

Family & Consumer Science News

**Family & Consumer
Science News
Ford County**

Contact Information
Ford County Extension Office
100 Gunsmoke St
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-227-4542

Hours:
8:30 am - 12 noon
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Agents:
Ethel Schneweis, CEA
Family & Consumer Sciences

Andrea Burns, CEA
Ag & Natural Resources

Tamara Robertson
4-H & Youth Development

Office Professional:
Cierra Blackwell

e-mails:
eschnewe@ksu.edu
aburns@ksu.edu
tarobertson@ksu.edu
cjblack@ksu.edu

web: www.ford.ksu.edu
[www.facebook.com/FordCoE
extension](https://www.facebook.com/FordCoEextension)

The mission of KSU
Cooperative Extension Family
and Consumer Sciences is to
link education with life
experiences to help people
improve their lives, their
families, and their communities

*“Knowledge
for Life”*

2026 FORD COUNTY FAIR, JULY 16-20

Entry day for all Open Class Division entries

including Special Contests will be on

THURSDAY, July 16, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm!!

For your convenience, the Fair Schedule and the Open Class portion of the 2026 Ford County Fair Book are included. The complete Fair Book is available on our website www.ford.ksu.edu. It is also available in print at the Extension Office. Entry cards will be available by the end of June to early July. You will be able to exhibit anything you have made since August 2025 to July 16, 2026.

There are three Special Contests in 2026. There will be a “Creative Flower” Contest, “Photo” Contest with a theme of “There’s No place like Kansas” a “Building Creations Contest” which participants can use Legos®, Knex, toothpicks, ice cream sticks, etc. and a King Arthur Flour Quick Breads Contest. Read through the rules & start making plans to enter.

Don’t forget the theme for the Fair is “Follow the Red Brick Road to the Ford County Fair”.

The Fair Concessions will be provided by food vendor trucks as well as many free meals throughout the Fair.

FUN things to do include: “Welcome to the Fair” during the Thursday evening Hot Dog Feed, and entertainment by The Dodge City Cowboy Band. Food Sale will be taking place also during this time. Free Watermelon will follow a free Pork Burger Feed on Friday evening, July 17. Turtle Races will again be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 4:30 pm. The annual Ice Cream Social will be on Sunday, July 19 at 2:30 pm. Plus, so much more for the whole family to enjoy during the Fair!!!

**Check out more details on the Fair page included within the newsletter.
Invite a friend or neighbor to exhibit!**

EXCITING NEWS -- 4-H AGENT HIRED – TAMARA ROBERTSON HAS JOINED US!

Tamara Robertson, a past 12-year Ford County 4-H Member and recently the Cottonwood District Ellis County 4-H Agent, started in Ford County on May 11 as our new Ford County 4-H Agent!!!! We are very excited to welcome Tamara to our office Extension team! Say hi, and welcome her when you see her in our office or at the county fair.



SUPERINTENDENTS NEEDED FOR COUNTY FAIR

If you would like to be more involved with the County Fair, consider being a superintendent. Do you have friends or relatives (grandkids, sisters, etc.) you think might be able to help? We are needing additional superintendents for open class and 4-H divisions. Superintendents help with check-in of exhibits, assisting judges by writing comments and placing ribbons on exhibits. They also help with displaying the exhibits and making the area presentable for the public. Interested? Contact me at eschneue@ksu.edu or call and let me know.

Ford County Fair, July 16-20, 2026

The Fair Association Board have been finalizing plans for the 2026 Ford County Fair. Please note: ALL Open Class exhibits need to be brought to the Ford County Fairgrounds for **entry on THURSDAY, JULY 16 between 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.**

Open Class Division has classes for: arts and crafts; clothing construction and stitchery; food preservation; foods; flowers; photography; rabbits; crops and gardening. Plan to bring one or more entries!! Check individual divisions for entry times and rules, as some rules and classes have changed. Poultry and Rabbits must be entered at Fairgrounds between 7:30-10:30 am on Thursday, July 16.

All exhibits will be released on Monday, July 20 beginning at noon to 2:00 pm, right after a free Fair Exhibitor Appreciation Meal (11:30 am -12:30 pm). If you can't come at that time, exhibits will also be released between 5-7 pm, or Tuesday morning, July 21 between 8:30-10 am.

Other Fair Information...

- **4-H/Open Class Foods Sale is Thursday at 6:30 pm**
- **4-H Fashion Review will start at 1:30 pm on Sunday, July 19**
- **4-H Foundation Scholarship Awards will start at 2:00 pm on Sunday.**
- **Saturday, July 18 – Nicholas Williams' Memorial Kids Pedal Tractor Pull,**
- **Turtle Races start at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday & Sunday evenings and are sponsored by Credit Union of DC.**
- **Peoples Choice Award for Quilts**

Special Attractions

Welcome to the Fair Hot Dog Feed

Sponsored by the Hi Plains Feed, LLC
Thursday, July 16 at 6:30 pm with the first 300 people receiving a free meal.
Dodge City Cowboy Band Performance

Sunday Breakfast/Church Service

July 19 at 9:00 am
breakfast is sponsored by:
American Implement and J & A Service
Church Service @ 10:00 am

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 19, 2:30 pm
Sponsored by: Ford County Farm Bureau Assoc.

