

BEST KEPT BARN

Given the importance of presenting information and demonstrating high standards of animal husbandry to the public, the Best Kept Barn Award recognizes the most outstanding group in each species area. All groups are expected to manage their livestock exhibits in a manner that enhances the image and integrity of 4-H and FFA programs in Rogers County while engaging with the public in an informative and professional manner.

The Best Kept Barn winners will be announced at the premium auction where an individual plaque and \$500 prize will be awarded to the winner in each division (1) beef, (2) sheep, and (3) swine, (4) goats, (5) dairy.

The following practices and considerations are important when presenting livestock projects to the public. These factors will be included in the judging criteria. Groups will be evaluated multiple times during the fair at various times during the day.

- General order and appearance of stalling/pen area
- Organization of equipment
- Group signage that identifies the group and species
- Stall or pen cards which identify animal breed and exhibitor information
- Cleanliness, dust and mud control
- Safety in animal preparation area
- Safe viewing access for the public
- Knowledgeable organizational representative with the group display throughout the fair
- Information about the group, species and projects should be available or visible to the public
- Innovation and excellence in communicating with the public will be rewarded
- Hospitality areas where food for exhibitors is available is to observe food safety principles and to be neat and clean at ALL times
- Decorations and lights are certainly permitted but they are not the chief criteria upon which the judges will base their decision. Best Kept Barn is more about outreach to the non-agriculture public than it is about decorations