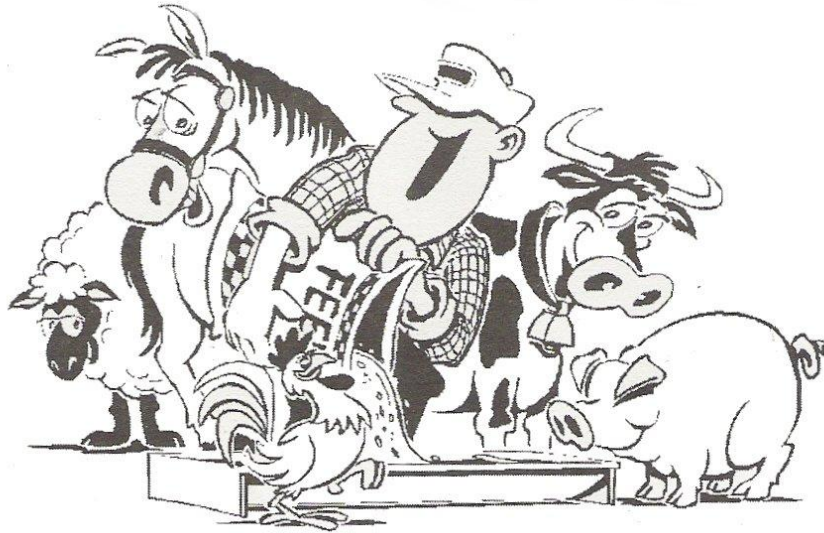


# **HARDEE COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK RULES**



**MARKET STEERS  
MARKET SWINE  
DAIRY ANIMALS  
HEIFERS  
BREEDING ANIMALS  
RABBITS POULTY**

**Revised August 2011**

# HARDEE COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK RULES

## GENERAL RULES

### ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY DEADLINES

1. The show is open to exhibitors of Hardee County Clubs and Chapters who are **bonafide** 4-H and FFA members and are currently enrolled in school, public or private, or home school, first through twelfth grades. The exhibitor must be a resident of Hardee County unless approved by the fair committee.

2. An up-to-date record book will be checked by the 4-H or FFA official on or before final weigh-in or entry at the fair. Then it will be returned to the exhibitor to be completed. 4-H books will be turned in to the 4-H office and FFA books turned in to your Ag teacher. DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED.

3. All Livestock Exhibitors must have a minimum grade point average of 2.0 for the semester preceding the weigh-in or registration date and the final weigh in or entry at the fair. Grade point average will be determined by school officials and passed on to the Livestock Committee for the final eligibility.

Remember your grades are decided by you and no one else.

\*\* If you move in from another school or home school, you will be placed on probation for the first semester and must show your first grading report card to the chairman of the committee.

**4. All debts from previous year must be paid to be eligible to weigh in an animal or register an animal. This includes all feed bills, animal and vet expenses. These will be checked and enforced.**

5. Protests of any ruling or incident arising in connection with the Livestock Show will be considered ONLY if submitted in writing within six hours of the occurrence. PROTESTS OF ANY JUDGES DECISION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. Protests must be submitted in writing to the Fair Committee accompanied by a \$50.00 certified check made payable to the Hardee County Fair Association. A ruling on the matter will be made by a quorum vote of the Fair Committee within 24 hours of the filing of the protest. If the ruling goes in favor of the protester, the \$50.00 will be returned; otherwise the protester forfeits the \$50. Upon ruling on each incident, the matter will be considered closed and the Fair Committee will consider no further action.

**6. An exhibitor may enter ONLY ONE market animal (steer, swine, heifer, breeding or dairy) for show to sell. If you show a steer or swine it must sell. An exhibitor may enter ONLY ONE market animal at the first weigh-in or registration.**

7. An agreement must be signed by the exhibitor, parent, and supplier at the first weigh-in to authorize the Fair Committee to disburse funds to the supplier before payment is made to the exhibitor for outstanding debts.

