

# Alpaca

Superintendent: Scott Shelhart  
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**State Fair Entry:** Yes

**Animal Check In:** Friday, July 4, 2025; 6:00PM, Sheep Barn, Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

**Show Day:** Sunday, July 6, 2025; 9:00AM, Show Arena, Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

1. Alpacas do not have to be registered to be able to show at the Kosciusko County Fair.
2. No intact Alpaca male 24 months of age or older will be permitted in the 4-H Classes.
3. Alpaca lease fees will be decided upon annually by the owner of the alpaca (leaser) and are due in full to the leaser by May 15th.
4. A lease agreement and a code of conduct will be signed by all 4-H participants AND their parents. The lease agreement will cover items concerning lease arrangements between the 4-H'er and owner (leaser) of the alpaca. The code of conduct will be a written statement on how 4-H'ers and parents will conduct themselves at the weekly farm meetings and at the county fair.
5. 4-H'ers who own their own alpaca will be responsible for bringing it to the farm for workshops. If it is determined that the 4-H'er or their alpaca is acting in an unsafe manner which puts other 4-H members or committee at risk, then the superintendent will ask the parent to take their alpaca home and not to bring it back to the farm until it has been trained properly and can act in a safe manner around the other 4-H members and committee members.
6. All alpacas must wear a halter at all times and have a lead rope available if needed at the county fair.

## **Requirements & Expectations:**

### **Level 1 Grades 3-5:**

1. Learn basic health, nutrition and conformation and complete your project notebook that covers these topics. Leaders will check your notebook.
2. At workshops each week under the superintendent and committee member's instructions and supervision, you will train your alpaca in all types of classes, learn grooming techniques, learn all aspects about alpacas and have a time to work in the alpaca barn at the farm.
3. Attend your county 4-H fair and do the following:
  - a. Show in the showmanship and obstacle class. Royalty and Costume classes are optional, but highly recommended.
  - b. Attend to all of your alpaca's basic needs during the entire week at the county fair.

### **Level 2 Grades 6-8:**

1. Expand your knowledge on health, nutrition and conformation and complete the notebook section related to your year in the project. Leaders will check your notebook.
2. At workshops each week under the superintendent and committee member's supervision, you will train your alpaca in all types of classes, learn grooming techniques, learn all aspects about alpacas and have a time to work in the alpaca barn at the farm.
3. Attend your county 4-H fair and do the following:
  - a. Show in the showmanship, obstacle course and royalty classes. Costume class is optional, but highly recommended.
  - b. Attend to all of your alpaca's basic needs during the entire week at the county fair.

### **Level 3 Grades 9-12:**

1. Continue to expand your knowledge on health, nutrition and conformation and learn about breeding, birthing, lactation and rebreeding.
2. At workshops each week under the superintendent and committee member's supervision, you will train your alpaca in all types of classes, learn grooming techniques, learn all aspects about alpacas and have a time to work in the alpaca barn at the farms.
3. Attend your county 4-H fair and do the following:
  - a. Show in the showmanship, obstacle course and royalty classes. Costume class is optional, but highly recommended.
  - b. Attend to all of your alpaca's basic needs during the entire week at the county fair.

## **Classes:**

- Showmanship-In showmanship class, the 4-H member is being judged on how well they are able to show their alpaca to its best ability to the judge. The conformation of the alpaca is not being judged in this class. The alpaca needs to be groomed and prepared for showmanship class. The 4-H member should have safe and neat attire on. **(All 4-H alpaca project members are required to participate in this class.)**
- Obstacle Course-The purpose of Obstacle is to test the alpaca's obedience and willingness to complete the activities requested by the 4-H member. The obstacles used for this class vary greatly but must include a bridge or ramp, jumps, flexibility or maneuvering (weaving), change of pace and backing. **(All 4-H alpaca project members are required to participate in this class.)**
- Royalty-The 4-H member will be tested on their knowledge of the information they have learned in their alpaca manuals, and also information that may have been obtained at a workshop.
- Costume-The 4-H member decides on a theme and dresses him/herself and the alpaca to illustrate the chosen theme. The 4-H member and the alpaca are being judged on the alpaca's acceptance of the costume and the amount of coverage on the alpaca. A short-written script is required to describe the theme of the 4-H member and his/her alpaca. (Music can be used during this presentation, but is not required.)