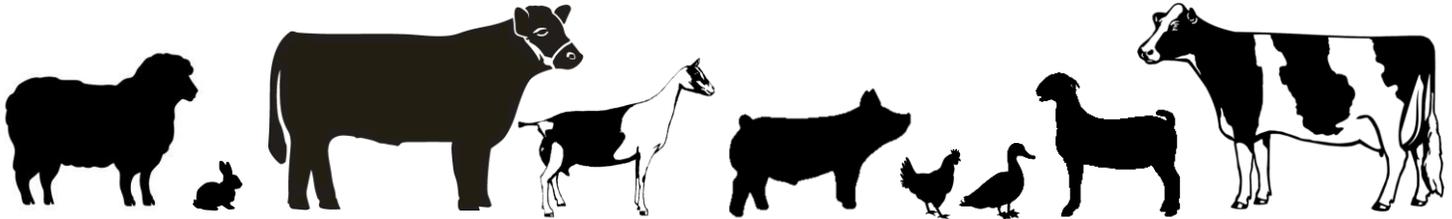


Livestock Quiz Bowl

How to get a team started!



What is “Livestock” Quiz Bowl?

A quiz bowl contest can supplement or enhance knowledge and skills in a variety of subjects. Quiz bowl contests are an effective and enjoyable teaching method as well. Another bonus of a quiz bowl contest is that it can be used during any season, regardless of inclement weather.

The North Dakota 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl contest provides an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H livestock projects (or any other project!) to demonstrate their knowledge of animal science related subject matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. This contest provides an educational experience for both participants and spectators. Youth are tested on all food animal livestock species including beef, dairy, swine, goat (dairy and meat), sheep, poultry and rabbit. Additional questions regarding Youth for the Quality and Care of Animals (YQCA) may also be asked. Competition in quiz bowl encourages 4-H members to develop a more complete knowledge of animals and related subjects and is an excellent way to develop self-confidence and excellent teamwork skills. This contest provides an educational program for all project members, including those who may not own a project animal. Teams compete in a single or double elimination format by giving oral answers to questions posed by a moderator, answering by pushing the buzzer first. Each match has both an individual, team and toss-up question round. The winning 4-H senior team will have a choice to represent North Dakota at the National 4-H Contest in either the ASKARBEN 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl Contest in Grand Island, Nebraska or the Western National Round Up 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl in Denver, Colorado. Whichever contest the first place team does not attend, the runner up (second place team) has the option to attend.

Objectives & Outcomes for youth:

- Stimulate learning in animal science and agricultural industry;
- Youth develop positive interests and attitudes about animal science and related careers;
- Youth will utilize skills and abilities to solve everyday situations;
- Reward 4-H members for knowledge gained in a subject matter area;
- Provide a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail;
- Participants will process information, analyze complex problems and make informed decisions regarding current agricultural, environmental, quality assurance and livestock industry issues;
- Develop teamwork, self-confidence, public speaking and decision-making skills;
- Foster self-discipline and listening skills
- An increased number of participants seek out higher education opportunities and careers related to animal science.

How do I get started?

The Basics Every Quiz Bowl Team Needs:

1. *An adult willing to take responsibility for the players at contests.* This could be an official coach or interested parent. As a 4-H volunteer you do need to go through the youth protection training.
2. *Practice questions.* Fortunately, there are an unlimited supply of quiz bowl practices questions available for free online. However, making sure they are accurate is key!
3. *Coaching.* The most common question is “how do we start studying for quiz bowl?” Since pretty much anything animal science related can be asked, getting started with studying can appear quite daunting.
 - a. Don't get overwhelmed! Having FUN is key (not just for you, but the youth!)
 - b. You might have a co-coach to have another individual to help coach and attend contests
 - c. Read the contest rules so you understand how the contest works.
 - d. Just start reading questions!
 - i. Start with something easy, like breeds of livestock.
 - ii. Encourage the youth to study on their own, not just while attending meetings.
 - e. Start building a bank of study questions you like and create flashcards.
 - i. Quizlet online is a fantastic source to create questions to study from
 1. There are already some livestock quiz bowl questions on here!
 - f. Start asking those familiar questions as an ice breaker when your club or team meets.
 - g. Have a mock contest to allow your participants to understand how the contest will progress
 - i. One-on-One
 - ii. Team
 - iii. Toss-Up with Bonuses
4. *Buzzer set.* It is possible to practice quiz bowl by playing “slap bowl” (slapping the table) without a buzzer set, but it is a good idea at some point to invest in a buzzer set to hone your player's buzzer skills. Buzzers cost anywhere from \$200 upward. [Anderson buzzers](#) are reasonable and appear to have the quality to last. Avoid systems without lights on the individual buzzers. These require the moderator to verbally recognize each player before they answer, which slows down a game. Battery powered systems may fail during tournaments; it's better to buy a plug in system.
5. *Score sheet.* A score sheet is utilized to keep track of individual team members and team scores.
6. *Timers.* A stop watch will be necessary if you do not have a buzzer system to give the appropriate amount of time for teams and individuals to answer questions.
7. *Volunteers.* You may need help at practices and at contests. Volunteers can help brainstorm questions as well. You will need several officials once you work up to hosting a mock contest for your team members. A moderator, timekeeper, judge, and an official scorekeeper are the primary volunteers that will be needed. Encourage parents to get involved as officials!

FIRST STEP – Interest Meeting

Once you have an adult interested, some practice questions, and either a buzzer set or good table for slapping (youth can also shout “buzz” instead), host an interest meeting to introduce potential team members to quiz bowl and play some practice questions. You can recruit interest for the meeting via flyers, emails, and/or word of mouth to identify those interested.

At this meeting, the best thing to do is start reading questions so youth get exposed to how quiz bowl questions work. It takes about 15 minutes for youth to get the idea of the contest and they are usually hooked. Once you find youth that are interested, begin discussing the logistics of when and where to run practices. Have a resource sheet to hand out (like the rules for the contest). The more you practice, the better you will be!

SECOND STEP – Running Practices

The bread-and butter work for preparing for a contest takes place at a practice. Depending on your goals, meeting as often as possible will build a platform for success. However, it is often difficult to find multiple times a week to continually meet. Take what you can get! Most practices last from an hour to two hours and involve reading questions and answering them. Practices can be held with your youth playing as individuals or as teams – both are great ways to practice different skills.

Supply youth with study material, not just questions that can be memorized, but actual materials the youth can learn from. You may need some volunteers to help at some practices. A quiz bowl contest is not meant to be a memorization process, in that members only study questions and know remember answers from memorizing those questions. Quiz bowl is meant to be a great motivational tool to provide a fun way to encourage participants to learn project information.

If you have enough team members, it may be helpful to separate the juniors from the seniors allowing the seniors to be challenged more often. It is highly recommended that players take notes at practice. This way the youth can study the questions they miss or find clues that stimulate a deeper learning to understand a questions asked. Designate a different student at each practice to keep track of how many questions you have covered. Keeping track of the questions answered correctly and incorrectly will help you identify different strengths and weaknesses.

THIRD STEP – Writing Questions

There are several examples of quiz bowl questions on the internet and on Quizlet. The key is to be clear and concise in your question writing. Try to avoid complex sentences/answers when trying out. Mix up the level of easy and difficult questions to build confidence. Focusing on a specific area instead of jumping around can be helpful. For example, health related questions, then reproduction questions, then nutrition questions. Questions can relate to, but not limited to:

- General knowledge
- History
- Breeds
- Management
- Showing and conformation
- Anatomy and physiology
- Health and diseases
- Genetics
- Reproduction
- Industry and products
- Equipment
- Facilities

FORTH STEP – Going to or Hosting Contests

At this time, there are not a lot of livestock quiz bowl contests to attend in North Dakota. My hope is that counties will begin to host their own contests as this great contest gains interest. Never wait until you think you are “good enough” to attend a contest. Every contest is a perfect opportunity for team-bonding, where team chemistry is fostered and each youth inspires their teammates to be better. Regardless of a placing, knowledge will be gained. Use each contest as a catalyst for improvement.