8. All animals (steers and hogs) will be tattooed and/or tagged for identification at entry weigh-in or registration time. If breeding animals carry a ranch brand or breed tattoo number in their ear, this will be their identification tattoo.

9. For beef breeding, commercial heifers and dairy animals, an entry blank must be in the Hardee County Extension Office before 5:00 p.m on the first Thursday of December. Exhibitor must have ownership of animal by December 1.

10. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE OFFICIAL ENTRY DEADLINES, AND ENTRY MAY BE DISQUALIFIED AT ANY TIME IF THE EXHIBITOR OR ENTRY DO NOT MEET ANY OR

ALL RULES PERTAINING TO THEM AS SET DOWN IN THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE HARDEE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW, NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE FOR ANY REASON CONCERNING ENTRY DEADLINES.

#### **SHOW ORIENTATION AND ADMISSION TO SHOW**

11. All swine entries will be admitted on Saturday before the Fair week from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and will be in time slots set by the committee. All cattle entries will also be admitted on Saturday before the Fair week from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Rabbit and Poultry entries will be admitted from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday before the Fair week. Animals will be admitted only at these times and they must be in show condition and meet all general and specific requirements for the category in which entered. Animals will be released at a set time on Thursday of the fair.

12. A mandatory parent/exhibitor meeting maybe in September to go over the rules. A mandatory show orientation meeting for all exhibitors will be held on Sunday afternoon before the Fair begins. All entrants and at least one parent must attend appropriate meetings. **Failure to attend this meeting will result in disqualification.** ~~This will be the only time fair passes will be given out.~~

13. Animals will be allowed to weigh one time only at the Fair Sifting and Weigh-in. In case an animal weighs out, exhibitor may request the scales be zeroed and re-weigh immediately. The request must be made before the animal leaves the scales and the animal cannot be removed from the scale area before being re-weighed.

#### **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

14. Trucks or trailers hauling livestock must meet state requirements. NO ANIMALS MAY BE UNLOADED UNTIL HEALTH PAPERS ARE SHOWN.

15. All livestock for exhibit in Florida must be accompanied by an official certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian. This includes a health certificate, which meets the stated requirements.

16. All animals must have health papers within thirty (30) days prior to fair with a negative test.

17. All beef, dairy animals and heifers must meet state requirements in order to be able to show. Dairy animals and heifers must be calfhooed vaccinated in order to show. Dairy animal heifers should be calfhooed vaccinated by age, as the state requires. This is for your protection also.

18. The Livestock Committee recommends that all beef, dairy animals and heifers, including steers, be given preventative vaccinations for blackleg, malignant edema, and pneumonia type diseases (IBR, BVD, P13, HEMORHAGIC DEPTICEMIA).

19. No shots or vaccinations will be administered to any animals on the Fairgrounds without the approval of a member of the Livestock Committee and/or a Veterinarian.

20. Any animal that becomes ill or contracts what may be contagious illness or diseases after entering the Fairgrounds may be asked to leave the grounds and be disqualified from the show upon examination and advice of a veterinarian of the committee's choice.

21. All rabbit entries must be clean and free of insects and infectious diseases prior to admission to Fairgrounds.

22. All poultry entries will be bled and have to have a negative test before entering the barn. The livestock committee will provide the state inspector.

23. Exhibitors will be liable in case of injury or death of animals. Every effort will be made to prevent accidents, but neither, the Fair Association, the Cattlemen's Association, nor the committee members will be liable in case of accidents.

#### **BARN AND CONDUCT RULES**

24. All exhibitors, leaders, and parents are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous, orderly, professional, positive, and sportsmanlike manner at all times, or they may be dismissed from the Fair and may be banned from participating in future fairs.

25. Barn assignments will be made by Livestock Committee.

26. No entrants will be allowed to sleep in the barn.

27. Exhibitors will be responsible for providing for the care and feeding including feed and water containers, and provide clean quarters for their animals. If the barn attendant has to care for any animal due to neglect of an exhibitor, the exhibitor will be fined \$50.00 for each occurrence. Feeding times will be 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. or after fair hours.

