

4-H News to Know June-July 2013



Extension

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66th Annual Custer County Fair

The Fair is fast approaching! The dates are July 15-21, 2013. That is (counting from June 1) only 45 days!!!!!! Please review the newsletter for any information that may pertain to you. Also, PROMPTLY open and respond to any mail that you get from the Extension Office. Entry forms will be mailed out to all 4-H and FFA families. Please fill them out. You may mail the entry forms back to the Extension Office, OR call 783-2514 OR e-mail to the email address above. **YOU MUST RESPOND BACK WITH THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BEFORE 4 P.M. ON FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH.**

The Extension Office will move out to the fairgrounds and set up on Saturday, July 13th. We will not have the office in the courthouse open during the week of fair.

Poster Boards Available

Look no further for the correct size required for your projects. The Extension Office has a supply of the appropriate size display boards. You may purchase them @ \$2 each.

4-H Project Requirements

The Custer County Fair follows the Colorado State Fair requirements on all your indoor projects: archery, foods, cake decorating, gardening, leadership, robotics, sportfishing, rocketry, visual arts, photography, woodworking, entomology, and scrapbooking. The 2013 CSF requirements are posted on the State 4-H website @ www.colorado4h.org. You can find your requirements, e-records, tip sheets, score sheets, etc. on this website.

Record Books

All 4-H and FFA livestock (market, breeding, dairy), horse, dog & small animal record books are to be turned in to the Extension Office **no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, July 26th**. You must turn in your record book to complete your project. If you miss the deadline, your record book WILL NOT be eligible for judging to compete for CASH PRIZES!

4-H General & Consumer Science Record Books

All 4-H General and Consumer Science record books (photography, foods, woodworking, rocketry, gardening, shooting sports, visual arts, sportfishing, cake decorating, ceramics, etc.) must be turned in with your projects on Monday, July 15 from 7-8 a.m. After 8 a.m., your record book will be considered late and points will be deducted from the score sheet.

Questions likely to be asked during the interview process for your indoor projects are:

1. Why did you take this project?
2. What did you think you might learn in the project?
3. How much experience did you have before you started this project?
4. What did you like the most about the project?
5. What did you like the least about the project?
6. What did you do for the first time in this project?
7. Who helped you decide what your project would be?
8. Where did you get help?
9. What new things did you learn?

10. How will you use what you have learned?
11. What would you like to learn next?
12. If you were to do the project again, would you do anything differently?
13. How do you feel your project could be improved?
14. Technical questions about your project: about your sewing machine, completing your project, what tips you used for your cake, how high your rocket flies, etc.

Fair Book Online

The Fair Book will ONLY be available online. Go to: www.custercountygov.com/ext then go to the 4-H section and the Fair Book will be there. We will have fair schedules available for you to send to your buyers, families and friends. Pick one up for yourself so you will always know what is going on and when.

2013 Fair Livestock Weights

Market livestock weights must fall in the following weight range in order to sell at the Livestock Sale:

- Beef – minimum 1000 lbs., no maximum
- Sheep – minimum 105 lbs., no maximum
- Swine – minimum 220 lbs., 290 maximum
- Goats – minimum 55 lbs., no maximum

Remember that the scales will not be available to preview weights on the day of the official weigh-in for the fair. The scales will be unlocked and ready to go on Wednesday, July 17th @ 5 p.m.

Livestock Sale Buyers

All 4-H and FFA livestock project members need to start working on contacting their previous buyers. Also try to visit with any new businesses or individuals who may become new buyers. Your contacts with these people and businesses help to promote their continued support of the 4-H and FFA Livestock Sale.

Fair Livestock Pictures

All 4-H and FFA market livestock exhibitors are required to pose with their animals to take a picture to be given to their buyers after the Market Livestock Sale. The Custer County Livestock Sale Committee is once again offering the chance to get access to make extra copies of those pictures. You may request the e-file copy of your pictures for a donation of \$5 each. Please call the Extension Office to request your copy.

Fairgrounds Clean Up Scheduled

All 4-H and FFA members are to participate in the clean up in order to get the fairgrounds ready. Mark your calendar NOW and plan to be there – Saturday, July 13 beginning at 8:00 a.m. A sign up sheet will be your proof of participation. Bring your rakes, shovels, weed eaters, mowers, fuel, etc. to help get things ready. If you are unable to attend on Saturday, you will be given some clean up duties to do during the fair.

Club Meetings

Trailblazer Club - The remaining dates are: June 2 @ 1 p.m. in Mrs. Tillotson's classroom.

Silver Spurs Club – The remaining dates are: June 13 and July 11.

Triple C Clovers – Next meeting is June 25 at 4:30 p.m. at the school. Before the meeting, the Highway clean up will be done. Meet at 3 p.m. at the fairgrounds. This will be your Community Service project.

