

2026 FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Livestock Contestant Judging Contest

Saturday, March 7, 2026

Presented by



In the  PATTERSON COMPANIES Livestock Arena

Co-Chairs:

Brittany Coleman; Brittany.Coleman@hcps.net; 813-928-1337
Alicia Price; Alicia.Price@hcps.net; 813-478-2363
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This contest is open to all FFA, 4-H and YLPA members in the state of Florida.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, March 7, 2026

Contest begins at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 7, 2026

(Contest should be over by 12pm and we will take a break for lunch/ tabulation of scores with results and awards at 1:30pm)

RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLEASE NOTE:

The Safety Rules Form (page 3) must be signed by each student participating in this contest and by their parent or legal guardian. It is to be presented at time of registration, no exceptions.

TEAM:

A team shall consist of 4 designated individuals, with the top 3 scores, used to determine the teams' total score. Since education is the intent and purpose of this contest, each 4-H group or FFA chapter may enter 2 teams for competition, however, they can enter as many individuals as desired.

INDIVIDUALS:

All team members plus any individual who wants to judge, may be eligible for the High Individual Placing and Awards.

CLASSES:

It is our desire to have one of the finest judging contests in the State. We plan to have six to eight classes in our contest which may include the following:

1. Market Hogs	3. Market Steers	5. Breeding Heifers
2. Market Lambs	4. Breeding Ewes	

The type and number of classes shall be determined by the quality and availability of animals entered in the Florida Strawberry Festival®.

TIME:

All contestants have 12 minutes to judge the classes. We feel this should be sufficient time.
(One set of oral reasons for Sr. teams will be optional)

PRIZES:

Trophies and cash prizes shall be awarded to the following team and individual winners.

High School FFA TEAM

First Place - Trophy plus \$100 cash
Second Place - Ribbon plus \$75 cash
Third Place - Ribbon plus \$50 cash

Middle School FFA TEAM

First Place - Trophy plus \$100 cash
Second Place - Ribbon plus \$75 cash
Third Place - Ribbon plus \$50 cash

YLPA TEAM

First Place - Trophy plus \$100 cash
Second Place - Ribbon plus \$75 cash
Third Place - Ribbon plus \$50 cash

4-H TEAM

First Place - Trophy plus \$100 cash
Second Place - Ribbon plus \$75 cash
Third Place - Ribbon plus \$50 cash

HIGH INDIVIDUALS

First Place - Trophy plus \$75 cash
Second Place - Trophy plus \$50 cash
Third Place - Trophy plus \$25 cash

SPONSORS:

The Florida Strawberry Festival® is the official sponsor of the cash awards.

Thank you letters may be sent to:

Florida Strawberry Festival®
C/O Special Events
P.O. Drawer 1869
Plant City, FL 33564-1869

Trophies presented by;

Thank you letters may be sent to:

Strawberry Ranch, Inc.
3 Stars Farms
Sydney Farms

Adam & Ronnie Young & Families
P.O. Box 8
Sydney, Florida 33564

Anyone participating in this contest by way of entry, hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, internet, etc., that the Florida Strawberry Festival® may desire.

SAFETY RULES CONCERNING LIVESTOCK AND PLANT AREAS

The following rules govern all livestock shows including the plant show. It includes all areas in the Festival deemed as agricultural and all locations on the Festival grounds where animals are housed.

The rules concern all participants, their families and any visitors to these areas.

These rules are based on The Center for Disease Control Guidelines for the safe operation of livestock shows.

These rules have been made policy by the Board of Directors of the Florida Strawberry Festival® and as such will be strictly enforced to ensure the Festival's continued ability to provide livestock exhibitions at the Florida Strawberry Festival® in future years.

1. Know that animals carry germs that can make people sick and have actually done so.
2. Any contact with animals should always be followed by washing of your hands.
3. **There can be absolutely NO FOOD or DRINK in any form in the livestock or youth plant show areas.** This includes visitors, family and exhibitors.
4. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to educate visitors and report food and drink violations to appropriate parties.
5. No animal can be fed anything but livestock feed in appropriate containers. If an exhibitor is feeding an animal food other than livestock feed, the exhibitor has already violated Rule #3 above.
6. No one but the exhibitor or his/her duly appointed designee can have direct contact with the animals.
7. All animal areas will be set up so that the general public cannot directly touch the livestock.
8. These rules may change from time to time. It is the exhibitor's and guardian's responsibility to verify the rules prior to entering the show.

Each exhibitor and their legal guardian must sign a copy of these rules agreeing to be bound by them. These rules will be enforced uniformly and without exception. **Any exhibitor not following these guidelines will be disqualified from the livestock or plant show and no one will be permitted to exhibit or sell the disqualified individual's plant(s) or animal(s) at the Florida Strawberry Festival®. If a disqualified individual is exhibiting in more than one event referenced above, the individual will be disqualified from all from the point the infraction occurs and will forfeit premiums and awards.**

We have read and understand these rules and we agree to the following as stated above.

Student Signature

Please Print Name

Date

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Please Print Name

Date

Entering the Livestock Judging Contest at the 2026 Florida Strawberry Festival® will require this form to be signed by student and parent/legal guardian. There will be no exceptions.