4-H Livestock Shows

Friday, July 17, 8:30 am – 4-H/FFA Swine Show
Saturday, July 18, 7:30 am – 4-H Horse Show
Saturday, July 18, 5:30 pm – 4-H/FFA Sheep and Meat Goat Shows
Sunday, July 19, 5:30 pm – Beef Show
Monday, July 20, 9:00 am Round Robin Showmanship Contest



FORD COUNTY FAIR OPEN CLASS

ADULT & NON-4-H YOUTH

DEPARTMENT 100 - OPEN CLASS

The following rules are prescribed by the Ford County Fair Board for the operation of the Ford County Fair. The Board reserves the right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle all questions arising in connection with the fair.

1. Management is not responsible for accidents, fire, or theft of exhibits or injuries to persons. **Exhibits shall be displayed at owner's risk.**
2. Exhibitor must be a Ford County resident or affiliated with a Ford County FCE or Extension Club as a member, to be eligible to exhibit in Open Class. Age will be determined by day of entry for open class youth. Adult Divisions are for exhibitors 19 years and older. Junior Divisions are for exhibitors 18 and younger who are **not enrolled in 4-H or 4-H Cloverbuds** with the exception that 4-H'ers may enter the special contests division. (See special contest rules for ages.) Juniors are requested to put actual Age on entry card.
3. No entry fee will be required.
4. No advanced registration is required. Entry cards may be picked up at the Extension Office after July 1 and filled out before you come to the fair. This will help speed up the check in procedure. Entry forms should be attached by safety pin, tape, or tied on the exhibit unless division rules state otherwise.
5. All exhibits must be made by the exhibitor. More than one entry per class per individual is permitted unless class rules state otherwise.
6. All exhibits must be made since August 1, 2025 (unless otherwise stated).
7. All exhibits must be checked in between **11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2026. All exhibits are to be checked out between 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, or 5:00 - 7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**
8. Entries will be placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd or receive a participation ribbon/sticker. If you do not wish to keep your ribbon, please feel free to return them at the time of exhibit check out or after the fair. Ribbons can be requested to replace a sticker. Premium money will be paid as follows: \$3.00 - first, \$2.00 - second, \$1.00 - third. **Premium money will be distributed at the time of checkout on Monday and Tuesday morning.**
9. Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Liability of Exhibitors and General Public

In no case shall the Ford County Fair or any of its officers be held responsible for damages in any loss, damage, injury, death or disability by disease or from theft or from any other cause to any such property or to any person at the Ford County Fairgrounds. The Ford County Fair hereby refuses to assume any responsibility for the safety as bailee or otherwise, or any property brought upon the Ford County Fairgrounds, said property being brought upon and kept upon said grounds at owner's risk. The management reserves the right to exclude from the grounds any person or persons whom they deem undesirable or expel from the grounds such person.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Class 5000	Oil Acrylic Painting
Class 5001	Drawing (i.e. ink, charcoal, crayon, pencil)
Class 5002	Water Color/Tempera Painting
Class 5003	China Painting
Class 5004	Textile Painting (i.e. t-shirt, sweatshirt, fabrics)
Class 5005	Tole/Folk Art
Class 5006	Christmas Tree Ornament (any medium)
Class 5007	Holiday Craft /Item (i.e. centerpiece, stocking)
Class 5008	Ceramics
Class 5009	Plastic Canvas
Class 5010	Stenciling
Class 5011	Interlocking Blocks – from kit
Class 5012	Interlocking Blocks – original design (non-kit)
Class 5013	Models (i.e. airplanes, rockets, ships, vehicles)
Class 5014	Diamond Art
Class 5015	Basket
Class 5016	Jewelry (i.e. beads, paper, feathers, leather)
Class 5017	Leather Craft
Class 5018	Scrapbooking
Class 5019	Wreath (all)
Class 5020	Artificial Flower Arrangement
Class 5021	Yard Ornament (any medium)
Class 5022	Latch Hook
Class 5023	Nursing Home Project
Class 5024	Day Care Art
Class 5025	Intellectually Disabled Project
Class 5026	Other Original Art (i.e. stain glass, wheat weaving)
Class 5027	Small Throw Away (under 10" tall)
Class 5028	Large Throw Away (over 10" tall)
Class 5029	Small Woodworking (under 10" tall)
Class 5030	Large Woodworking (over 10" tall)
Class 5031	Refinishing (judged on refinishing only)
Class 5032	Whittling and Carving
Class 5033	Welding
Class 5034	Collection – minimum of 10 pieces (Collection article(s) must be fastened down or contained in a box, plastic bag, or see-through container and include short story about collection of not more than 1 page.)
Class 5035	Small Miscellaneous (under 10" tall)
Class 5036	Large Miscellaneous (over 10" tall)

CLOTHING CONSTRUCTION

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Class 5100	Blouse/Shirt
Class 5101	Slacks, Jeans or Shorts
Class 5102	Jacket
Class 5103	Skirt
Class 5104	Dress
Class 5105	Serger Garment
Class 5106	Child's Dress
Class 5107	Child's Garment (other than a dress)
Class 5108	Costume Garment
Class 5109	Fleece Article or Garment
Class 5110	2 or More Piece Outfit
Class 5111	Beginner's Garment