Host a contest! This could be a small fundraising opportunity, but it does take some preparation. You will need a buzzer system in this case. You will need a few different rooms to keep the contest flowing smoothly. One room set as a holding room for all teams (no one is allowed in the room except for the consents) and you will need one room as the contest room where the tournament will take place. A volunteer is needed for the holding room to monitor the youth. It is also a good idea to have a volunteer at the door to the tournament room ensuring no one enters or exits while the contest is in progress to minimize distractions. Understanding and having a bracket system that works for the number of participants in your contest is key. The following is a list of the possible officials you will need to run your own quiz bowl contest:

Moderator: The moderator assumes complete direction of the contest, asks all questions, designates contestants to answer questions, accepts or rejects all answers as guided by the judge(s), and may seek interpretation of questions and answers from the judges or contestants. The moderator should be knowledgeable in quiz bowl procedures, guidelines, and regulations.

Judge: A judge can be anyone with a strong background in the subject matter of the quiz bowl. The judge will accept or reject any question and/or answer and have the option of explaining the answer. The judge(s) may ask for clarification from a contestant. When possible, at least two judges should be used for quiz bowls covering multiple species.

Time Keeper: The timekeeper will monitor elapsed time for each timed event and will indicate to the moderator when time has expired. The timekeeper or the moderator will handle the controls of game equipment, depending on the set-up of the equipment.

Score Keeper: One or two scorekeepers will keep a running score on each match. One score keeper will maintain scores visible to the moderator and contestants, and if possible, the viewing audience. If a second scorer is available, he/she will maintain a written record of all scoring transactions. It is recommended to have two score keepers.

Contest Room Official: keeps watch of the contest room doors. This individual only allows individuals in and out of the contest room when a match is not in progress. This individual may watch bags/electronics if they feel comfortable (being phones/electronics are not allowed in the contest room).

Holding Room Official: Keeps watch of all contest participants in the holding room. This individuals makes sure no coaches/chaperones or other individuals are allowed in the holding room. They ensure no phones or other electronic devise are being used. They help to maintain the peace between teams and help keep the room organized and of a friendly atmosphere.

Materials to purchase and/or study from:

Standard references are the source material most questions for the North Dakota State 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl contest will be pulled from. These references are utilized as these are the books used for the National Contest. **Once a team has entered the state contest, they will be asked to send 10 questions for each division from the below sources, listing the page number along with the answer.**

- 4H 134R Swine Resource Handbook for Market & Breeding Projects – Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Swine-Resource-Handbook-for-Market-and-Breeding-Projects-P148.aspx> (\$19.50)
- 4H 194R Sheep Resource Handbook for Market & Breeding Projects – Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Sheep-Resource-Handbook-for-Market-and-Breeding-Projects-P71.aspx> (\$27.50)
- 4H 117R Beef Resource Handbook for Market & Breeding Projects – Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Beef-Resource-Handbook-P147.aspx> (\$18.50)
- 4H 135R Goat Resource Handbook for Marketing & Breeding Projects - Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Goat-Resource-Handbook-P32.aspx> (\$21.25)

Additionally there may be limited questions on dairy and small animal production, including poultry and rabbits, from these references:

- 4H 152 4-H Production Poultry Production: Raising Broilers – Ohio State University (**discontinued**) – please see helpful poultry links to study from. Questions will come from first PDF document below.
 - https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/animal_science/Poultry/Poultry%20Resources%20updated%202016.pdf (use this one to study from until a poultry source is officially developed)
 - https://wayne.osu.edu/sites/wayne/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/Project_pages/2015/broilers.pdf
 - <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1415&context=a4hhistory>
- 4H 228R Rabbit Resource Handbook – Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Rabbit-Resource-Handbook-for-Breeding-Market-and-Pet-Rabbit-Projects-P208.aspx> (\$13.00)
- 4H 127R Dairy Resource Handbook – Ohio State University
 - <http://estore.osu-extension.org/Dairy-Resource-Handbook-P211.aspx> (\$16.25)

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) questions will be asked from curriculum. North Dakota 4-H youth showing livestock at the North Dakota State Fair are required to be YQCA certified. All other 4-H'ers are strongly encouraged to be certified. Certification is renewed every year with a different quality assurance curriculum being offered. In order to have *continual access* to the YQCA information a 4-H'er must take the \$12 web-based YQCA certification at yqca.org. Once registered, youth can log in, re-read any of the material, and utilize information for studying purposes. NDSU 4-H website:

https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/yqca/.

www.ag.ndsu.edu/extension

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