

FEATHER FEST 2026 HOSTED BY UF/IFAS EXTENSION HOLMES COUNTY

- **ENTRY DEADLINE:** April 15, 2026
- **Show Date:** April 25, 2026
- **FL and AL 4H/FFA Member**
 - **Register online** <https://go.ufl.edu/featherfest26>
 - **Late registration call 850-547-1108.**
- **All times are Central.**
- **BIRD COOP-IN (CHECK-IN): 9 A M – 10 AM**
- **4-H/FFA YOUTH SHOW SHOWMANSHIP:**
- **Show Starts: 10:30 AM**
- **SHOW AWARDS: Following Show Completion**
- **COOP-OUT (CHECK-OUT): Following awards.**
- **Location:** Holmes Co Agriculture Center, 1169 E Hwy 90, Bonifay, FL 32425

POULTRY SHOW COMMITTEE

Kalyn Waters (850) 547-1108

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GENERAL SHOW RULES

1. Florida Department of Agriculture & Industries state testing for Pullorum-Typhoid and Avian Influenza maybe done at no charge by poultry inspectors at coop-in.
2. All entries are subject to a health check. Any bird appearing sick (i.e. cough, runny mucus from nostrils, etc.) or infested with parasites, dirty plumage, overgrown spurs, fowl pox, etc., will not be allowed to participate in the show and must be removed from the fairgrounds.
3. **Exhibitors must bring their own feed and will arrange for their birds to be cared for during the term of the exhibit.** This includes feeding, watering and cleaning cages. This supports health and safety for the birds by limiting exhibitors from accessing others' cages. Exhibitors must also provide feeders and waterers – those secured to cages instead of free-standing are best because they are not easily spilled.
4. Exhibitors are responsible for providing all needed shavings, bedding, or anything else needed to care for their birds during the show. **Lack of animal husbandry is grounds for disqualification.**
5. **The deadline for registration is April 15, 2026. Register** by completing for each individual youth at:
<https://go.ufl.edu/featherfest26>
Late registration will be considered. Please call the Holmes County Extension office at 850-547-1108 to determine if your entry will be accepted.
6. A maximum of **3 birds per exhibitor** is allowed for each exhibitor. This includes your showmanship bird.
7. Any exhibitor, or owner, in any way involved in showing a fraudulent entry will automatically forfeit all prize money and may be barred from future participation in this show.
8. All exhibitors will check-in birds between 9 AM and 10 AM on Saturday, April 25, 2026. Check-out will be immediately following the show/awards.
9. The show and exhibits are open to the public.
10. The show directors and show organizers reserve the right to substitute or add judges. The judges' Decisions and committee rulings are final. Rules are subject to be amended.
11. The show organizers will not be responsible for damage, loss or health risk to birds, cages, materials or equipment.

4-H & FFA YOUTH POULTRY SHOW

This show is open to active members of a chartered 4-H club or FFA chapter in AL or FL. To be eligible for competition youth must be at least 5 years old prior to September 1, 2025. Rules, regulations and ages will be based off of Florida 4-H. Participants can enter up to 3 birds.

CLASSES: There are 5 classes. The poultry committee reserves the right to change the classification of an entry to better place the bird in the most appropriate class. Crossbreeds and commercial birds may be included. The classes:

- 1) Production Male – i.e. Rhode Island Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Turken, etc.
- 2) Production Female – i.e. Rhode Island Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Turken, etc.
- 3) Fancy – i.e. Silkies, Polish, Frizzles, Yokohama, Silver Phoenix, Ayam Cemani, etc.
- 4) Bantam – i.e. Rhode Island Reds, Cochins, Sebrights, Seramas, Old English Game, d’Uccles, etc.
- 5) Other – i.e. Quail, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Guineas, Pheasants, etc.

4-H/FFA SHOW AWARDS

The birds will be judged following showmanship on show day. Participants are not required to be present while the birds are being judged. All awards will be given out following the completion of judging at approximately noon on the day of the show.

4-H/FFA SHOWMANSHIP

Open to 4-H/FFA Participants only. Participants must be prepared to answer basic questions regarding the breed, variety, and care of their bird(s). General poultry-related questions may also be asked by the judges. Showmanship will be scored based on each participant’s personal appearance, knowledge, and ability to handle the bird(s). For study and practice suggestions, contact your 4-H Agent or local county Extension office.

Tip: Showman should wear clean jeans, closed-toed shoes, western style dress shirt, no hat/cap, no sunglasses or excessive jewelry and hair should be pulled back.

Educational Exhibits and Displays

We encourage youth to set up tri-boards and other poultry-related educational exhibits (including portfolios/record books) based on projects they’ve worked on or are interested in, including poultry husbandry, incubation projects, egg displays, Chick-Chain record books, etc. Educational exhibit tables are available for these projects. Awards will be based on creativity, knowledge of poultry science, and husbandry. This will NOT be judged by age, but age of the participant will be taken into consideration when ranking.

Photography

Youth must be the photographer of all entries. This will NOT be judged by age, but age of the participant will be taken into consideration when ranking.

Youth may enter two entries. Photographs should be poultry-focused (birds, coop, etc.)

Entries may be in either color or black-and-white.

Class 1 - Single Photo

Photo Size: 8" x 10" and mounted on an 8" x 10" piece of mounting material

Class 2 - Photo Series - a picture sequence showing a logical progression of images to tell a story or of a related theme.

- A minimum of 3 photos to a maximum of 5 photos can be submitted in this class
- Each photo should be sized 8" x 10" and individually mounted
- On the back of the photos, outline the sequence of the photos and explain your photo series

All prints must be securely mounted on a non-frame board. Examples of mounting material are cardstock, poster board, or foam core. If you cannot find mounting materials, your Extension office will likely have cardstock you can use. Entries not following rules will be disqualified.

List the following on the back of the entry: Member's name, age, and county.

For more information go to: <https://sites.google.com/ufl.edu/4-h-poultry-project/photography>