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Youth Sweepstakes offered at Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival

Youth Sweepstakes is an exciting opportunity for youth who participate during the September 11-13th Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

Any youth who enters any of the events listed is automatically entered in and eligible for Sweepstakes awards. Be sure to pay close attention to all rules, regulations and participation schedules within each event.

Events included are: Educational – Jr. Showmanship, Skillathon, Judging Contest, Poster Contest and Lead Line. Exhibits – Jr. Breeding Sheep and Jr. Market Lambs.

Age Divisions are (Age is as of January 1, 2009): Beginners 8-10, Junior 11-13, Intermediate 14-16 and Senior 17-19.

Individuals are encouraged to compete in any and all of the events. Points will be awarded based on participation and placing within each event. Overall sweepstakes points will be determined by a combination of total points from an individual's four highest scores; with no more than two of those scores from exhibiting breeding animals or market lambs.

Cash premiums sponsored by Farm Service Agency will be awarded to the Overall Sweepstakes Winner in each age category. 1st place - \$75, 2nd place - \$50, and 3rd place - \$25. An embroidered award will also be presented by Profiles Embroidery to the highest placing individual in each age division. Thank you to Sue and Jim Rupnow for their generous support of this event.

The purpose of Youth Sweepstakes is to encourage youth attending the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival to take part in educational and exhibition events to broaden their knowledge of sheep production above and beyond the show ring.

The goal of the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival Youth Program is to offer educational experiences that are high quality and will give youth exposure to and prepare them for future contests. We encourage 4-H, FFA and other youth groups preparing for district, regional or national contests to attend and participate in any of these events.

Additional resource material on judging wool, identifying meat cuts and contest information can be found at: www.wisconsinssheepandwoolfestival.com as well as the Youth Livestock Website: www.uwex.edu/ces/animalscience/youthlivestock/index.cfm

Please contact Todd Taylor at taylorssheep@yahoo.com.