

2023 Mercer County Jr. Fair Auction Information

Auction Checklist:

- ✓ Submit Photo
- ✓ Declare which animal for auction
- ✓ Declare harvest option

READ THIS LETTER FOR DIRECTIONS

Questions? Concerns? Need more info?

Contact: mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com

Exhibitors can find their 2022 buyers for Thank You posters on the OSU Extension website: <https://go.osu.edu/auction>.

The 2023 Mercer County Jr. will be conducted as an online auction with a live sale of champions event. This letter will provide useful information needed for the auction.

The full letter that was shared with previous year buyers can be found on our website: <https://go.osu.edu/auction>. I have highlighted a few major points:

- The online auction will be available at: www.bwfinaldrive.com. Bidding will begin on **Thursday, August 17th** and will close at midnight on **Thursday, August 24th**.
- The LIVE Sale of Champions will be held on **Thursday, August 17th at 4:00 p.m.** The auction will be held in the Coldwater Young Farmers Arena.
- Buyers will continue to use the premium method for livestock bidding. This means, what the buyers bids will contribute to your premium, not the sale of the actual animal.
- The dairy cow milk and dairy goat milk will again be sold by the unit. These units will be available for purchase ONLINE as well as via paper vouchers – both methods will be accepted for milk bids only.
- Exhibitor auction checks will be distributed once we have collected enough funds from buyers to cover these checks. This is typically in the first part of September.

What do exhibitors need to do?

Each exhibitor of a market animal will be displayed on BW Final Drive. Along with their name will be their parent's/guardians (in the manner it was entered in 4HOnline) name and species shown at the fair.

Each exhibitor can add a picture too! Pictures must be submitted by Friday, August 11th to mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com. When submitting your picture include the exhibitors name in the subject line of the email. Pictures are optional – but strongly encouraged.

Promote this online platform! Here is your chance to reach out to businesses from across the state or local business that could not attend the auction in person. A minimum bid is \$25 - that can add up quickly by sharing with people your success and hard work from working with your animals.

Multiple Specie Exhibitors:

If you exhibit multiple species at the fair, you must declare which specie is being listed as your auction animal for it to be listed correctly on the online platform. Only one lot per exhibitor is allowed.

If you do not declare - you will be listed under the heaviest of the two species.

Exhibitors must declare this by Friday, August 11th @ 5 pm. This information can be sent to: mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com. *Once this information is submitted online, it cannot be changed. We do not have internal control of the website.*

Please see page 2 for more information 

Where are exhibitor animals going after the fair?

Only exhibitors participating in the LIVE SALE OF CHAMPIONS will be required to ship their animals to a slaughterhouse.

All other auction and extra species will need to declare their harvest option:

- Packers Truck (Florence/Producers)
- Local Butcher Shop (Winners, Greens, Beuhlers, etc.)
- Taken back home by the exhibitor.

This information is needed to correctly complete loadout sheets and to correctly issue auction checks. **If they do not get this info your animal could end up going to market and not to the correct slaughterhouse nor back home.** If no declaration is emailed, it will be assumed your animals are going to the packer.

Please submit exhibitor's name, parent's name, contact phone number/cell we can text if we have questions, which species, ear tag, and harvest option. This information must be submitted by Friday, August 11th @ 5pm. Info must be emailed to: mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com

Load out for animals going back home:

- Hogs – Tuesday evening following the conclusion of the open show until midnight. Wednesday 6am to 6pm. Keep in mind open steer show trailers will be coming in on Wednesday.
- All Other Species – load out Thursday at completion of the auction to 8:00 PM

Auction Basics

Brand new to the auction? First time exhibitor? See below for some commonly asked question:

1. How many animals can an exhibitor have in the auction?

An exhibitor may deem one animal as an "auction" animal.

2. What if my exhibitor is taking 3 market hogs and 1 market steer?

This makes the exhibitor a "multi-specie" exhibitor. They need to deem which animal, including ear tag, will be used in the auction by emailing the auction committee at mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com by Friday, August 11th.

3. How do buyers submit bids for exhibitors?

Buyers can submit their bids online anytime between 8/17-8/24. If the exhibitor has a champion animal, a buyer may attend the live auction to bid on that animal.

4. Do the buyers get the meat for what they're purchasing or is it more of a donation to the exhibitor?

The auction is a premium only auction. The accumulation of the premium bids is what the exhibitors gets back. If the buyer wants the meat they need to contact an auction committee member to make arrangements prior to the auction.

5. Is there any other specific information we need to provide to the buyers?

If they are a new buyer, they can send an email to mercerc.fair.auction@outlook.com and we will email the buyer letter information to them.

6. What else can exhibitors do?

Promote the online auction to community members through conversation, letters, and social media posts. Share with buyers before the fair, but also remind buyers during the open bidding time.