Highlands County Junior Livestock Show
Large Animal Record Book
Rev. 7/2026

Exhibitor Name:

____

FFA Chapter/4-H Club: ______________________

Exhibitor Age as of 9/1/2026: ___________

TO BE COMPLETED BY HCJLC ONLY:

___Junior (8-11) ___Intermediate (12-14) ___Senior (15+)

Animal (Check one):

- ☐ **MARKET STEER**
- ☐ **HEIFER**
- ☐ **MARKET SWINE**
- ☐ **MEAT GOAT**

General Record Book Guidelines:

1. **Records reported in this 2026-27 Project Record Book should begin with the purchase date through the HC Fair weigh-in date specific to your animal type:**
   - Steer/Heifer HC Fair weigh-in date: February 7, 2027
   - Swine HC Fair weigh-in date: February 6, 2027
   - Goat HC Fair weigh-in date: February 5, 2027
   - Record books are DUE January 25, 2027, at the Fair Orientation Meeting. You will estimate the final weight of your animal, expected project activities, feed and non-feed expenses, health activities, etc. between 1/25 and the HC Fair weigh in date for your animal and include this information in your record book.
2. Review the record book to understand the records you need to keep throughout the "project year". Complete ALL sections; double-check your math calculations. Be sure to add dollar signs and unit labels as needed. Use complete sentences, proper grammar, and spelling.
3. This record book is not a scrapbook; it is an official record of your project. Do not put your record book in a folder, binder, etc. If you need additional space in any section of this record book, the page can be copied and added to that section. **Staple the record book in the top left corner.**
4. **Each section of the Record Book must be COMPLETED and turned at the Fair Orientation meeting. Failure to do so may result in a fine and disqualify you to show your animal as stated in the rule book. Determination will be made by the HC Jr. Livestock Committee.**

THE PURPOSE OF THE HC JR. LIVESTOCK YOUTH ANIMAL PROJECT IS:

1. To acquire an understanding of animal production by preparing for, purchasing, caring for, and keeping accurate records on an animal.
2. To be able to identify the types and grades of animals and employ efficient methods of marketing.
3. To understand the business aspects and economics of purchasing animals, feeds, facilities, and equipment for an animal project.
4. To develop integrity, sportsmanship, and cooperation.
5. To develop leadership abilities, build character and assume citizenship responsibilities.

I hereby certify that as the exhibitor of this project, I have personally been responsible for the care of this animal, have personally kept records on this project, and have personally completed this record book.

____________________________ ____________________

Exhibitor Signature Date

I certify that our son/daughter has completed this project and COMPLETED all sections of this record book and will comply with all the rules and regulations of this fair.

____________________________ ____________________

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

FOOD SAFETY STATEMENT

THIS IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THE PRESENCE OF ANY DRUG, ANTIBIOTIC OR BIOLOGICAL RESIDUE IN MY MARKET ANIMAL AT SLAUGHTER WILL RESULT IN THE CONDEMNATION OF THE CARCASS AND FORFEITURE OF ALL SALE PROCEEDS AND PREMIUMS.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ANY DRUG, ANTIBIOTIC OR BIOLOGICAL RESIDUE WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED BY MYSELF, OR ANY OTHER PERSON, WAS DONE SO IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANUFACTURERS' LABEL REQUIREMENTS **OR AS PRESCRIBED BY A VETERINARIAN.**

____________________________ ____________________

Exhibitor Signature Date

____________________________ ____________________

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Project Activity Records

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

This is a record of the activities for the 2026-2027 project year. This would include mandatory ID tagging, days you changed feed type, health related activities, days you weighed the animal, attended, and participated in clinics or prospect shows, grooming, marketing, etc.

It is expected that activities would be recorded weekly at a minimum.

Date	Description of Activity

Project Activity Records – continued

Additional pages may be copied and added if you run out of space.

