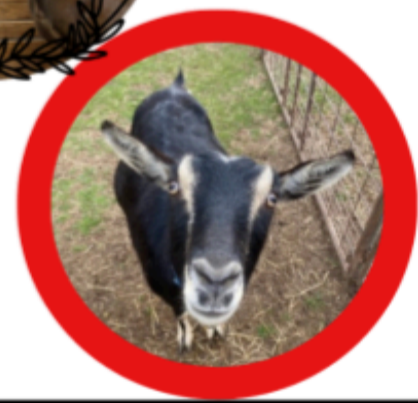




107th annual
Rutgers Day/Ag Field Day
Animal Fitting and Exhibition contests

April 25, 2026

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Welcome to the 107th Annual Ag Field Day Animal Contests!

We welcome you to the 107th Annual Rutgers Day / Ag Field Day Animal Fitting and Exhibition Contests! Rutgers Day / Ag Field Day is one of the best days of the year here on the Rutgers University Cook Campus. A variety of activities will be taking place on campus today, offered by different clubs and departments. Here is a brief overview of the exciting things happening on the animal farm!

In the morning, a series of livestock shows will occur at various locations around the farm. Students can show beef cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, and horses. The participating students are enrolled in a course titled "Animal Handling, Fitting, and Exhibition." These students learn how to groom, train, and present their animal for show. This is all accomplished in approximately six weeks. Both students and supervisors have been working extremely hard over the past few weeks, so please stop by and show your support!

Additionally, the Mounted Patrol barn will be open. This is the only student-run mounted patrol unit in the nation! They will be giving tours, and you will have a chance to meet the patrol horses: Norman and Austin. The Veterinary Science Club will be running a petting zoo in the Round House. Here, you will have the opportunity to meet some of our animals from the farm up close! The Seeing Eye Puppy Raising Club will also be nearby with their dogs. The Companion Animal Club will be on the scene, too! Lastly, there will also be a demonstration of our horse treadmill. We are fortunate to have one of the few horse treadmills in the country. Be sure to see some of our horses in action!

When you get hungry, make sure you stop by the Society of Animal Science BBQ across the street from the farm! We will be serving pork roll sandwiches and coffee in the morning. Come in the afternoon, and we will have a variety of food items, including burgers (beef and veggie), hot dogs, and sweet and hot Italian sausages. We will also be selling club merchandise and Ag Field Day animal show shirts. The Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences graduate students will be having a bake sale. Be sure to check out what they have, too! Make an effort to stop by! Your support is deeply appreciated!

We hope you all enjoy your time here today. Without the help of the whole Department of Animal Sciences, Rutgers Day / Ag Field Day would not be as memorable as it is. The faculty is very committed to providing students with as much education and experience as possible. Thanks to Clint Burgher and the farm staff for opening up the farm to all these students. Many students come in to begin working with their animals with very little experience. The farm staff is very patient and understanding. They really try to make this the best experience possible for the students.

Special thanks to the Society of Animal Science club advisors: Dr. Carey Williams and Dr. Taylor Ross. They have been a huge help to the club over this past year. They assist with the Northeast Student Affiliate (NESAs) competition every year, and it would not be possible without their constant support and guidance.

Thank you for coming to the 107th Rutgers Day / Ag Field Day Animal Fitting and Exhibition Contests! We hope you enjoy your visit with us and look forward to seeing you again next year!

Schedule of Events

From the Faculty, Students, and Staff of the Department of Animal Sciences.

Animal Shows

DOG: 9:00 AM	Location: Skelley Field
HORSE: 10:00 AM	Location: Red Barn
SWINE: 10:00 AM	Location: Swine Finishing Platforms
SHEEP: 10:00 AM	Location: Sheep Barn
CATTLE: 11:30 AM	Location: Heifer Barn
GOAT: 11:30 AM	Location: Sheep Barn

Activities and Events:

Veterinary Science Club Petting Zoo: R U ready to meet and pet our wonderful farm animals? Come on down to the Round House from 10 am - 3:30 pm (the line will CLOSE at 3:00 pm) and spend some time with the Rutgers University Veterinary Science Club! **Seeing Eye Puppy Meet & Greet:** Come and meet the Rutgers Seeing Eye Puppy Raising Club's representatives and the puppies that they're raising! The table will be located next to the Round House!

