

Poultry Projects to be Completed at the Adams County Fair

For immediate release

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Carolyn L. Belczyk

Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

OSU Extension Adams County

215 N Cross St, Rm 104, West Union OH 45693

937.544.2339

belczyk.1@cfaes.osu.edu

Representatives from OSU Extension Adams County and the Adams County Junior Fair Board met June 4 with the Adams County Senior Fair Board to discuss options for 4-H and FFA members enrolled in poultry projects. These youth will not be able to exhibit and sell their live birds at the Fair this year because the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) has canceled all poultry exhibitions across Ohio for the remainder of 2015 in an effort to prevent the spread of Avian Influenza.

As a result of their discussions, the Fair Board approved the framework of a plan that will permit youth to complete their projects through interviews and educational displays; participate in showmanship through the use of bird models; compete for showmanship and Outstanding Market Exhibitor (OME) recognition and awards; and participate in the Small Animal Sale on Friday night, July 17.

According to Carolyn L. Belczyk, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development with OSU Extension Adams County, members are urged to continue to feed and care for their birds. Pending approval of components of the plan by ODA, members will be able to sell their completed projects using pictures of their birds, provided they participate in the interviews and bring up-to-date project records and an educational poster or display to the Fair in lieu of exhibiting their live animals.

Details of the plan will be mailed to enrolled members in the next week. For the present, members should continue to update their record books on a regular basis and take at least one picture of themselves with their birds within the next week. All 4-H members and those FFA members interested in competing for OME should be sure to complete the Poultry Skillathon by June 15. The official Skillathon make-up is scheduled for June 8 from 4-7 PM at the Extension Office.

Contact OSU Extension Adams County at 937.544.2339 for additional details, for clarification of the issues surrounding the ODA cancelation of poultry exhibitions in Ohio, or for more information regarding plans to facilitate poultry project completion at the 2015 Fair.

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