28. Exhibitors should be on fair grounds during school hours only with permission of a 4-H leader or FFA Advisor and/or parent.

29. All steers, beef breeding, dairy animals and heifers must be DOUBLE TIED while in stalls. Barn halters must be clean and in good condition.

30. Only sand will be provided for the cattle and swine. No hay or straw bedding will be allowed.

31. Tampering with any market animal entered, such as filling with a foreign substance, etc. is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers will be construed as a form of tampering and can result in the animal being disqualified.

32. Exhibitors should care for and fit animals while at the fair with minimal assistance. REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR PROJECT!

#### **SHOW RULES**

33. The Livestock Show Categories are: Commercial Heifer; Dairy Heifer; Market Steers; Market Swine; Purebred Beef; Rabbits and Poultry.

34. Entry by exhibitor expressly implies their willingness to accept decision of all judges. The utmost care will be taken by the Livestock Committee to select qualified judges.

35. A Modified Danish System of judging will be used. THE DECISION OF ALL JUDGES WILL BE FINAL. Awards (ribbons, rosettes, trophies) will be given by on an individual exhibits merit.

36. **Exhibitor must show animal in order to be able to sell animal. The only reason for an excuse is if the exhibitor is participating in another Fair activity. You must contact the livestock committee in writing in advance two weeks prior to the fair.**

37. Exhibitors are required to wear the following on show night: Clean dark slacks or jeans, clean white shirts with collar and tucked into slacks or jeans

and hard shoes. You may also wear 4-H or FFA attire if it is desired. ABSOLUTELY NO TOBACCO or CELL PHONES.

38. If injury, illness, or other emergency prevents an entrant from showing their animal, an alternate individual may show for the entrant, provided they meet the qualifications of rules 1-3 and the matter has to have the approval of the Livestock Committee prior to the beginning of the particular class showing.

#### SHOWMANSHIP

39. All exhibitors should be doing their best job of showing in the regular show category classes, because first cuts for showmanship contest will be made here. If an exhibitor does not get asked to come back for the showmanship contest, they have already been cut in the regular judging classes.

40. SHOWMANSHIP RULES WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

41. The top 3 individuals in showmanship contests will be placed in Jr.(8-10), Inter. (11-13) and Sr.(14 & up) Divisions.

42. Additional awards for Champion and Reserve Champion, Showmanship, Fitting and Grooming will be offered in most categories sponsored by businesses, organizations, and individuals.

#### LIVESTOCK SALE

43. The Livestock Sale will begin at 7:00 p.m., Thursday evening of the Fair and Order of Sale will be Steers, Dairy, Heifers and then Swine. Order of Sale for each category will be determined by placing of animal in show.

44. The Fair Board will serve as the agent for the exhibitor and buyer in selling the animal. A maximum of 5% will be deducted from the sale price of all animals to cover show and sale expenses.

45. An exhibitor may sell one animal in the Livestock Auction. No exhibitor will be allowed to sell more than one market animal.

46. All animals must be returned to their designated space and secured after being sold. This will facilitate delivery of the animal to the buyer. Each beef animal must be left securely tied following the sale; a halter must go with the animal. A \$25.00 deduction will be made from the sale price of any animal found loose after the sale. All exhibitors will be expected to lead their animals to be loaded.

47. Neither the Hardee County Cattlemen's Association nor the Livestock Committee or the Hardee County Fair Association will be responsible for guaranteeing buyers or prices for the Livestock Sale.

48. Maximum Sale Weight for market steers will be 1300 POUNDS  
Animals exceeding these weights will only be sold at these maximums.

49. ALL SALE ANIMALS AND EXHIBITORS MUST MEET ANY AND ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SHOW AND SALE THAT APPLY TO THEM IN THIS BOOK.

50. THERE WILL BE NO "NO SALES"

51. In order to insure continued good relationships with Sale Buyers and their participation in the Livestock Sale, all exhibitors who sell an animal in the Livestock Sale **must have a thank you letter and an addressed, stamped envelope to the buyer of the buyer of their animal in the County Extension Office within two weeks of sale.** Any exhibitor not complying will forfeit any and all prize money won and the sale money will be held until the letter is written.