The Rutgers University Equestrian Team: RUET will have a table outside of the barn. Come meet the team and get creative by painting horseshoes!

Equine Science Center: Join us for live treadmill demonstrations at 1 PM and discover the fascinating research happening at the Equine Science Center! Then, from 2-4 PM, we will have a Meet & Greet with our RUTH (Rutgers University Teaching Herd) Horses in the Red Barn.

Mounted Patrol Meet & Greet: An open house will be held at the Rutgers Mounted Patrol barn (College Farm Rd. between the Ag Museum and Round House) to meet Mounties and their horses!

Food and Souvenirs:

Companion Animal Club (on Red Oak Lane): Paw printing station and photo booth

Society of Animal Science: BBQ, merchandise

Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences Graduate Student Organization: Baked goods

RU Veterinary Science Club & Rutgers Seeing Eye Puppy Raising Club: Club apparel

Acknowledgments

The Society of Animal Science (SAS) would like to thank the following people for their kind assistance:

Dr. Nick Bello	Chair, Department of Animal Sciences
Dr. Taylor Ross	Teaching Instructor, Department of Animal Sciences, SAS Advisor
Dr. Carey Williams	Extension Specialist; Department of Animal Sciences, SAS Advisor
Prof. Henry Bignell	Teaching Instructor, Department of Animal Sciences
Dr. Aparna Zama	Associate Teaching Professor, Undergraduate Program Director
Clint Burgher, M.S.	Cook Campus Farm Manager, Animal Care Program
Laura Comerford	Supervisor of Animal Operations, Animal Care Program
Felicia McCloskey	Senior Research Animal Worker - Swine
Rebecca Potosky	Senior Research Animal Worker - Sheep and Goat
Kelly Vuong	Senior Research Animal Worker - Cattle
Emma-Kate Feeney	Senior Research Animal Worker – Equine
Anastasia Ioshpa	Research Project Assistant, Animal Care Program
Kaylee O'Rourke	Senior Research Animal Worker, Animal Care Program
Stacey Pontoriero	Sr. Program Coordinator, Department of Animal Sciences
Lindsey Luper	Program Coordinator II, Department of Animal Sciences
Dr. David Reimer	Associate Director, University Lab Animal Services
Wesley Bouchelle	Research Farm Supervisor - Farm Shop
Samad Sharrief	Senior Research Farmer
Michael Hoff	Business Assistant, Department of Animal Sciences

We appreciate all of the faculty, students, and family members who helped with the BBQ!



Swine



CLASS	ANIMAL NAME	CONTESTANT	CLASS WINNERS
Pen 3	Pork roll	Lindsey	Class 1
	Evil Intimidating Horse	Micha	1st: _____
	Seaver	Abby	
	Sesame Seed	Julissa	
Pen 4	Chrispy bacon	Sabrina	Class 2
	Blep	Elias	1st: _____
	Porky Jackson	Tra-Sean	
	Sweet Pea	Karsyn	
Pen 5	Button	Ning	Class 3
	Waddles	Sia	1st: _____
	Gibby	Val	
	Lucky Charm	Alexa	
	Pumba	Mirnaya	
Pen 6	Priscilla	Daniella	Class 4
	Road Hog	Alan	1st: _____
	Shaq	Bryce	
	Spout	Jillian	
Final Class- 1st Place of Each Class			

First-place winners from each class will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion.

Grand Champion: _____

Reserve Champion: _____

TA/Supervisor Round
Alex
Dan
Victoria
Kate

The Swine Handling and Fitting Class Sends a Very Special Thanks To:

Judge: Felicia McCloskey

Felicia McCloskey started working at the Rutgers Farm as a work-study student in 2008. She immersed herself in gaining experience during her undergraduate career—she was a multi-species practicum student and a teaching assistant and coordinator for the handling, fitting & exhibition courses. In 2011, Felicia started working full-time as a senior research animal worker/swine practicum instructor.

