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4-H'ers Provide Fair Goers With an "Aha Moment"

Another year of 4-H livestock encampment at the Great MN Get Together has come to a close. Record number fair goers, 2700+ 4-H livestock exhibitors, and many opportunities to interact with people have left everyone with a great educational experience. That time will be an experience that continues to impact beyond the fair.

Many counties chose to take part in the MnFRAC, Minnesota Foundation for Responsible Animal Care, Consumer Education and Promotion Activities. As a result, both the 4-H'er and the fair goers took home new information and a learning experience that will benefit them for life. Barns were filled with all different kinds of displays and ideas allowing for fair goers to positively interact with the 4-H'er.

One county drew in large numbers of people using a display board that gave valuable information about goats. There was the "Goat Breed Alphabet" along with a display talking about meat and dairy goats. The displays were great and enhanced by two goats calmly standing so the fair goers could be up close and personal. Talking with this county the enthusiasm about the goat industry was contagious.

Another county, representing the dairy, were displaying catchy posters with information about the industry. They also had a table of material that the fair goers could take with them. The posters and materials were all great props for the 4-H'ers to share with the public, but it was the face behind the props that made this county a phenomenal representation for the dairy industry. The kids were filled with smiles and a great energy to share the information they knew. The fair goers left this area with a smile and tidbits of new information.

No matter what specie was being represented the 4-H exhibitors left the fair goers with so much. There were opportunities to be up close and personal with all species; there were opportunities to learn more about why the kids do what they do; and there were opportunities to see the up and coming generation being compassionate about agriculture. All of this has made the 4-H livestock encampment at the fair an experience that will not end just because the fair ended.