

**FAIR DATES:**

July 17 – August 2, 2026
Junior Market Week: July 16 – 19

DNA RESERVATION AND COLLECTION INFORMATION

EXHIBITORS will be responsible for the DNA Collection for All SPECIES (Market Steers, Market Sheep, Market Barrows, Market Goats, Wether Dam & Wether Sire Sheep, Crossbred Gilts, and Wether Dam Does)

Dear Junior Exhibitor:

We are excited to announce we will be continuing our successful online DNA registration collection process for all species (Market Steers, Market Sheep, Market Barrows, Market Goats, Wether Dam & Wether Sire Sheep, Crossbred Gilts, and Wether Dam Does). Upon completing the ON-LINE DNA registration process you will receive a sample collection kit to be used for the hair sample collection procedure. Please note the DEADLINES for requesting kits and returning completed samples are listed below:

MARKET STEERS

DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING A KIT FOR DELIVERY VIA STANDARD US POSTAL MAIL **MARCH 9, 2026**
COMPLETED SAMPLE HAIR COLLECTION **must be in our office by MARCH 18, 2026**

MARKET SHEEP, MARKET BARROWS AND MARKET GOATS

DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING A KIT FOR DELIVERY VIA STANDARD US POSTAL MAIL **MAY 11, 2026**
COMPLETED SAMPLE HAIR COLLECTION **must be in our office by MAY 19, 2026**

JUNIOR WETHER DAM & WETHER SIRE SHEEP, CROSSBRED GILT & WETHER DAM DOE

DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING A KIT FOR DELIVERY VIA STANDARD US POSTAL MAIL **JUNE 5, 2026**
COMPLETED SAMPLE HAIR COLLECTION **must be in our office by JUNE 16, 2026**

No Market Animal, Sheep, Crossbred Gilt, or Wether Dam Doe entry will be eligible for official entry unless this sample is obtained and an official DNA Registration Form has been completed. **All samples will be collected by the exhibitor and a parent or leader (NO EXCEPTIONS).** You will request your DNA kits through ShoWorks and prepay for your kits. You will not receive notification from the California State Fair upon receipt of your sample.

PLEASE NOTE: *This process does not enter your animal into the 2026 California State Fair, it is only a part of the necessary requirements you will need for the market division, Wether Dam/Sire Sheep, Crossbred Gilt, and Wether Dam Doe Show. All animals are required to be officially entered by the owner, pay the entry fee and do so by the official entry deadline June 16, 2026. Failure to comply with the following deadlines shall result in disqualification for competition in the 2026 California State Fair.*

Go to our website at <https://bit.ly/CSFshowworks> register as an exhibitor

Select Livestock DNA as the Department, then select your species.

Please note this is NOT the same ShoWorks you will enter your animal into the fair!

✓ Quality Assurance & Ethics Training Policy for 2026

All Junior Exhibitors are required to complete YQCA training prior to July 3, 2026. If Exhibitors took YQCA in 2025 they do not need to retake for the 2026 California State Fair. They will need to submit a copy of their certificate with their detailed receipt.

Should you have questions, please contact our entry office at (916) 263-3149 or you may email our office at entryoffice@calexpo.com.

Competition Handbooks will be available soon. Please refer to the **New for 2026** section for updated rules. Please note the entry deadline is on a Tuesday!