



## 2026 Kentucky 4-H Country Ham Project

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

Please read each and initial you understand the requirements of the project:

| By taking part in the country ham project, I am responsible for the following:  | 4-H Member initial | Parent/Guardian Initial |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Must complete 6 hours of training under the supervision of a certified livestock volunteer.</b>  |                    |                         |
| Giving a 3-5-minute presentation at KY State Fair on the required topic:<br><b>Junior (Born 2016-2012)</b> The difference between wet and dry cured hams. Grocery stores throughout the Southeast sell wet and dry cured hams. Discuss the differences between wet cured (aka City Ham) and dry cured (aka Country Ham), include differences in how they are made, flavor differences, and how they are stored.<br><b>Senior (Born 2007-2011)</b> The science of curing and aging country hams. Discuss the science of curing and aging country hams, including the purpose of salt, sugar, and nitrite; what happens during aging aka the summer sweat, and why country hams do not need refrigeration.<br><b>Please note – ALL SENIOR'S PRESENTATIONS MUST BE AT LEAST 2 MINUTES LONG OR THEY WILL BE DIS-QUALIFIED AND HAMS FORFIETED.</b> |                    |                         |
| Pay \$75.00 fee – you will receive 2 hams – Hams are to remain at County Designated facility until state fair– Will NOT be allowed to be individuals homes/facilities.<br>(failure to complete the project, fee will NOT be refunded, and you will forfeit both hams, Upon forfeit, if the two hams are not returned an additional \$75.00 fee will be charged and if the additional fee is not paid the 4-H member will not be able to participate in next years' country ham project).  |                    |                         |

All winning hams will be placed on display at the Kentucky State Fair and at its conclusion will be returned.

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parents Signature

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Completion of the 4-H Country Ham project makes 4-Her eligible to apply for Country Ham Scholarship, applications are due July 2026.

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 4-H'er Signature

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agent Signature

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

### AGENTS NOTICE:

If your county misses the July 1 deadline to certify your county registration and your volunteer worker for state fair, you will NOT be allowed to participate in the Country Ham Project in 2027.

Agents please scan this document into 4-H Online when you sign up youth.

### Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
 Family and Consumer Sciences  
 4-H Youth Development  
 Community and Economic Development

### MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.