Horse Written Test – scheduled for Friday, July 12th @ 3 p.m. at the Saddle Club building.

Rocket Launch

If you are interested in learning about and building model rockets, please call the Extension Office. You can sign up to build a model rocket and launch it in July. The best part is it's free! You get the rocket, four lessons, and the launch.

You don't have to be signed up for the 4-H rocketry project, you just have to have a desire to build and launch a rocket! Rockets are given on a first come first serve basis. Call us today!

Market Livestock Weigh In Dates

Weigh in time CHANGED!! The scales will now be open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on these dates. Please mark your calendars with the last date for all species – beef, sheep, swine & goats: June 9th.

Volunteers are needed to keep the Exhibit Building open during the Fair.
Please call the Extension Office at 783-2514 if you can help.

4-H Foundation Truck Raffle

Here's your chance to win a new 2013 Ford F150 XLT 4x4 Super Cab Crew pickup! Once again, the Custer County 4-H Foundation and 4-H Clubs will be selling the raffle tickets. There are more prizes, as well:

Grand prize - the 2013 Ford F150

2nd prize - \$1,000 cash

3rd prize - \$750 cash

4th prize - \$500 cash

5th prize - \$250 cash

The drawing will be held on October 12, 2013 at the Bookcliff Country Club, in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Forty percent (40%) of the sales will be returned back to each county. Help support your local 4-H Foundation or 4-H Club! AND GOOD LUCK toward winning the truck or cash prizes.

4-H Shooting Sports Raffle

Colorado's 4-H Shooting Sports program is holding its third annual statewide fundraising raffle to help local and county shooting sports clubs defray the cost of equipment, ammunition, targets, instructor training, travel and contest expenses. All 4-H shooting sports participants benefit from the proceeds of this fundraising opportunity. Over \$3,000 in prizes will be given away. Tickets are available NOW! Fifty (50%) of the sales will be returned back to the Custer County archery program.

Ticket cost is \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Stop by the Extension Office or contact any shooting sports exhibitor to get your tickets. Prizes include: 12 gauge shotgun, Bolt Action .22LR rifle, rifle scope, red dot scope, spotlight, hearing protection, boxes of 12 gauge shotgun shells and boxes of .22LR bullets.

The drawing will be held Sept. 2 at the Pikes Peak Gun Club in Colorado Springs.

Shannon has developed a wonderful archery program that continues to grow more each year. Plan on stopping at the fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 17th at 8:30 a.m. for the archery competition.

26th Annual 4-H Shooting Sports Family Camp Out

This camp out is held in Victor, Colorado for 4-H members, families, leaders and staff interested in 4-H Shooting Sports. Registration deadline is June 3rd. So hurry and call the Extension Office if you are interested.

Cost is \$12 each or a family would be \$35. Please call for more info.

Custer County Fair - July 15 – 21, 2013

Please check out the Custer County CSU Extension website: www.custercountygov.com/ext



2013 Custer County Fair

Did you know....

Any Custer County resident can compete at the Custer County Fair?

You Can Enter Your Exhibit in:

Call for Classes

Open Pantry (Preserved foods, Baked Goods, Beer, and Wine)

Needlework (Includes Clothing)

Arts and Crafts (Ceramics, Woodworking, Leathercraft, Macramé, Weaving, Painting - oil and watercolors, photography, Scratch work, Pastels, and others)

Floriculture (Cut Flowers, Arrangements, Centerpiece, Potted Plants)

Gardening

Open Field Crops (Grass Hay, Legumes, Mixed)

No Entry Fee Required

EXHIBIT CHECK IN:

Custer County Fair Grounds
Home Economics Building
Monday, July 15, 7:00 am

EXHIBIT JUDGING:

Monday, July 15, 9:00 am

EXHIBIT RELEASE:

Sunday, July 21, up to 9:00 am

Show off your talent!

Call **783-2514** for complete rules and class information.

**CSU Extension, Custer County, P O Box 360 205 S. 6th Street,
Westcliffe, Co. 81252**





June 2013

Westcliffe Farmer's Market - The kick off market will be held on June 12th at Jess Price Park in Westcliffe from 9am to 1pm and run every week through September. Lippis Farms of Florence will anchor the market this year. There will be new vendors as well as long-time favorites, providing a diversity of local produce, herbal products, baked goods, live plants, and unique crafts. All are invited to come and support our growing local food economy and make this the best season yet for the Westcliffe Farmers Market.

Study reveals opportunities for Colorado agriculture

A newly released Colorado State University study reveals various linkages that tie Colorado's agriculture industry together, and provides an opportunity to build bridges between the different commodities and communities that make up Colorado agriculture, including the food, beverage and green industries.