Date	Description of Activity

DEPRECIABLE PROJECT INVENTORY INSTRUCTIONS

Depreciable project inventory assets are items that you will keep past the end of this project (examples include clippers, blowers, chutes, tools, tack, feed cans, etc.). In the Depreciable Project Inventory table (on Page 6) you will list all existing equipment/assets you had at the beginning of this project year. After listing existing inventory, you should also list those depreciable assets that you purchased this year. **DO NOT** list expendable items (examples include shampoo, grooming spray, etc.) Items that are expendable (or "used up") during a project year are listed in the Non-Feed Expenses section on page 7.

Asset Description – Describe the item.
Project Year Acquired - List the year you obtained this item.
Column A: Original Purchase Cost or Value – List the cost of the item when you obtained it. If it was donated to you or a gift, estimate a beginning value for the item when you received it. On items owned from previous years, this value remains the same – look in your previous record books.
Column B: Value at Beginning of this Project Year- If purchased in this project year, this equals the original purchase cost or value (Column A). On items owned from previous project years, this should be the value from last year's ending inventory (the item's value in column D in last year's record book). See example in the table below.
Column C: Annual Depreciation of 10% - This will be 10% of the **original** purchase cost for the item. (Column C = Column A X 0.10) Depreciation is the loss in value of your assets over the project year and is an expense. This is a basic economic method to spread out the cost of an item over its useful life.
Column D: Value at the End of this Project Year - This is equal to the value at the beginning of the project year minus the annual depreciation. (Column D = Column B – Column C)

EXAMPLE TABLE FOR A 2026-27 Project Year Record Book (Note: you will have more items in your list):

Asset Description	Project Year Acquired	**Column A:** Original PurchaseCost or Value	**Column B:** Value at the Beginning of **this** Project year	**Column C:** Annual Depreciation = 10% of Column A	**Column D:** Value at the End of **this** project year **(B minus C)**
Lead Rope	*2025* *Purchased the rope in 2025*	*$15.00* *The rope cost $15 in 2025*	*$13.50* *Equals value in Column D of your 2025-26 Record Book*	*$1.50* *$15.00*0.10 = $1.50*	*$12.00* *$13.50 - $1.50 = $12.00*
In the line above the following calculations would have happened over time: *2025 $15.00 (Column B) – $1.50 (Column C) = $13.50 (Column D Value at end of 2025-2026 Project Year)* *The Lead Rope was acquired for $15 in 2025. The annual depreciation is $1.50* *2025-26 $13.50 - $1.50 = $12.00 (Column D Value at end of 2026-27 Project Year)* *Note the depreciation amount (Column C) DOES NOT change. It is always 10% of the **original** purchase cost.*					
Feed Bucket	*2026* *Purchased the bucket this fair year.*	*$20.00* *The bucket cost $20*	*$20.00* *Same as Column A because it was purchased this year.*	*$2.00* *$20.00*0.10 = $2.00*	*$18.00* *$20.00 – 2.00 = $18.00* *Value at end of 2026-27 Project Year*
Total Depreciation Expense of all assets = Sum of Column C:				**$3.50**	
Total Value of Project Assets at End of Year = Sum of Column D: *This value would be utilized for the balance sheet of a business which reports assets and liabilities.*					**$30.00**
In your table on page 6, you are not expected to write out the calculations or explanations shown in *italics* above.					

DEPRECIABLE PROJECT INVENTORY TABLE

Asset Description	Project Year Acquired	**Column A:** Original Purchase Cost or Value	**Column B:** Value at the Beginning of **this** Project year	**Column C:** Annual Depreciation **10% of Column A**	**Column D:** Value at the End of **this** project year **(B minus C)**
Total Depreciation of all Project Assets = Sum of Column C *Enter this value in Line 7 page 18*					
Total Value of Project Assets at End of Year = Sum of Column D:					

ANIMAL EXPENSE

List the purchase price you paid for your animal here.

