

4-H projects close to '87

The number of 4-H projects at fair should be very close to last year. When comparing numbers from last year, to the total number of projects this year, we find the following: beef down 38 to 43; sheep up 40 to 47; horses down 47 to 46; swine up 21 to 29; and home ec down 67 to 62.

There will also be participation in Horticulture, Woodworking and Forestry this year. It will be interesting to see the new projects being displayed. Hopefully, seeing these new projects will stimulate more participation.

Display your barley

This has been a great year for barley. It stands head high in some fields (and falls down in others.) The wheat is looking very good as well.

So let's be proud of our harvest and bring some to fair this year.

With the cool weather we've had, this is an excellent year to enter grain in the fair.

An exhibit of grain consists of half a bushel, or two pecks. Allow for cleaning losses by adding a little extra. Get the sample to Bill Rawlins at least one day prior to close of entries, and he will clean the exhibit.

The grain is judged on uniformity (20%), freedom from foreign matter (25%), soundness (25%), and weight per bushel (20%). The remaining ten percent will be judged on uniformity in texture (barley), proportion of kernel to hull (oats), and hardness (wheat).

Take time now to save your best wheat to enter in the fair.

Save a sheaf for the "commercial crops" entry at fair.

The preparation of a wheat sheaf starts with collecting wheat stalks just before the kernels harden. They should be cut with scissors or a small hand scythe at ground level. Store and transport them while they are quite loose. Don't pack them tightly until they have dried well.

Peel the leaves off before assembling. To make mounting symmetrical, place each individual head alternately from right to left of the center head. Keep the back side flat so that the sheaf can be mounted on a flat wall. As the sheaf gets bigger always place the subsequent heads slightly below the previous ones. Don't crush the stems tightly near the heads. Let that area remain quite loose.

Continue to build until the sheaf has reached the proper size. Usually 30 or more heads are needed. (The Oregon State Fair requires sheaves to be at least 3 inches in diameter at the butt end). Tightly bind the stems about six or eight inches below the lowest heads. Use shipping tape or string. (The Oregon State Fair requires that sheaves be tied with string). Make one or two more similar bindings then cut the straws off evenly two or three inches below the lower binding. If the heads have been properly dried you can make this cut with a sharp butcher knife or razor blade, otherwise you can use scissors, cutting only two or three at a time.

Forestry club to be represented

Forestry Club will be represented at the fair this year. This is a new club that has some very enthusiastic kids and leaders.

The Forestry Club has had a very active year with a tour to the

Forestry Center, OMSI and zoo in Portland; then on to Salem where they stayed at the 4-H center.

Take an extra minute to look in the Natural Resources department at the work the kids put into their specimen collection.

New 4-H contest is the Create-An-Art

New this year in the contests for all 4-H members is the Create-An-Art contest. Participants will make an arts or crafts article of their choice during a designated time at fair. All supplies must be brought by the contestant. Juniors will be allowed one hour and intermediates and seniors one and one half hour to produce their creation. Kits and semi-prepared articles may be used in making the product, such as a board for tole painting. 4-Hers interested in entering this new contest, must pre-register.

Department one in the 4-H section of the fair premium book introduces a variety of contests open to all 4-Hers. Presentations, Photography, "Wheat and You", Quick and Easy Beef Main Dish, Something from Nothing Exhibit, Scrapbook Contest, Lamb Fitting Contest, My Favorite Outfit, Livestock Judging and My Lamb's Favorite Outfit offer many choices for 4-H members who want to be active during Morrow County's 1988 "Trail Days and Country Ways" Fair. There's something for everyone.

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