52. Each exhibitor is encouraged to personally contact a minimum of five buyers.

53. Exhibitors are required to wear the following on Sale night: Clean dark slacks or jeans, a clean white shirt with collar and tucked into slacks or jeans and hard shoes. You may wear 4-H or FFA attire if it is so desired. ABSOLUTELY NO TOBACCO or CELL PHONES.

54. No exhibits or exhibitor displays may be removed before 7:30 of sale night. To do so exhibitors will automatically forfeit all prizes and premiums and may be banned from next years fair. Exceptions to this must be approved in writing and submitted to the Hardee County Fair Association.

55. There will be only one animal sold and it is only the animal that was shown during week. There will be no "two for one" or any other combination. If this occurs you will forfeit your right to sell your animal.

#### **MARKET STEER RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Steers must be owned by exhibitors, be under exhibitor's management and on feed before initial identification and weigh-in.

2. All steers must be dehorned and healed in order to show or exhibit. All steers must not exceed 24 months of age at Fair time. Any questionable steers will be mouthed by a qualified veterinarian. No bulls or stags will be permitted. Steers must weigh a minimum 1000 pounds at final weigh-in and have gained at least 2 pound per day.

3. All steers must be bred, born, and raised on ranches in Hardee County. The only exceptions are when a ranch has headquarters in Hardee County and has additional cattle operations in adjoining counties to Hardee County, or an exhibitor lives in Hardee County and their parent's ranch is in a county adjoining Hardee County.

4. All steer entries are automatically entered in the weight-gain contest from the initial weigh-in. Steers will be weighed in at the designated place on the date set in the Calendar of Events. Steers will be weighed in to the Fair on Saturday of Fair Week as set in the Calendar of Events to determine show and sale weights. Committee members will be present at weigh-ins to keep certified weights.

5. Steers will be assigned to show classes by weight upon arrival at the Fair. There will be no separation made by breed for competition.

6. Official judging of the Market Steer Show will be on Wednesday of Fair Week at 7:00 p.m. with Showmanship Contest held immediately following selection of the Grand Champion Steer.

#### **MARKET HOG RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Market hogs must be owned by exhibitor and under their management prior to being ear tagged and registered.

2. There will not be an initial (first) weigh in for the hogs. However, It is recommended that your pig weigh between 40 and 80 pounds by the initial registration date. You can weigh on bathroom scales to get an idea of the weight. The state has gone to this method to help reduce health problems in your animal.

3. Market hogs will be assigned to show classes by weight upon arrival at the fair. There will be no separation made by breed for competition.

4. Market hogs must be recognized as a purebred breed or crossbred of recognized purebred breeds.
5. All swine will be housed on sand at the fairgrounds, and animals should be conditioned to this environment prior to the fair.
6. Hogs must weigh a minimum of 230 pounds and a maximum of 280 pounds. Your hog must be of show quality and controllable by exhibitor at time of admission or the fair.
7. An exhibitor may register ONLY one swine at the initial check in.
8. Exhibitor must supply their own water pipe (5" pvc pipe with cap). You will also need two (2) 8" metal hose clamps to secure your water pipe to the pens.
9. Ear tags must be done by a livestock committee member and the owner waives the right for the committee to check the animal periodically. If the hog does not have a tag at the time of inspection or the exhibitor and/or parent denies access to the premises, the exhibitor will not be allowed to show. If the tag should come out, the swine committee must be contacted within twenty-four (24) hours.
10. All swine will be clean at the weigh in. This means no mud, dirt or any other substance on the animal. If the committee determines that any substance has been added to the animal to try and increase the weight of the animal, it will not be allowed to be weighed in and will be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
11. There will be NO clipping of swine once the animals enter the fairgrounds. If this takes place you and your animal will be asked to leave immediately.
11. **THIS WILL BE AN ALL GILT SHOW**

