

QUALITY ASSURANCE PLEDGE

NYS 4-H Livestock Raisers Commitment to Excellence

All 4-H members engaged in meat animal production activities are expected to review and do the best job that they can do to understand and adhere to the following practices.

As a 4-H member,

- I am learning the best ways to house, feed, manage and care for animals.
- I am also learning about vaccination practices and health care procedures I can follow to protect my animals from becoming sick or injured.
- I will inspect facilities for things like cleanliness, animal comfort and safe methods of animal handling and restraint.
- I will work with my veterinarian and follow my vet's advice and recommendations with all prescription medications.
- I agree that I will strictly adhere to label directions when using any over the counter medications.
- I understand that many medications and treatments have **withdrawal times**. Common medications or treatments include de-worming medicines, vaccinations or shots given to prevent diseases and antibiotics used to treat diseases.
- I will choose grooming products that I know are safe for humans and animals.
- I understand that some grooming products are not intended for market animals because they could contain residue-producing or carcinogenic chemicals.
- I will read product labels and avoid products that may be harmful to my animal or me. Two known harmful chemicals are **methylene chloride and toluene**.
- I will learn how to prepare livestock for market by calculating proper withdrawal times for legal medications and treatments.
- I will learn how to follow state and federal animal identification regulations.
- I will be honest in reporting my knowledge about treatments before my animals are prepared for shows, sales, market or slaughter.
- I know one of the best ways to ensure a safe food supply is to send animals clean, dry and medication free to market.
- I will be caring in my relationships and will strive to do others no harm.
- I am aware that my actions and decisions affect others.

If I do not follow these practices,

- I could be harming myself.
- I could be harming others.
- I could be harming the food supply.
- I could be asked to withdraw from participation in future 4-H livestock activities.

My signature means I have read and will practice the voluntary **Quality Assurance Pledge**.

4-H'er

Parent/Guardian

Reviewed by: NYS 4-H Animal Science – Advisory Panel May 2002/Revised 2006
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