

By Jan Schultz

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Comparing entry numbers to the 2012 Chase County Fair, 4-H and FFA participation in the livestock shows will be up in most areas this year.

The swine, goat and sheep shows set for Wednesday, Aug. 14, are showing the strongest gains, according to the Chase County Extension Office.

The market hog show kicks off Wednesday's activities next week at 8:30 a.m., with 79 market hogs registered.

That compares to 61 market hogs last year that were registered to compete.

Later Wednesday morning the sheep show is on tap with 44 market lambs expected to take part. There were 36 last year.

Seventeen breeding ewes are entered for this year's show, compared to just eight last year.

And as of Tuesday this week, four goats are expected to compete in the goat show. There were none last year.

The market beef show will also be big this year, with slightly more numbers overall than in 2012.

While there are fewer market beef animals expected to compete, 36 this year vs. 42 last year, overall there are more numbers than last year. The biggest increase appears to be in the feeder calf division where 17 animals are entered.

The other 4-H/FFA shows during the fair—horse, poultry, rabbit, dog and cat—all have similar numbers to last year.

Horse show kicks off fair

This Sunday's horse show is the first of the youth events. It starts at 8 a.m. in the rodeo show arena.

Twenty-one 4-Hers will participate in the show, compared to 20 last year.

In addition, there will be four Clover Kids (age 5-7) who'll take part in the lead-line event.

Events for the horse show include halter classes, showmanship, pleasure, horsemanship, reining, pole bending, barrels and trail. The 4-Hers will compete in junior, intermediate and senior divisions.

Connie Griess of the Extension Office said the 4-H dog program continues to be very strong in Chase County, and eight youths will take part in the dog show on Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 8 a.m. in the open air pavilion.

In addition, two Clover Kids will have dogs in the show.

The cat show immediately after has two 4-H youths registered. That show is also in the open air pavilion.

On Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m., 4-H youths will bring in their poultry and rabbits for the fair's show. Four 4-H youths are in the poultry show and six in the rabbit show.

There are also eight Clover Kids in the poultry show and another three expected to show rabbits.