Announcer: Hailey Awad

Class Supervisor: Professor Henry Bignell (Rutgers faculty)

Student Coordinator: Hailey Awad

Student Teaching Assistant: Alexander Kokolis, Victoria Walsh

Student Supervisors: Kimberly Cheng, Dan Goldstein, Abigail Haney, Mustafa Abdelilah, Samantha Dzioba, Kate Quarcoopome, Linda Sanchez

T-Shirt Design: Julissa Medina

Felicia McCloskey, Laura Comerford, Ana Ioshpa, practicum students, and work-study students:

Thank you for all of your hard work in keeping the swine fed, keeping their homes clean, and getting the show area ready and in working shape. You are all appreciated more than you know!

Swine Handling and Fitting Supervisors: Thank you for all of the time and effort you've put into the students and their animals; you've done a GREAT job!

Thank you, Professor Bignell for your hard work and dedication throughout the semester in teaching the students about cattle and swine showmanship!



Sheep



CLASS	Animal Name	CONTESTANT	CLASS WINNERS
1	Joey	Sonali	Class 1
	Becky	Landy	1st: _____
	Dumpling	Lisbeth	
	Wendie	Mary Clare	
2	Rosemary	Gabriela	Class 2
	Scylla	Katrina	1st: _____
	Anise	Nakiya	
	Sasquatch	Wren	
3	Rosemary	Josue	Class 3
	Dumpling	Gabriela	1st: _____
	Wendie	Ashley	
4	Anise	Izabelle	Class 4
	Becky	Jordan	1st: _____
	Scylla	Alexandra	
Final Class- 1st Place of Each Class			

First-place winners from each class will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion.

Grand Champion: _____

Reserve Champion: _____

The Sheep Handling and Fitting Class Sends a Very Special Thanks To:

Judge: Rebecca Potosky

Rebecca received her BS in Animal Science from Rutgers University and a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Animal Behavior from the University of Edinburgh, the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

She currently works here at the Rutgers farm and is part of the SEBS/NJAES Animal Care Program. Rebecca's primary responsibilities involve the management & breeding of the sheep & goat herds as well as teaching the small ruminant practicum course. Formerly, she raised and showed Alpine dairy goats and currently enjoys competing nationally and internationally in dog agility.

Announcer: Student Supervisor - Ariana Satruc

Class Supervisor: Dr. Taylor Ross

Student Coordinator: Sabrina Moreira

Student Supervisors: Madeline Atkins, Hyo Ju Lee, Sierra Liddell McKeith, Devon Sanchez, Ariana Satruc, Aspen Wu

T-Shirt Design: Handling Students - Lisbeth Cadmen & Sonali Subramanya

Practicum and work-study students: Thanks for all of your hard work keeping the barn clean, helping with the sheep, and getting the show area ready and in working shape. You are appreciated more than you know!

Sheep Handling and Fitting Supervisors: Thank you for all of your hard work with the students and their animals; you've done a GREAT job!

Thank you to Dr. Taylor Ross for teaching this class and helping students learn about sheep showmanship. We appreciate your dedication to this class!



Goats



CLASS	ANIMAL NAME	CONTESTANT	CLASS WINNERS
1	Dali	Joselyn	Class 1
	Skittles	Alexandra	1st: _____
	Minnow	Andrea	
	Kit-Kat	Theodora	
2	Muffin	Elaina	Class 2
	Salmiakki	David	1st: _____
	Biscuit	Krystal	
	Kinder	Nathan	
3	Kit-Kat	Camryn	Class 3
	Minnow	Marjorie	
	Dali	Jalila	
	Skittles	Cara	
4	Salmiakki	Laura	Class 4
	Biscuit	Ava	1st: _____
	Kinder	Joseph	
	Muffin	Elysa	
Final Class- 1st Place of Each Class			

First-place winners from each class will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion.

