-H unit that is hosting the project. The 4-H unit can be a club, camp, afterschool, in-school or VMO sponsored project. Boxes may be stored at the project leader's home, on a 4-H farm or property, or at a 4-H member's home who is enrolled in the project.

Review the [Beekeeping Mini Grant Requirements](#)

Submit your [Beekeeping Mini Grant Application](#)

Trinity County Support Staff



Learn about sustainable, renewable agriculture. The practices support healthy ecosystems for agriculture, benefitting biodiversity, increasing productivity, and producing healthier, higher quality food crops and meats.

Learn about these practices on [UC ANR Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program's](#) website.



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[@California4H](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCa4h)

Tag us in your posts
so we can share your
posts on the state sites

Recent County Event: Valentines for Veterans

Southern Trinity 4-H members recently made Valentine's Day cards for Veterans.
Beautiful cards and nice smiles, everyone!