Purchase Date	Breed	Purchased From (Seller Name)	Purchase Cost of Animal
			Enter this value in Line 8 on page 18

NON-FEED EXPENSES

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

List expenses for items that you will not have at the end of the project. This includes veterinary expenses, barn fees, prospect show entry fees and other expendable items such as shampoo, bedding, marketing costs, pest control, etc. **Remember:** Depreciable Project Inventory items are **not** listed here. The cost of your animal is **not** listed here. Feed and hay are **not** listed here.

Date	Description	Paid To	Total Cost
		Total Non-Feed Expenses: *Enter this value in Line 9 page 18*	

FEED EXPENSES

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

List all feed and hay expenses on these pages (list each feed purchase separately). List all weights of feed including weight of hay.

Date	Description	Paid To	Pounds	Cost
		Page 8 Subtotal - Pounds of Feed:		
			Page 8 Subtotal - Feed Cost:	

FEED EXPENSES (continued)

Date	Description	Paid To	Pounds	Cost
		Page 9 Subtotal - Pounds of Feed:		
			Page 9 Subtotal - Feed Cost:	

FEED EXPENSES (continued)

Date	Description	Paid To	Pounds	Cost
		Page 10 Subtotal - Pounds of Feed:		
			Page 10 Subtotal - Feed Cost:	

Calculate the Total Pounds of Feed and Total Feed Costs below:

Subtotal Pounds of Feed (Page 8):	
Subtotal Pounds of Feed (Page 9):	+
Subtotal Pounds of Feed (Page 10):	+
Total Pounds of Feed: *Enter this value in Line 3 on page 18*	
Subtotal Feed Cost (Page 8):	
Subtotal Feed Cost (Page 9):	+
Subtotal Feed Cost (Page 10):	+
Total Feed Cost: *Enter this value in Line 4 and 10 on page 18*	

PRELIMINARY INCOME RECORDS

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

OTHER INCOME

Record other income earned with this project's animal such as prospect show premiums. If you have no other income from this project **prior to check in** at the HC Jr. Livestock Show, **then enter zero.**

Date	Description	Total
	Total Other Income (if none, enter zero): *Enter this value on Line 5 on page 18*	

ADD-ONS

Record here any money given to you to support your project from a sponsor. If you have no add-on income for this project **prior to check in** at the HC Jr. Livestock Show, **then enter zero.** (Do not forget to send a thank you note to your sponsors.)

Date	Sponsor's Name	Total
	Total Add-On Income (if none, enter zero): *Enter this value on Line 6 on page 18*	

WEIGHT RECORDS

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

Keep track of the weight records of your animal here. Weight records assist in determining feed needs, feed conversion efficiency and average daily gain of your animal and can be an indicator of health. Therefore, it is expected that weights are recorded THROUGHOUT the project year (not just Beginning and Ending). **If you do not have access to scales, use a tape measure and weight estimation formulas.**

"Beginning Weight" is the weight of your animal on the date you obtained your animal.
ESTIMATED Final Weight: ESTIMATE the weight you expect your animal to be at the HC Junior Livestock Show Weigh In date (see p. 1). TURN IN RECORD BOOK AT FAIR ORIENTATION MEETING.
Calculate the Pounds Gained since last weigh in by subtracting the two weights.
Calculate the Number of days since last weigh in by counting the days between the days you weigh.
Average Daily Gain = Pounds gained since last weighing divided by the number of days since last weighing**.**

Calculations should be made for all weights recorded.