Grand Champion: _____

Reserve Champion: _____

The Goat Handling and Fitting Class Sends a Very Special Thanks To:

Judge: Rebecca Potosky

Rebecca received her BS in Animal Science from Rutgers University and a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Animal Behavior from the University of Edinburgh, the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

She currently works here at the Rutgers farm and is part of the SEBS/NJAES Animal Care Program. Rebecca's primary responsibilities involve the management & breeding of the sheep & goat herds as well as teaching the small ruminant practicum course. Formerly, she raised and showed Alpine dairy goats and currently enjoys competing nationally and internationally in dog agility.

Announcer: Student Supervisor - Charles McCloud

Class Instructor: Dr. Taylor Ross

Student Coordinator: Sabrina Moreira

Student Supervisors: Jacob Cooke, Jordan Gibbons, Charles McCloud, Santiago Mesa Botero

T-Shirt Design: Handling Student - Marjorie Farro

Practicum and work-study students: Thanks for all of your hard work keeping the barn clean, helping with the goats, and getting the show area ready and in working shape. You are appreciated more than you know!

Goat Handling and Fitting Supervisors: Thank you for all of your hard work with the students and their animals; you've done a GREAT job!

Thank you to Dr. Taylor Ross for teaching this class and helping students learn about goat showmanship. We appreciate your dedication to this class!



Cattle



CLASS	ANIMAL NAME	CONTESTANT	CLASS WINNERS
1	Black Coffee	Hanna	Class 1
	Barrack	Daniela	1st: _____
	Blossom	Jeremy	
	Nimbus	Izabella	
2	Honeydew	Chris	Class 2
	Black Olive	Eliza	1st: _____
	Mango	Nia	
	Cinder	Chase	
3	Black Coffee	Kloe	Class 3
	Barrack	Samantha	1st: _____
	Blossom	Alyssa	
	Nimbus	Jennifer	
4	Honeydew	Abby	Class 4
	Black Olive	Victoria	1st: _____
	Mango	Taniya	
	Cinder	Brany	
Final Class- 1st Place of Each Class			

First-place winners from each class will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion.

Grand Champion: _____

Reserve Champion: _____

TA Round
Jinayah
Tessa
Abe
Lindsey

The Cattle Handling and Fitting Class Sends a Very Special Thanks To:

Judge: Patrycja Zbrzezny

Patrycja Zbrzezny, Cook College Grad 2010, is an agriculture teacher and assistant principal at John Bowne H.S. She has experience working with dairy, beef, and exotic cattle from her years as an agriculture student in high school, college, and beyond. As a young adult, Patrycja spent her summers working on a dairy farm in Upstate NY. Once attending Rutgers, she worked on the Cook College farm specifically working with the dairy cattle during her time as a student. She became certified in cattle artificial insemination while at Rutgers and worked on breeding cattle shortly after. Upon completing her BS in animal science (farm productivity track), Patrycja set out to receive her education degree to teach animal science. Since 2011 she has worked as an animal science educator in a school with a 4-acre farm, to which she brought in Zebu cattle. She works with the cattle and other livestock at the school to educate students on handling and management of livestock, and much more.

Announcer: Hailey Awad

Class Supervisor: Professor Henry Bignell (Rutgers faculty)

Student Coordinator: Hailey Awad

Student Teaching Assistants: Lindsey Davis,, Jinayah Lighty, Tessa Mcdonald, Abraham Reyes

Student Supervisors: Ryan Hart, Sabrina Kim, Paula Chavez, Terence Chin, Andrea Echeverry, Jay Lucien, Fiona Lynch, Tierney Mallowney

T-Shirt Design: Ryan Hart

Kelly Vuong, Laura Comerford, practicum students, and work-study students: Thank you for all of your hard work in keeping the cattle fed, keeping their homes clean, and getting the show area ready and in working shape. You are all appreciated more than you know!

Professor Bignell's Studies in Animal Science Students: Tessa, Jinayah, Abraham and Lindsey, Thank you for spending the fall working with the show calves up until now to make this a safer and seamless experience for all the current 175 and 176 students. You have spent countless hours getting to know these animals and coming up with tips and tricks to help train supervisors and mentor the current students- I am grateful for your work this past year. -Professor Bignell

Cattle Handling and Fitting Supervisors: Thank you for all of the time and effort you've put into the students and their animals; you've done a GREAT job!