Value Chain a collaborative effort

"The Value Chain of Colorado Agriculture" is a joint project funded by CSU's Office of Engagement and the Colorado Department of Agriculture. The study maps the economic relationships among the various sectors of Colorado's agricultural industry, which is one of the largest contributors to the state's economy.

"The value chain analysis is exciting for Colorado's agricultural industry," said Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture John Salazar. "We can now base decisions that shape our future on comprehensive information encompassing all of Colorado's agriculture industries instead of individual commodities. This provides everyone from consumers, to producers, to policy makers the opportunity to form decisions based on a common starting point."

Agriculture touches many

Colorado agriculture, which annually contributes at least \$40 billion in sales to the state's economy, is often seen as a collection of separate commodity groups. The value chain study makes connections among the sometimes disparate industries and sectors that nonetheless share common resources, constraints and opportunities.

"Colorado's agriculture industry is vital to the economic health of Colorado and the way of life cherished by Coloradans," said President Tony Frank. "Because we all have a shared interest in the viability of Colorado's agriculture, it is imperative that we have a strong, well-researched understanding of the available resources, challenges, and opportunities related to Colorado's land and water. This value-chain analysis represents Colorado State's continued effort to help position Colorado agriculture for a sustainable success for years to come."

Five broad segments were included in the study: agricultural inputs; primary agricultural production; agricultural output marketing, processing and manufacturing; wholesaling; and retailing. In all, more than 125 distinct economic activities, sub-sectors and industries were tied to the value chain.

"This study reveals that our connections to Colorado agriculture are both broad and deep," said Lou Swanson, vice president for the [Office of Engagement](#). "The value chain focuses on these interconnections, leading to growth opportunities and innovations in agriculture and other sectors of our economy."

New way of talking about agriculture

Results of the value chain can aid with strategic decision-making on issues ranging from workforce, to natural resources, to regulatory policies. In the end, the study is designed to promote additional conversations that can result in calculated investments and innovative solutions for Colorado agriculture.

"There are only a few regions in the U.S. with a comparable confluence of agriculture, research, technology, and urban resources; bringing together farmers and foodies; bringing together farm sector investors and venture capitalists to enable them to learn from one another," said Gregory Graff, associate professor in the [Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics](#) and the lead author on the study. "This overlap of agriculture on a significant scale and scope and a high-tech urban corridor holds all of the ingredients necessary to spawn an innovation cluster."

Want to know more?

A series of outreach meetings with various agricultural interests around Colorado are being planned. For more information, contact [Jim Beers](#) at (970) 491-2332. The complete study and related documents are available [online](#).

Contact: Jim Beers

E-mail: jim.beers@colostate.edu

Phone: (970) 491-2332

FREE Babysitter training class offered. Any youth ages 10-18 interested in becoming a trained babysitter, please contact the Extension office. A class will be scheduled depending on availability of participants. You will learn the basics on the responsibilities of babysitting; infant, toddler, and preschool development, and how to handle emergency situations. Please call the Extension office for more information and to sign up with your availability.



The Custer County Youth Model Rocket Club still has four spaces left! If you are interested in joining, then come to the first workshop on June 6th from 2pm-4pm at the Annex building (yellow house) across Rosita Street from the Court House. There will be workshops every Thursday in June to build and launch your rocket. You will be able to launch your rocket on July 13th at 1pm at the Fair Grounds. Prizes will be given. The best part is, it's free! You get the rocket, four lessons, and the launch. You don't have to be signed up for the 4-H model rocket project, you just have to have a desire to build and launch a rocket!



Have you ever wanted to try growing potatoes? It's easy! With the Custer County Extension Backyard Gardener's Program, you can get some seed potato for you to plant in your own backyard! Just come into the



Extension office weekdays from 8-4 or come to the Westcliffe Farmer's Market on Wednesday's from 9-1 at the Jess Price Park and sign up for the program. You will get certified seed potato from five different varieties of potatoes grown at the CSU Research Center in the San Luis Valley. All you have to do is plant them and report back on the progress of your potatoes. You get to keep the potatoes you grow! Please call the Extension office for more information. Please complete the form below and bring with you.

Custer County CSU Extension Backyard Gardener's Program 2013 Potato growers

Information:

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Physical address (planting location) _____

Phone and e-mail _____

What kinds of Potato did you take?

Yukon Golds Purple Majesties Rose Fin Apple Fingerlings Masquerade Specialty

What date did you plant? _____

Where did you plant? (south facing slope, full sun, etc.) _____

What kind of soil? (sandy, clay, humus, etc.) _____

Did you amend the soil and with what? (compost, potting soil, etc.) _____

Do you water them and if so, how often and how much? (every three days, 2-3 gallons of water, 1 gallon per plant, etc.) _____

Did you plant with other plants? What kind? _____

Date Harvested _____

How many harvested and what kinds? _____