#### **DAIRY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Dairy animals must be owned by exhibitors, be under exhibitor's management and on feed before December 1. Entry forms and proof of ownership must be turned in by 5:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of December.
2. All dairy heifers must be dehorned and healed, halter broken and properly trained, have good dairy conformation and proper size and condition for age.
3. Dairy heifers may be either registered or purebred but must be of good type conformation and show predominant characteristics of a recognized dairy breed.
4. NO BULLS WILL BE ALLOWED.
5. There will be no pre-determined dairy show classes. Heifers must be at least 4 months old and classes will be determined after entries are in, with the classes broken into three month age categories up to 2 years old and cows will be shown together. An exhibitor may enter more than one animal.
6. Any dairy animal over 24 months of age must show evidence of reproduction (bred or freshened). On request it will be checked by livestock committee.
7. Dairy heifers will be sold by bids of per animal price.
8. All dairy heifers to be sold must be verified by an AI technician or veterinarian as safe with calf or fresh in order to qualify to be sold.

9. A dairy animal buyer may choose to resale the animal. This is arranged the night of the sale with local dairymen. The buyer will then be charged the difference between the price of the first sale and the resale.

10. An entry fee of \$5.00 per head will be paid to the Hardee County Fair Association at time of registration on the first Thursday of December. A check must be turned in with entry form for it to be accepted. Cash will not be accepted. If the animal is sold there will be a 5% commission paid to the Fair Association.

#### **BEEF BREEDING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. All Purebred Breeding Beef Cattle must be owned by, and registered on the books of an official Breed Association in the name of the exhibitor by December 1. Animals must be identified at the initial entry date with a breed association accepted ear tattoo or branded.

2. All Breeding Beef Animals must be halter broken, properly trained, and in show condition at Fair time. No breeding animal over 36 months of age as of January 1 of the current year will be eligible to show.

3. Upon arrival at fairgrounds, breeding beef animals must have health papers, registration papers, have identification checked, and of conformation, size, and condition for age.

4. There will be no predetermined breeding beef classes. Bulls and heifers must be at least 4 months old to show and age classes will be determined after all entries are in. Max 3 years age limit.

5. Only Junior exhibitors will be allowed to use show (nose) tongs to exhibit their heifers, but they will be disqualified from showmanship.

6. Breeding bulls must be exhibited with show tongs or nose ring.

7. An entry fee of \$5.00 per head will be paid to Hardee County Fair Association at time of registration on the first Thursday of December. A check must be turned in with entry form for it to be accepted. Cash will not be accepted.

#### **COMMERCIAL HEIFER RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Only Crossbred Beef Heifers that were bred, born, and raised on ranches in Hardee County are eligible for sale. The only exceptions are the same as for steers (see rule 3 of Market Steer Rules). Heifers that are for show only do not have to come from Hardee County.

2. Heifers must be owned and in owner's care by December 1st.

3. Heifers must be polled or dehorned and healed, halter broken, properly trained, have good beef conformation, of proper size, and condition for age, and in show condition upon admission.

4. Heifers must be at least 4 months old and not over 3 years of age maximum.

5. An entry fee of \$5.00 per head will be paid to the Hardee County Fair Association at time of registration on the first Thursday of December. A check must be turned in with entry form for it to be accepted. Cash will not be accepted. If the heifer is sold a 5% commission will be paid to the Fair Association.



There will be a clinic for first time exhibitors and those that choose to attend. Following the presentation of the winners, there will be a mock show in the ring to show what is expected on the night of the show.

Sign up the day of the final weigh-in. You will be placed as teams to participate in the grooming contest. Every placing will be paid a premium.

There will be no parent or outside help. This will only be the exhibitor grooming the animal.

You will bring your animal into the barn wet and will have one hour to groom your animal.

There will be a cash prize for first, second and third placing, that will be awarded at the fair banquet with your check.

\*\*Livestock Committee reserves the right to re-classify depending on the exhibitors ability and knowledge. The purpose of this is for teaching and hands on experience to help improve the exhibitor.

## **AWARDS**

All awards are chosen by at least a three member anonymous committee based upon observance during fair week and their recommendation to the livestock committee.