Date	**Weight**	**Column A: Pounds gained since last weighing**	**Column B: Number of days since last weighing**	**Average Daily Gain*** (Column A ÷ Column B)
Purchase Date: *1*	*Beginning Weight:* *a*			
2	*b*	*b-a*	*# of days between 1 & 2:*	
3	*c*	*c-b*	*# of days between 2 & 3:*	
4	*d*	*d-c*	*# of days between 3 & 4:*	
5	*e*	*e-d*	*# of days between 4 & 5:*	
6	*f*	*f-e*	*# of days between 5 & 6:*	
Date of Fair Weigh-In: *7*	*ESTIMATED Final Weight:* *g*	*g-f*	*# of days between 6 & 7:*	

Overall Project Weight Calculations	
Total Weight Gain = Estimated Final Weight – Beginning Weight (*g-a*):	*Enter this value in Line 1 on page 18*
Total Number of Days on Feed from Purchase Date (*1*) to Final Weigh-In Date (*7*):	*Enter this value in Line 2 on page 18*

HEALTH RECORDS

Begin with the date you obtained your animal through Fair Weigh-In Date (see p. 1)

Record all health-related activities (initial ID Day tagging, dewormer, vaccinations, description of vet services, etc.) here. Include what you used, how much you used, and what you used it for. Include well-animal care such as health certificate inspections. Fill in all applicable information. *If more space is needed, copy this page, and include it as page 13A in record book.*

Date	Description	Product Used	Dosage	Withdrawal Time

☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOU ARE RETAINING YOUR HEIFER OR GOAT AND PROCEED TO PAGE 17 (DO NOT COMPLETE PAGE 14-16).**

IF YOU ARE NOT RETAINING YOUR LARGE ANIMAL COMPLETE PAGE 14-16.

MARKETING PLAN FOR ANIMALS BEING SOLD

This project will help you understand basic economic principles such as supply and demand, available resources, marketing and profit and loss. A marketing plan is important to successfully sell your animal at the livestock auction. You cannot simply show up at the fair and expect buyers to want your animal. The profitability of your project is dependent on your marketing efforts. Utilize the pages 14-16 to gather necessary information, consider potential buyers, and prepare a buyer's letter.

Buyer Letter Tips:

- Know who you are writing to - do not send a form letter. Your letter should be properly addressed with name, title, and correct address. If they are a previous buyer, thank them for their participation and support.
- Make your letter personal and consider including a picture. Include information about yourself, your club or chapter activities and your project.
- Provide information: invite the buyer to your show and the auction, tell them the date, time, and location. Provide information on how to participate in the auction. Provide the link below for buyer's registration.
- Never make demands or ask for add-ons. Be gracious and appreciative of their time and support.
- Use proper letter formatting including your return address, date, proper greeting, and closing, etc. **Proofread** your letter for grammar and spelling and sign your letter.

ENTER information that you should include in your letter below:

Buyer Registration:

New buyers can register at https://www.hcfair.net/jrl/jrl-buyer-reg/ Buyers who were registered last year do not need to register again.

Location: The HC Jr. Livestock Shows and Auction are held at the Livestock Arena at the Highlands County Fairgrounds.

Look in the current HC Fair Junior Livestock Show Rulebook for the following information:

Date and Time of your Livestock Show: ______________________________

Date and Time of Livestock Auction: ________________________________

On Page 15, record potential Buyer's contact information.

On Page 16, include a sample copy of your Buyer's Letter.

BUYER CONTACT LIST: You can make a copy of this page to record more potential buyers.

Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Contact Name:	**Company:**
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	

BUYER'S LETTER: Attach a copy of one of your Buyer's Letters on this page OR replace this page with a copy of your Buyer's letter.

RETAINED LARGE ANIMAL REPORT

What type of animal are you retaining – Meat Goat or Heifer?

____

What are your plans for the animal after the HC Jr. Livestock Show? Describe plans for a two-year project or inclusion in a herd, for example.

What was the breed composition for your animal and why did you choose that type?

What goals did you set for this project, and did you reach them? If not, why?