Class 5112 Recycled Garment
Class 5113 Miscellaneous

FIBER ARTS

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Class 5114 Counted Cross-Stitch – wall hanging
Class 5115 Counted Cross-Stitch – other
Class 5116 Crewel Embroidery
Class 5117 Hand Embroidery
Class 5118 Machine Embroidery
Class 5119 Ribbon Embroidery
Class 5120 Knitting
Class 5121 Crochet
Class 5122 Needlepoint
Class 5123 Tatting
Class 5124 Quilt (professional machine quilted)
Class 5125 Quilt (professional hand quilted)
Class 5126 Quilt (machine quilted)
Class 5127 Quilt (hand quilted)
Class 5128 Quilt (tied)
Class 5129 Quilt (ragged)
Class 5130 Quilt T-Shirt
Class 5131 Miniature Quilt (machine quilted) 24" x 24"
(max)
Class 5132 Miniature Quilt (hand quilted) 24" x 24" (max)
Class 5133 Small Quilted Project (machine quilted) wall hanging, table runner
Class 5134 Small Quilted Project (hand quilted)
Class 5135 Miscellaneous Pillow
Class 5136 Tie Blanket
Class 5137 Weaving (machine, loom, etc.)
Class 5138 Stuffed Doll/Animal
Class 5139 Decorated Garment
Class 5140 Machine Applique
Class 5141 Hand Applique
Class 5142 Miscellaneous

People's Choice Award – Quilts (1st place will receive \$100.00 prize)

FLORICULTURE

- Select appropriate size container for your display and show pride in your entry (i.e. blooms in bottles or vases, plants in pots)
- Cut Flower entries are to be shown as explained in Publication 4-H-826, "Preparing Cut Flowers for Exhibit" available at http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/4h_y2/4h826.pdf.

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Class 5200 Small Zinnia Bloom (2" or smaller)
Class 5201 Large Zinnia Bloom (larger than 2")
Class 5202 Large Marigold (single bloom)
Class 5203 Small Marigold (single bloom)
Class 5204 Wild Sunflower (single bloom)
Class 5205 Domestic Sunflower (single bloom)
Class 5206 Mature Sunflower Head
Class 5207 Fresh Flower Arrangement
Class 5208 Hybrid Tea Rose (single bloom)
Class 5209 Miniature Rose (single bloom)
Class 5210 Any Other Rose (single bloom)
Class 5211 Gladiolus (single bloom)
Class 5212 Cone Flower
Class 5213 Petunia (single bloom)
Class 5214 Petunia (double bloom)
Class 5215 Petunia (double petaled)
Class 5216 Potted Plant (foliage)
Class 5217 Potted Plant (blooming)

Class 5218 Daylily (single bloom)
Class 5219 Daisy (single bloom)
Class 5220 Dahlias
Class 5221 African Violet
Class 5222 Geranium
Class 5223 Phlox
Class 5224 Hibiscus
Class 5225 Unusual Flower
Class 5226 Cactus (single)
Class 5227 Cactus Garden
Class 5228 Blooming Shrub
Class 5229 French Garden
Class 5230 Other Annual
Class 5231 Other Perennial
Class 5232 Other Biennial
Class 5233 Other Bulb or Tuber

FOOD

For food safety purposes, any food with custard and dairy based fillings and frostings (ex. cream cheese) regardless of sugar content, raw eggs, flavored oils, "canned" bread or bread or cakes in a jar, cut fresh fruit or any food requiring refrigeration (ex. bacon) or unbaked exhibit with raw flour (ex. No Bake Cookies) will be disqualified and not be judged. Refer to K-State Extension publication, 4-H488, Judge's Guide for Food and Nutrition Exhibits, for information to help you make informed, safe food exhibit decisions.

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

- Please place food items on a foil covered cardboard (the approximate size of the product) or use a small white plate and place item in a plastic bag.
- All exhibits are required to have a complete recipe with all ingredients and instructions attached with the entry card. (The recipe will not be returned). Lack of recipe will result in exhibit being lowered one or more ribbon placings in ribbon being lowered one placing. For copyright purposes include source of recipe used (i.e. name of cookbook, magazine, etc.).
- Food will be sold at the Foods Sale during the Fair.

Cookie Definitions:

- ★ Drop Cookies – any cookie dough dropped from a spoon onto a cookie sheet.
- ★ Refrigerator Cookies – any cookie made by slicing rich dough, which has been thoroughly chilled.
- ★ Molded Cookies – any cookie dough molded or rolled with the hands.
- ★ Bar Cookies – any cake-like cookie made from a stiff batter spread in a shallow pan and cut into bars or squares after baking.
- ★ Rolled Cookies – any cookie made from stiff dough and rolled with a rolling pin to the desired thickness and cut into desired shapes.

Class 5300 White Yeast Bread (1 loaf)
Class 5301 Whole Wheat Yeast Bread (1 loaf)
Class 5302 White Yeast Rolls (4 rolls)
Class 5303 Whole Wheat Yeast Rolls (4 rolls)
Class 5304 Cinnamon Rolls (4 rolls)
Class 5305 White Bread - made in bread machine (1 loaf)
Class 5306 Other Breads - made in bread machine (1 loaf)
Class 5307 Quick Bread (1 loaf)
Class 5308 Muffins – other than plain (4 muffins)
Class 5309 White Cake – unfrosted (1 cake)
Class 5310 Chocolate Cake – unfrosted (1 cake)
Class 5311 Frosted Cupcakes - any flavor (4 cupcakes)
Class 5312 Drop Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5313 Bar Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5314 No Bake Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5315 Molded Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5316 Refrigerator Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5317 Rolled Cookies (4 cookies)
Class 5318 Coffee Cake – non-yeast (1 cake)

- Class 5319 Angel Food Cake – unfrosted (1 cake)
- Class 5320 Fruit Pie (1 pie)
- Class 5321 Candy (4 pieces)
- Class 5322 Sugar Substitute or No Sugar Food Item
- Class 5323 Snack Item (1 cup in a bag or 4 servings)
- Class 5324 Honey – 1 jar (*will not be sold*)
- Class 5325 Decorated Cake – Judged on decorations only. Not sold at County Fair. (Amateur cake decorators only - decorate cakes for family and friends but do not sell decorated cakes.)
- Class 5326 Six Decorated Cupcakes - Judged on decorations only. Not sold at County Fair. (Amateur cake decorators only - decorate cakes for family and friends but do not sell decorated cakes.)

PRESERVATION

All entries must have a preservation label listing name of product, type of processing and date.

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge’s discretion.

- Include recipe with entry
- Food to have been canned since August 1, 2025.
- Judge has the option to open preservation entries.
- Method of processing must be included on label. Open kettle method of canning will NOT be accepted. All sweet spread, jellies, fruits, pickles, and acid vegetables must be processed by water bath or pressure canner. All non-acid vegetables must be pressure processed.
- **No paraffin wax allowed.**
- Only food processed in standard clear canning jars with 2-piece lids in good condition will be accepted, (no colored jars will be accepted). Current canning recommendations are available from the Ford County Extension Office.
- Only 1 jar is required per entry.
- For complete canning and exhibiting rules & guidelines, please call the Ford County Extension Office.

- Class 5400 Relishes
- Class 5401 Jams (no paraffin seals accepted)
- Class 5402 Jellies (no paraffin seals accepted)
- Class 5403 Fruit
- Class 5404 Vegetables
- Class 5405 Tomatoes or Tomato Products
- Class 5406 Pickles
- Class 5407 Sweet Spreads
- Class 5408 Dried Foods – 1 dried food product in a small jar (If dried food product is not in a canning jar, it will be lowered one ribbon rating. Suggested amount: 1/3 to 1/2 cup, or three or four pieces per exhibit. All meat jerky **must** be cooked to 160°F before drying. Dried products must include the recipe and preparation steps. Jerky not heated to 160°F will not be judged.)
- Class 5409 Miscellaneous

HORTICULTURE

Entries are to be shown as explained in Publication #405, “Exhibiting Fruits and Vegetables” available at <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/library/hort2/c405.pdf>.

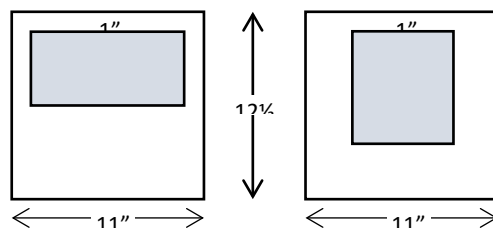
Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge’s discretion.

- Class 5500 Beets – plate of 5
- Class 5501 Bell Peppers – plate of 5
- Class 5502 Hot Peppers – plate of 5
- Class 5503 Miscellaneous Peppers (all 1 variety) – plate of 5
- Class 5504 Carrots – plate of 5
- Class 5505 Tomatoes – plate of 5
- Class 5506 Small Tomatoes (i.e. cherry, grape) – plate of 5

- Class 5507 White Onions - plate of 5
- Class 5508 Yellow Onions – plate of 5
- Class 5509 Red Onions – plate of 5
- Class 5510 Green Onions – plate of 5
- Class 5511 Green Beans – plate of 12
- Class 5512 White Potatoes – plate of 5
- Class 5513 Red Potatoes – plate of 5
- Class 5514 Okra – plate of 5
- Class 5515 Rhubarb – plate of 5
- Class 5516 Cabbage – plate of 1
- Class 5517 Winter Squash – plate of 1
- Class 5518 Summer Squash – plate of 1
- Class 5519 Zucchini – plate of 1
- Class 5520 Slicing Cucumbers – plate of 5
- Class 5521 Pickling Cucumbers – plate of 5
- Class 5522 Kohlrabies - -plate of 5
- Class 5523 Sweet Corn – plate of 5
- Class 5524 Radishes – plate of 5
- Class 5525 Oversized Miscellaneous Vegetable
- Class 5526 Collected Exhibit – original arrangement (6 varieties of the same number as requested in individual class)
- Class 5527 Fruit – plate of 5
- Class 5528 Miscellaneous – plate of 5 small or 1 large
- Class 5529 Any Freak Vegetable – plate of 1
- Class 5530 Painted/Decorated Vegetable – plate of 1
- Class 5531 Painted/Decorated Fruit – plate of 1
- Class 5532 Fresh Herbs – 1 variety of fresh herbs (Fresh culinary herbs such as parsley, basil, dill, etc. may be exhibited using 6 stems or a comparable quantity. Exhibit in a disposable container of water.)

PHOTOGRAPHY

- **Exhibitors are allowed up to 3 entries per class.**
- The same photo is not eligible to be submitted in more than one class or category (i.e. the same print cannot be entered in Open Class Photography and in the Special Contest).
- Prints must be a standard 4”x6” or 8”x10”, which are considered an enlargement. All prints are to be mounted across the narrow dimension (**portrait layout not landscape**) of 11”x12½” **white studio mount board or heavy weight poster board**. Photo studio board mount is available for purchase at the Extension Office. The top edge of the print must be 1” below the top of the mount. Side of the print must be equal distance from the two sides of the mount.



- **Pictures will not be accepted in frames, on lightweight poster board or on paper.** Enlargements are to be entered in class 5610, 5611, 5612, 5613, and 5615. **A permanent mount must be made by using a photographic adhesive mount.** Remove white border before mounting. Place name in lower left-hand corner on back of studio mount board or heavy weight poster board.
- All photos will be placed in a clear plastic display bag after judging and prior to display by the superintendent.
- No lettering or dates will be permitted on the front of the mount or on the photograph. No underlays, borders, or decorative mats are to be used. Superintendents will attach the entry card.

- Photos with live subject(s) on railroad right away or taken from railroad right of way property will not be displayed and will be disqualified and not judged.

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Color Prints

Class 5600	Landscape
Class 5601	Still Life (inanimate object)
Class 5602	Wildlife
Class 5603	Pets
Class 5604	People
Class 5605	Children
Class 5606	Flowers
Class 5607	Weather
Class 5608	Miscellaneous
Class 5609	Photo Story Collage (3 pictures all on 1 board)
Class 5610	Enlargement – People
Class 5611	Enlargement – Landscape
Class 5612	Enlargement – Flowers
Class 5613	Enlargement - Wildlife
Class 5614	Enlargement - Other

Black and White Prints

Class 5615	Standard Size
Class 5616	Enlargement

Digitally Altered Prints

Class 5617	Standard Size
Class 5618	Enlargement

POULTRY

- Poultry must be entered at Fairgrounds between 7:30 am-10:00 am on Thursday, July 16. Limited to a total of eight entries for poultry.
- Routine surveillance testing will be performed for the Ford County Fair a minimum of once every 5 years. Ford County tested in 2024 and will not test again until 2029. For more info. refer to **Page 25**.
- **Young birds are defined as those born this calendar year. Old birds are defined as those born the previous calendar year.**
- Please refer to **Page 12** for the Heat Contingency Plan.
- Open Class participants are expected to maintain and clean their poultry area prior to leaving the fairgrounds and prior to receiving any premiums.

**** See list of Accepted Breeds and Varieties of the American Poultry Association available at www.ford.ksu.edu.**

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Poultry – Classes will be broken down by breed.

Class 5700	Standard Large Fowl Breeds – 1 young or old bird of either sex
Class 5701	Bantams – 1 young or old bird of either sex
Class 5702	Pen of 3 Production Pullets – Standardbred, Crossbred or Straincross pullets (judged on egg production qualities only)
Class 5703	Pen of 3 Production Hens – Standardbred, Crossbred or Straincross hens (judged on egg production qualities only)
Class 5704	Pen of 3 Dual Purpose Pullets – (i.e. Rhode Island Reds, New Hampshire, Plymouth Rocks)
Class 5705	Pen of 3 Dual Purpose Hens – (i.e. Rhode Island Reds, New Hampshire, Plymouth Rocks)
Class 5706	Pen of 3 Meat Type Chickens – Standardbred, Crossbred or Straincross birds of the same sex (judged on meat production qualities only)

Turkeys – Limited to 3 entries per class.

Class 5707	One Young or Old - all breeds of either sex
------------	---

Ducks – Limited to 3 entries per class.

Class 5708	One Young or Old Duck - all breeds of either sex
------------	--

Geese – Limited to 3 entries per class.

Class 5709	One Young or Old Goose/Gander – all breeds
------------	--

Other Poultry Categories – Limited to 3 entries per class.

Class 5710	Pen of 3 Quail, Pheasant or Guineas
Class 5711	Exotics
Class 5712	Eggs – 1 dozen (brown, white, colored, etc.)

RABBIT

- Rabbit must be entered at Fairgrounds between 7:30 – 10 a.m. Thursday, July 16.
- All rabbits entered must have permanent tattoo number in left ear.
- **Show Date: Friday, July 17, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.**
- Limited to a total of eight entries for rabbits.
- All animals are subject to examination by exhibition staff or their representatives, and shall be free of clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease.
- Please refer to **Page 12** for the Heat Contingency Plan.
- Open Class participants are expected to maintain and clean their rabbit area prior to leaving the fairgrounds and prior to receiving any premiums.
- **Classes 5740 and 5741 will be separated into subcategories of: a. Juniors – rabbit under 6 months of age; b. Intermediates – rabbit between 6-8 months of age; and c. Senior – rabbit over 8 months of age.**

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Rabbits – Classes will be broken down by breed.

Class 5740	Does
Class 5741	Bucks
Class 5742	Pen of 3 Meat Class Rabbits (Weighing a maximum of 5 lbs. each.)

CROPS

- Crops exhibited in this division must have been grown within the last growing season.
- An exhibitor may enter one entry per class.
- All entries shall have the name of **hybrid & variety** listed on the entry.
- Each class will be divided into dryland and irrigated production as needed.
- Classes may be divided into subdivisions if needed.
- Labels are to be placed on the outside of jars with one label in the grain.
- Immature grain heads will not be penalized for immaturity.
- Exhibit only the number or amount specified in each class.

Classes may be subdivided pending on the number of entries at the superintendent and judge's discretion.

Class 5800	Wheat (1-gallon wide mouth jar)
Class 5801	Barley (1-gallon wide mouth jar)
Class 5802	Grain Sorghum (5 heads)
Class 5803	Forage Sorghum (10 stalks)
Class 5804	Corn (5 stalks)
Class 5805	Sudan Grass (10 stalks)
Class 5806	Rye (1-gallon wide mouth jar)
Class 5807	Alfalfa (1 flake or slice from a rectangular bale or 10" division cut from a round bale. The flake or slice should be approximately 6" thickness & tied in 2 directions.)
Class 5808	Soybeans (bundle of 5 plants)
Class 5809	Soybeans (1-gallon thrashed from previous year's crop)
Class 5810	Cotton (bundle of 5 plants)
Class 5811	Sunflower (1 head)
Class 5812	Miscellaneous (1-gallon wide mouth jar of grain or 10 stalks)

DEPARTMENT 101:
SPECIAL CONTESTS

KING ARTHUR FLOUR
QUICK BREADS CONTEST



FORD COUNTY FAIR BOARD'S
PHOTO CONTEST

1. Must be a picture taken within the geographic boundaries of Kansas.
2. Photos must have been taken following the close of the 2025 County Fair.
3. Photos entered in 4-H or Open Class are not eligible.
4. Contest open to Ford County residents & those affiliated with Ford County FCE, Adult & Youth (4-H & non-4-H) are welcome to enter.
5. 4-H mounting guidelines will be followed for this contest. All photos' must be no larger than 8"x10" and no smaller than 7"x9". Photos are to be mounted across the narrow (11") dimension of an 11"x12½" sheet of white or cream studio mount. The top edge of the print must be 1" below the top of the mount. Side of the print must be equal distance from the two sides of the mount. A permanent dry mount must be made using photographic adhesive mounting. Remove white border from the enlargement before mounting.
6. No lettering is permitted on the front mount or on the photo. No underlays or borders are to be used.
7. The exhibitor's name should be written on the back of the mount in the lower left corner.
8. To protect exhibits from dust and moisture, photo will be placed in a clear plastic bag after judging.
9. Photo must be entered between 11:30 & 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16 at the Fair building.
10. There will be an adult and youth division.
11. Contest is sponsored by Shovel SnapShots by Chelsea Deges. The division prizes: **1st** - \$50.00; **2nd** - \$30.00; **3rd** - \$20.00.

PHOTO CONTEST

The theme for this special contest is: **"There's no place like Kansas".**

- Class 6230 Adult Division (18 and older)
Class 6231 Youth Division (17 and younger)

FORD COUNTY FCE COUNCIL'S
FLOWER CREATIONS CONTEST

1. Flower Creations must be entered between 11:30 & 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16 at the Fair building.
2. Contest is open to Ford County residents and those affiliated with Ford County FCE. Adult and youth (4-H and non-4-H) are welcome to enter.
3. Flowers are to be made with non-living materials. (Pipe cleaners, fabric, recycled materials, paper, plastic bags, etc.)
4. Flowers may be any variety of flower. (Rose, daisy, peony, sunflower, etc.)
5. Entry may be a single flower in a vase or an arrangement in a container or a Bouquet.
6. Entries will be judged on construction, appearance, creativity and color.
7. Original designs are encouraged. If copied, credit should be given.
8. Entries will be judged on appearance, creativity, and construction.
9. Contest is sponsored by the Ford County FCE Council. Awards will be 1st place - \$50.00; 2nd place - \$30.00; and 3rd place - \$20.00.

FLOWER CREATIONS CONTEST

- Class 6220 Single flower in vase
Class 6221 Flower arrangement or Bouquet

1. Entries need to be brought to the Ford County Fair on **Thursday, July 16 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.** Quick Bread becomes the property of the Ford County Fair Association.
2. Quick Breads must be made from scratch. No mixes or prepared frostings allowed.
3. Judging will be based on: Taste (50%), Creativity & Overall Appearance (25%) and Texture (25%)
4. Directions for preparing the recipe must be clear; measurements should be in level cups, tablespoons, teaspoons or fractions thereof; also include pan size cooking temperature, number of servings and any other pertinent information.
5. Exhibitor must bring the opened or empty bag of King Arthur Flour or submit a UPC label from the flour bag when he/she submits the entry.
6. Use ingredients that are readily available in grocery stores.
7. Type or legibly write recipe on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper with name, address daytime and evening phone number, email address if available in the upper right hand corner. Entries must be legible and include a phone number or they will be disqualified. Recipes will become property of the Ford County Fair.
8. **Contestants may submit one entry. Entry consists of 1 loaf.**
9. This contest is open to all ages; amateurs only.
10. Bring to the fair on any type of plate/tray (preferably disposable). It will not be the responsibility of the fair to return any dishes or containers.
11. Entries must be prepared at home and presented at the Ford County Fair ready for judging.
12. Due to lack of refrigeration at the County Fair, perishable frostings/fillings will not be allowed. Perishable foods are those with custard and cream cheese type fillings and frostings or food that requires refrigeration.

Prices sponsored by King Arthur Baking Company

Adult Prices	Youth Prices
1st Place: \$75.00 gift card	1st Place: \$40.00 gift card
2nd Place: \$50.00 gift card	2nd Place: \$25.00 gift card
3rd Place: \$ 25.00 gift card	3rd Place: \$25.00 gift card

QUICK BREADS CONTEST

- Class 6300 King Arthur Baking Contest – 1 Loaf (Adult)
Class 6301 King Arthur Baking Contest – 1 Loaf (Youth)

BUILDING CREATIONS CONTEST

1. **All entries will be brought in Thursday, July 16 from 4:30-6:30 pm. Entries will be judged the morning of Friday, July 17. No early release will be permitted. Entries must be picked up Monday, July 20 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., 5-7 pm or Tuesday, July 21, 8:30-10:00 am**
2. Contest is open to Ford County residents and those affiliated with Ford County FCE. Adult and youth (4-H and non-4-H) are welcome to enter.
3. Group exhibits are allowed, but only one prize will be given per exhibit if selected winner.
4. Each builder may enter a maximum of one (1) exhibit, this includes a group exhibit.
5. Exhibit may be an original design or made from a kit.
6. Building Creations (LEGO®, K'NEX®, toothpicks, etc.) should be no larger than 24" (L) x 24" (W) x 60" (H). Special size

DEPARTMENT 103: WHEAT CONTEST

accommodations can be made for larger creations with the approval of an Extension Agent. Contact the Ford County Extension Office prior to entry.

7. Building Creations will be judged on theme selected by exhibitor, neatness, and creativity.
8. All entries must be completely assembled when entered. Only minor repairs will be permitted at entry.
9. **Creations will be judged in (3) separate age categories: Junior (ages 7-12), Senior (ages 13-18), and Adult (ages 19+).**
10. Contest is sponsored by Williamson Architecture and Dodge City Rotary Club with prizes awarded for top 3 exhibits in each age-category.
11. All exhibits are required to be placed in a sturdy see-through enclosure with a top, bottom and 4 sides. A clear tub turned upside down with the exhibit placed on the lid would be an acceptable enclosure. It may be desirable to place a cutting board or other hard surface between the lid and base plate of the exhibit to make it sturdier. This is to keep exhibit parts from being "scattered to parts unknown" at the Fair. The outer dimensions of the enclosure **DO NOT** count towards the total exhibit dimensions but should not be excessive. **The entire exhibit should fit in the display enclosure so the enclosure does not smash into the exhibit during movement.**
 - a. Cases are to be removable and should not be bolted down, glued, or sealed in any way that prevents judges from touching the actual display. (Locking handles and snap shut lids are fine.)

BUILDING CREATIONS CONTEST

- Class 6210 Building Creation Contest (Juniors)
Class 6211 Building Creation Contest (Seniors)
Class 6213 Building Creation Contest (Adults)

DEPARTMENT 102: F.C.E./CLUB BOOTHS

1. Each unit or club may enter one booth that illustrates a phase of educational work. Include a 3"x5" card describing what educational area was chosen and why.
2. All booths will be rated blue (excellent), red (good), or white (fair). Premiums will be \$25.00 for blue, \$15.00 for red, and no premium for white.
3. Fair Building will be open for Booth setup between approx. 7:30 pm – 10:00 pm on Tuesday, July 14 after setup and 8:00 - noon on Wednesday, July 15. Booths are to be erected Wednesday, July 15 by 12:00 p.m. (noon).
4. Booth size is 72" length, 48" depth, and 48" height. (Approximately)
5. Advertising is not recommended in your educational booth.
6. Each unit/club is to label its booth with a card giving the unit/club name. Each unit/club will also be expected to maintain their booth at all times.
7. Booths will be judged on the following basis:

Educational Value	40%
Interest and Originality	20%
Appearance	20%
Quality of Display Material	20%
8. Booths must be entered in Extension Office by July 1.

- Class 6000 Booth

\$200 total prize money provided by Ford County Fair Assoc. Traveling plaque provided by Pride Ag Resources.) Samples will be collected at the following elevators in Ford County off the truck during harvest: Pride Ag Resources - Dodge City, Howell, Ford/Kingsdown elevators, Ensign, and Saddle Road elevators; Alliance Ag - Wright, Spearville, Minneola, Bloom, and Wilroads elevators; and Offerle Co-op - Bellefont, Bucklin & Offerle elevators. **All entries must have been grown in Ford County.** Information cards will be filled out at time of sample's collection with the producer's name, field I.D., and variety on it. After harvest, Official Crop Data forms will be sent to each intended participant and are to be filled out and returned to the Ford County Extension Office no later than **June 30, 2026.**

1. Crop Data forms are to be turned into the Extension Office no later than 4:30 p.m., June 30. Varieties without data cards will not be judged.
2. All wheat exhibits shall be produced during the current year in Ford County.
3. All exhibits shall be of COMBINE RUNS ONLY, samples shall consist of approximately 3 pounds of wheat collected at the cooperating elevators.
4. ANY ENTRY THAT HAS BEEN HAND PICKED OR SCREENED WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
5. Limitation of entries: Each operator is limited to one (1) for each variety of wheat grown on exhibitor's farm. Landlord may enter if tenant DOES NOT.
6. The decision of the judges will be final-no appeals will be considered.
7. Premiums and ribbons will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places for each class. In case of a tie, premiums will be added together and divided by the number of entrants tying.
8. A plaque of the overall winner will be presented on Sunday, July 20 at 5:15 p.m. in arena. This plaque will be provided by Pride Ag Resources and will be displayed with winner's name and variety for each year. The plaque will be displayed at the co-op where the winning variety was delivered.
9. Top 3 entries in each class will be transported to the Kansas State Fair in September. The Grand Champion will represent Ford County in the Kansas State Fair Market Wheat Show Sweepstakes.