Thank you, Professor Bignell for your hard work and dedication throughout the semester in teaching the students about cattle and swine showmanship!





Horse Show

Heat I – (not to start before 10 am)

Show #	Horse	Student Handler
118	Marci	Jacqueline Valenzuela
119	Cougar	Isabella Javier
120	Mazel	Sujey Avila
121	Wiser	Jannah Shakir
122	Allie	Lawren Whitesell

Heat II

Show #	Horse	Student Handler
124	Marci	Kaitlyn Aguila
125	Cougar	Iris Peng
126	Mazel	Casey Downs
127	Wiser	Katherine Canelas
128	Allie	Theresa Aquilina

Heat I – Championship

First through Third-place winners from Heats I and II will compete in the Semi-Championship round

1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

Heat II – Championship

1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

Overall Championship

Grand
Champion _____

Reserve
Champion _____

Honorable
Mention _____



The Horse Handling and Fitting Class Sends a Very Special Thanks To:

Judge: Kennis “Buttons” Fairfax

Kennis “Buttons” Fairfax serves as a Director of PonyUp4Kids Foundation, bringing a lifetime of lived experience, equine excellence, and community impact to the organization’s mission of empowering youth through the healing power of horses. An internationally recognized horseman, award-winning educator, and cultural trailblazer, Fairfax embodies the transformative connection between horses and humanity. With over three decades of experience as a clinician, coach, judge, and mentor in the Western horse world, Fairfax has broken racial and socioeconomic barriers in a billion-dollar equine industry historically dominated by white male voices. He is one of only a handful of African-American carded judges in the United States, holding credentials from organizations including the Appaloosa Horse Club and serving as a respected official at national and international competitions from Canada and Mexico to Germany and Australia.

Fairfax’s path to the arena began in his earliest years, when summers were spent caring for horses and mules on his family’s land in Georgia and Oklahoma. Raised in New Jersey, he was profoundly shaped by the wisdom and care of his grandmother, whose lessons in respect, responsibility, and service laid the groundwork for his life's purpose. His passion for horses was matched only by his commitment to the arts and education, leading to a long-standing career as a visual arts teacher at Arts High School in Newark, the nation’s first public high school for the arts. In 2019, Fairfax was honored with the Spirit of the Horse Award from the Rutgers Equine Science Center in recognition of his enduring contributions to the equine community. He is perhaps best known in the broader public as the original “Scarlet Knight” — the iconic horseback rider leading Rutgers University’s football team into the stadium — a tradition he co-founded and continued for over 25 years.

As Director of PonyUp4Kids Foundation, Fairfax leads with heart and humor, using his national platform to champion access, inclusion, and connection for children and families who are often overlooked. He believes that “every child deserves a space where they can be seen, heard, and lifted up — and sometimes, that space is in the saddle.” Under his leadership, PonyUp4Kids continues to offer hands-on equine experiences, educational clinics, and mentorship programs that promote wellness, responsibility, and resilience through horsemanship.

Announcer: Dr. Carey Williams, Department of Animal Science, Equine Extension Specialist

Class Instructor: Dr. Taylor Ross

Student Coordinators: Klaudia Marcisz, Aditri Singh

Student Supervisors: Grace Kreft, Hanen Abdallah, Natalie Armstrong, Leylana Ashley, Sakhee Daga, Jessica Ren, Sean Rodriguez, Joselyn Sabillon Corea

T-Shirt Design: Horse Handling and Fitting student, Isabella Javier

Emma Feeney, practicum students, and work-study students: Thank you for everything you do—keeping the barn and paddocks clean, caring for the horses, and getting the show area ready. Your hard work means more than you know!

Horse Handling and Fitting Supervisors: Thanks for all of your hard work with the students; you've done a GREAT job!



A huge thank you to Dr. Taylor Ross!

Her dedication makes it possible for students to learn, grow, and build bonds with our amazing horses. We're truly grateful to have her leading this class!



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