PROJECT SUMMARY CALCULATIONS

The records you have collected throughout your project are useful to evaluate the production management and basic economics of your animal project. These results are useful in evaluating production methods that you would continue or that may be improved in future projects. The Break-Even Price is the minimum price your animal can sell for to cover your costs. This information is useful in determining marketing strategies, improving future productivity and profitability. For those retaining their animal, this information is useful in evaluating the investment in your herd. **Be sure to check your calculations and show units.**

GAIN CALCULATIONS	
Total Weight Gain (from 12)	*1*
Total Number of Days on Feed (from Page 12)	*2*
Final Average Daily Gain (*Line 1 divided by Line 2*):	
FEED CALCULATIONS	
Total Pounds of Feed (from Page 10)	*3*
Total Feed Cost (from Page 10)	*4*
AVERAGE FEED CONVERSION RATIO **Total Pounds of Feed per Total Weight Gain** (*Line 3 divided by Line 1*)	
AVERAGE COST OF GAIN **Total Cost of Feed per Total Weight Gain** (*Line 4 divided by Line 1*):	

PRELIMINARY INCOME (may be zero):	
Other Income (from Page 11)	*5*
Add-On Income (from Page 11)	*6*
Total Preliminary Income (*Line 5 + Line 6*):	*A*
EXPENSES:	
Total Depreciation of all Assets (from page 6)	*7*
Animal Expense (from Page 7)	*8*
Total Non-Feed Expenses (from Page 7)	*9*
Total Feed Cost (from Page 10)	*10*
Total Expenses (*Line 7 + Line 8 + Line 9 + Line 10*)	*B*
BREAK EVEN PRICE ($/Head) = **Total Expenses – Total Preliminary Income** (*Line B – Line A*)	

YOUR PROJECT IN PICTURES

On the following pages you will show the "story" of your animal throughout the project year. You should show the beginning and end of your project along with other experiences throughout the project year. Show at least two different skills that you have learned. If you are selling your animal, consider including the photo you included in your Buyer's Letter. Photos should include a **caption** with each photo. Each caption should explain what you are doing (skill/activity) and why you are doing those things shown in the picture. Spelling and grammar are included in the judge's decision.

Photo Requirement: SIX Pictures ONLY!

PROJECT PICTURES (continued)

PROJECT PICTURES (continued)

PROJECT PICTURES (continued)

PROJECT QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions about your project. Complete sentences and "paragraph" type answers are expected.

After completing your project summary calculations (pg.18), what production management methods will you continue and what improvements would you make?

What was your daily routine with this animal?

What would you improve about your animal to be competitive in the show ring?

PROJECT QUESTIONS (continued)

What have been the biggest challenges with this animal, and what did you do to overcome those challenges?

Putting money aside, what other personal gains did you experience during this project?

THE EXHIBITOR MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION
EXHIBITOR NAME:
CLUB OR CHAPTER NAME:
CIRCLE ONE: MARKET STEER HEIFER MARKET SWINE MEAT GOAT

JUDGES SCORE SHEET - LARGE ANIMAL RECORD BOOK

SECTION	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
Cover Page & Food Safety Statement (Page 1-2)	**2**	
Project Activity Records (Page 3-4)	**10**	
Depreciable Project Inventory (Page 6)	**8**	
Animal Expense + Non-Feed Expenses (Page 7)	**6**	
Feed Expenses (Pages 8-10)	**10**	
Preliminary Income Records (Page 11)	**2**	
Weight Records and Calculations (Page 12)	**10**	
Health Records (Page 13)	**5**	
Marketing Plan/Buyers Contact Info & Letter (Pages 14-16) **OR** Retained Large Animal Report (Page 17)	**10**	
Project Summary Calculations (Page 18)	**10**	
Pictures (Pages 19 - 22)	**12**	
Project Questions (Page 23-24)	**15**	
SUBTOTAL POINTS:	**Max pts. 100**	
Neatness (EXTRA POINTS GIVEN ONLY IF NEATLY HANDWRITTEN)	**2**	
TOTAL POINTS:		
If a tie occurs, the judge will compare the Project Summary Calculations and the Project Questions to break the tie.		

COMMENTS: