

THE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK PROGRAM FITTING AND GROOMING BASICS

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LIVESTOCK CLIPPING AND TECHNIQUES

- **WHY DO WE CLIP LIVESTOCK?**
 - **TO ENHANCE THE APPEARANCE OF ANIMALS**
 - **SATISFY RULES OF THE SHOW**
- **WHAT SPECIES DO WE CLIP?**
 - **MARKET STEERS, HOGS, LAMBS AND GOATS**
 - **BREEDING CATTLE/GOATS**
 - **DAIRY CATTLE/GOATS**
 - **HORSES**



LIVESTOCK CLIPPING AND TECHNIQUES

- **WHAT DO WE NEED TO CLIP?**
 - **HAIR PRODUCTS TO TRAIN HAIR AND ENHANCE SKIN**
 - **CLIPPERS, BLADES, BLOWER, ETC.**
 - **STAND, CHUTE, COMBS, CARDS, ETC.**
- **HOW DO WE LEARN TO CLIP?**
 - **VIDEOS, PUBLICATIONS**
 - **WATCHING OTHERS**
 - **PRACTICE!**



BASICS!

- **BUY CLIPPERS THAT WILL WORK FOR ALL SPECIES.**
- **KEEP HAIR CONDITIONED WITH QUALITY GROOMING PRODUCTS PRIOR TO CLIPPING**
- **DO NOT WASH LAMBS OR GOATS ANY MORE THAN NECESSARY**
- **START WITH A CLEAN ANIMAL**
- **MAKE SURE ALL SOAP IS REMOVED FROM HAIR OR WOOL**



SLICK SHEAR MARKET STEERS

WASH AND CONDITION HAIR BEFORE CLIPPING

CLIP EVERYTHING FROM THE HOOF UP WITH FINE BLADES LEAVING HAIR SHORTER THAN ¼ INCH

USE A SMALL TORCH TO GET INTO AREAS CLIPPERS CAN'T SUCH AS PASTERNS, BRISKET AND TWIST

BOB THE TAIL SQUARE

WATCH FOR KICKING!



SLICK SHEAR MARKET STEERS

- **SPRAY WITH CONDITIONER EVERY DAY TO KEEP HAIR SOFT AND SKIN FROM CRACKING**
- **CLIP AT LEAST ONE MONTH OUT AND THEN AGAIN AT LEAST A WEEK PRIOR TO A MAJOR SHOW**
- **USE A MODIFIED HORSE BLANKET TO HELP MAINTAIN CONDITION AND FINISH IN COLD WEATHER**



HAIR STEERS/BREEDING CATTLE

- **HAIR MUST BE BROKE AND READY TO CLIP**
- **WASH AND DRY COMPLETELY BEFORE CLIPPING**
- **CLIP A LITTLE AT A TIME**
- **DO NOT GET IN A HURRY!**
- **ENLIST THE HELP OF A SEASONED VOLUNTEER TO WORK WITH EXHIBITORS IN YOUR COUNTY**
- **GO ONLINE AND SEARCH FOR “CLIPPING SHOW CATTLE” VIDEOS AND PICTURES!**



MARKET HOGS

- **WASH AND CLEAN EVERY PART OF THE HOG INCLUDING THE EARS AND EAR TAGS**
- **CLIP THE ENTIRE HOG (INCLUDING THE FACE) WITH MEDIUM BLADES**
- **USUALLY CAN BE DONE SITTING IN THE PEN WITHOUT USING A SNARE**
- **CLIP AT HOME, NOT AT THE SHOW**

MARKET LAMBS

- **WASH AND CLEAN THE LAMB WITH A MILD SOAP TO REMOVE THE LANOLIN FROM THE WOOL**
- **BE SURE TO CLEAN IN THE POCKETS HIGH BETWEEN THE REAR LEGS AND UNDER THE BREAST PLATE**
- **GET OUT ALL DIRT AND RINSE WELL TO REMOVE SOAP**
- **SLICK SHEAR WITH MEDIUM OR FINE BLADES (DEPENDING ON FAT THICKNESS) FROM THE KNEE AND HOCK UP INCLUDING THE HEAD AND FACE**

MARKET LAMBS

- **ALWAYS CARD LEG WOOL DOWN AND USE BLOCKING BLADES TO SQUARE THE LEGS**
- **TAKE OFF AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ON THE INSIDE OF THE FRONT AND REAR LEGS AS WELL AS THE BACK OF THE FRONT AND FRONT OF THE REAR LEGS TO GIVE LENGTH AND WIDTH**
- **TRIM ALL HAIR AROUND THE TOP OF THE HOOF AND BLEND IN TO MATCH THE LEG WOOL**



MARKET GOATS

- WASH AND SCRUB THE GOAT CLEAN WITH A MILD SOAP TO REMOVE OILS FROM THE HAIR
- BLOW DRY AND SLICK SHEAR WITH MEDIUM OR FINE BLADES (DEPENDING ON FINISH) FROM THE KNEE AND HOCK UP
- BOB AND FEATHER THE TAIL
- COMB LEG HAIR DOWN AND CLIP LEGS
- TRIM HAIR ABOVE HOOF AND BLEND



THE REST

- SLICK SHEAR DAIRY CATTLE AND DAIRY GOATS AT LEAST A WEEK OUT FROM THE SHOW SO THAT ANY CLIPPER LINES WILL BE GROWN OVER
- BREEDING GOATS WILL BE CLIPPED PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS BREEDING CATTLE
- HORSES CAN BE SLICK SHEARED, IF DONE PROPERLY, BUT A SHEDDING BLADE WORKS BETTER



QUESTIONS?