SAMPLES WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Protein	225 points
Test Weight	200 points
Dockage	200 points
Shrunken or Broken	100 points
<u>Completeness of Crop Data Card</u>	<u>25 points</u>
TOTAL ALL CRITERIA	750 points

- Class 6100 - All Hard-White Wheat Varieties
Class 6101 - All Hard-Red Wheat Blends
Class 6102 - All Other Private HRW Varieties or Hybrids
Class 6103 - All Westbred/Monsanto/HRW Varieties
Class 6104 - KSU Hard Red Wheat Varieties
Class 6105 - Other Public Hard Red Wheat Varieties



2026 EVENT SCHEDULE

Follow the RED Brick Road to the Ford County Fair

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE
AT THE FORD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
901 W. Park Street, Dodge City, Kansas

Thursday, July 16

7:30 am - 10:00 am	Poultry & Rabbits Check-In
7:30 am - 11:00 am	4-H/FFA Entry Check-In
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Open Class Check-In Special Contest & Exhibits Check-In
4:30 - 6:30 pm	Building Creations Special Contest Check-In
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Exhibit Building OPEN to Public Gun Raffle Sales Opens <i>*Purchase by Sunday, 12 pm</i>
6:30 pm	Welcome to the Fair Hot Dog Feed <i>Sponsored by Hi Plains Feed, LLC</i>
6:30 pm	Dodge City Cowboy Band
6:30 pm	4-H & Open Class Food Sale

Friday, July 17

8:30 am	4-H/FFA Swine Show
9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Exhibit Building OPEN to Public
11:00 am	Rabbit Show
11:30 am	Poultry Show
3:00 pm	4-H Hand Pet Show
4:30 pm	Turtle Races (<i>Kids 12 & Younger</i>) <i>Sponsored by Credit Union of D.C.</i>
5:00 pm	Pork Burger Feed <i>Sponsored by Parker Haskins Insurance powered by Inszone Insurance Services</i>
5:30 pm	Watermelon Feed <i>Sponsored by United Wireless Arena</i>
6:30 pm	Adult Celebrity Showmanship Contest
9:00 pm	Teen Dance <i>Sponsored by the Alley</i>

*All scheduled events
are subject to change.*

**Complete 2026 Fair Books are
available in print at the Ford County
Extension Office, 100 Gunsmoke,
Dodge City or online at www.ford.ksu.edu**

Saturday, July 18

7:30 am	4-H Horse Show
9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Exhibit Building OPEN to Public
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	5th Annual Nicholas Williams' Kids Pedal Tractor Pull (<i>Kids 12 & Younger</i>) <i>*Registration starting at 12:30 pm, Race at 1 pm</i>
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Skillathon
4:30 pm	Turtle Races (<i>Kids 12 & Younger</i>) <i>Sponsored by Credit Union of D.C.</i>
5:30 pm	4-H/FFA Sheep & Meat Goat Shows
9:30 pm	Movie at the Fair

Sunday, July 19

9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Exhibit Building OPEN to Public
9:00 am	Free Breakfast <i>Sponsored by J & A Service & American Imp.</i>
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Sunday Service
1:30 pm	4-H Public Fashion Review
2:00 pm	4-H Foundation Scholarship Awards
2:30 pm	Ice Cream Social <i>Sponsored by Ford County Farm Bureau</i>
2:30 pm	Cow Patty Bingo
2:30	Gun Raffle Drawing <i>*Purchase tickets by 12 pm</i>
3:00 pm	Barnyard Olympics
4:30 pm	Turtle Races (<i>Kids 12 & Younger</i>) <i>Sponsored by Credit Union of D.C.</i>
5:00 pm	Fair 4-H King & Queen Crowning
5:15 pm	Wheat Show Results
5:30 pm	4-H/FFA Beef Show
8:30 pm	Exhibitor Hamburger Feed

Monday, July 20

9:00 am	4-H/FFA Round Robin Showmanship
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Exhibit Building OPEN to Public
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Fair Exhibitor Appreciation Meal
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Release of ALL Exhibits
& 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	

Ford County Extension Office
100 Gunsmoke St
Dodge City, KS. 67801

June/July 2026

Dear Friends,

This newsletter has information concerning the Ford County Fair. The Open Class Department is enclosed for your convenience. Feel free to share with your friends and neighbors. Encourage them to exhibit and attend the Fair. There are lots of activities and fun for all ages. The Fair Book and schedule are also available on our website – www.ford.ksu.edu to download. The open class department starts on page number 102 in the fairbook. Like and follow the Ford County Fair on Facebook to keep up to date on what is happening.

Watch for the next FCS Newsletter in late August with upcoming meetings and nutrition sessions.

Sincerely,
Ethel

Ethel Schneweis
County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension
Ford County

K-State Extension

Ford County
100 Gunsmoke St
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-227-4542
620-227-4586 fax

K-State, County Extension
Council, Extension Districts,
and U.S. Department of
Agriculture Cooperating

K-State Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and
employer.

*“Knowledge
forLife”*