**ALL AROUND EXHIBITORS:**

(Beef Breeding, Dairy, Poultry, Rabbit, Steer, Swine)

A senior or junior exhibitor that has participated in the Hardee County Youth Livestock program for several years. One that has participated in all the events involved with their animal during the fair week. They also help in getting ready before each show and keep the barn maintained during the fair week. It would also be their willingness to help others and an individual that shows good character.

**DEAN CULLINS AWARD:**

(Steer & Swine)

This award will usually be a senior. This will be based on an exhibitor that has a positive attitude and good character. An exhibitor that goes that extra mile and always willing to help others.

**ROOKIE OF THE YEAR:**

Steer exhibitors

This is a first time steer exhibitor and is someone usually from the junior division. This is an exhibitor that participates in all the activities during the fair week. They also help in maintaining the barn, preparing for the shows and willing to help others.

**HERDSMAN:**

This is based on how well an exhibitor keeps their area that their animal is in. This means feeding on time, area always clean and the surrounding area, animal kept clean and willing to help in the barn.

**HELPING HAND:**

(Swine)

This is voted on by their fellow exhibitors. One will be for the senior division voted on by the seniors and one for the junior division voted on by the juniors. This is based on their willingness to help others in the barn during fair week.

**\*PLEASE PRINT\***

WE HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE 2011-2012 GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS SET FORTH BY THE HARDEE COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW COMMITTEE. WE HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND EACH OF THESE RULES AND ARE WILLING TO ABIDE BY THEM. IT IS ALSO UNDERSTOOD BY EXHIBITOR AND PARENTS THAT TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE AN EXHIBITOR MUST HAVE A MINIMUM GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.0 FOR THE SEMESTER PRECEDING THE WEIGH-IN OR REGISTRATION DATE AND THE FINAL WEIGH-IN OR ENTRY AT THE FAIR. A COPY OF YOUR MAY 2011 REPORT CARD MUST BE PRESENTED AT FIRST WEIGH-IN OR REGISTRATION. I GIVE PERMISSION FOR THE LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE FROM THE SCHOOLS WHETHER A 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE IS MAINTAINED. THIS WILL BE A YES OR NO ANSWER AND IT WILL BE HELD IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF EXHIBITOR

NAME OF EXHIBITOR \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR AGE AS OF 9-01-11 \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBITOR DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ NAME OF SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE EXHIBITOR MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE Florida ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PARENT OR GAURDIAN \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

BREED OF ANIMAL \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

BREEDER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BREEDER'S ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ MAILING

DATE ANIMAL PURCHASED \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH DIVISION: 4-H JR. \_\_\_\_\_ (8-10) Inter. \_\_\_\_\_ (11-13) SR. \_\_\_\_\_ (14 & up)  
FFA SR. \_\_\_\_\_

I CERTIFY THAT THE EXHIBITOR IS A BONAFIDE 4-H/FFA MEMBER.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF LEADER/ADVISOR

VETERINARIAN: ALL CREATURES ANIMAL HOSPITAL/DR. HAYMAN

HARDEE ANIMAL CLINIC/DR. LOVETT

FLORIDA VET SERVICES/DR. SHIVER

PET CARE/DR. HENDRY

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

BRING THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOU TO WEIGH-IN OR REGISTRATION ON SATURDAY AT THE HARDEE COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ARENA.

**\*\*\*\*\*ALL SIGNATURES REQUIRED\*\*\*\*\***

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ BEGINNING WEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_

ENDING WEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE POINT AVERAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DAIRY \_\_\_\_\_ STEER \_\_\_\_\_ SWINE \_\_\_\_\_ HEIFER \_\_\_\_\_ BEEF BREEDING \_\_\_\_\_



# **MAJOR CHANGE**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE NOW!!!!!!**

**Beginning second semester of the 2011-12 school year you the exhibitor must maintain a 2.5 grade point average in order to register an animal in the 2012 -2013 fair.**

**This means from January 20, 2012 on you must maintain a 2.5 grade point average.**

**This is an across the board Hardee County Fair Board Rule for all student activities during fair week.**