



BINGHAM COUNTY

EXTENSION UPDATE

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND IDAHO COUNTIES COOPERATING

INSIDE THE ISSUE

FCS NEWS

Upcoming Canning Classes!

Page 3

HORTICULTURE NEWS

Beneficial Insects!

Page 4

LIVESTOCK NEWS

4-H Livestock Day Camp

Page 5

County/EISF 4-H Market Lamb/Goat Weigh-in

Monday, May 18 4:30-7:00 p.m. EISF Scales Livestock Pavilion

This weigh-in is for all lambs and goats destined for sale at either the County Fair or EISF. Sheep and goats must be castrated before the weigh-in.

Any sheep/goat destined for EISF must be tagged at this weigh-in. All EISF destined animals must have completed records in record books to be in compliance with EISF requirements. EISF tags can be used to identify animals for both County and EISF. Animals will be required to be declared by County Fair and included on registration form. Whichever animal is used for County will have its EISF tag altered. Each youth may have their name listed on ONLY 3 EISF tags within the immediate household family.

*****Please bring COOL (Country of Origin Documents) filled out for each animal to weigh-in or email to bingham@uidaho.edu .******

Lambs

- Your lamb should gain approximately ¾ pound a day.
- Notify leaders by May 5 of how many and type of tag (County, Commercial, EISF)
- Recommended beginning weight for Bingham County Fair 65-90 lbs
- Recommended beginning weight for EISF 40-65 lbs.
- There is no maximum beginning weight for lambs.
- The minimum final weight at both sales is 110 pounds.
- Industry standards recommended finished weight at 135 lbs.
- ANY EWE LAMB MUST HAVE A SCRAPIE TAG PRIOR TO BEGINNING WEIGH-IN. THE ANIMAL(S) WILL NOT BE WEIGHED-IN WITHOUT THE SCRAPIE TAG.
- All lambs must be slick sheared within 7 days of final weigh-in.

Goats

- Your goat should gain about ½ lb. a day.
- Notify leaders by May 5 of how many and type of tag (County, EISF).
- The minimum final weight at the fair is 70 pounds.
- Goats must be dehorned.
- DOES MUST HAVE A SCRAPIE TAG PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING WEIGH-IN. THE ANIMAL(S) WILL NOT BE WEIGHED-IN WITHOUT THE SCRAPIE TAG.
- All goats must be shorn uniformly 3/8" before final weigh-in. It is recommended to shave goats with a 3/8 in #10 blade 3-5 days before final weigh-in.

Cost: BBQ: \$5.00 (pay once) , County Ear Tag: \$1.25 , EISF Ear Tag: \$8.00

UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE

2026 Calendar

May	1	Learn Everywhere Summer enrollment Open – see flyer on pg. 6
	5	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	7	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	12	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	14	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	14	Teen Camp Counselor Training, 6-7:30 p.m., Bingham Extension Office
	15	Cal Ranch Livestock Clinic, 9-11 a.m., EISF Goddard Pavillion
	18	Market Sheep/Market Meat Goat Weigh-in, 4:30-7 p.m., EISF Goddard Pavilion - *must bring COOL documents
	19	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	20	Canning Basics, 6:30-8 p.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	21	Fitness Made Simple, 9-10 a.m., Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	22	DEADLINE – 4-H Camp Registration and payment to Bingham Extension
	26	Free Pressure Canner Dial Gauge Checks
	27	4-H Broiler chick pick up at Bingham Extension – participants will be texted
	28-29	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
	28	Teen Camp Counselor Training, 6-7:30 p.m., Bingham Extension
	29	DEADLINE – District Horse Contest Registrations
	29	BC Livestock Day Camp, 10-Noon, EISF Needlecraft Building
June	1-4	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
	5	Bingham County Market Rabbit Weigh-in, 8-9 a.m., Bingham Extension
	5	District Horse Contest, EISF fairgrounds – contact Heather Strupp 208-785-8060
	8	Jam & Jelly Canning class, 6-9 p.m., \$10, Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	8	Teen Camp Counselor, 9-1 p.m., Bingham Extension
	12	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
	15-17	4-H Camp, Alpine WY
	23	Free Pressure Canner Dial Gauge Checks
	24	Leader's Council, 6 p.m., Bingham Extension
	23-26	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
	29-7/1	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
July	6-9	DAY CAMPS - see last page for information
	13	DEADLINE – Horse books/fair registrations from leaders due by Noon
	14	Free Pressure Canner Dial Gauge Checks
	15	EISF Market Rabbit Weigh-in, 8-9 a.m., Bingham Extension
	15	EISF Market Animal Sale Committee, 6:00 p.m., Bingham Extension
	16	DEADLINE – Livestock books/ fair registration from leaders due by Noon
	21	Vegetable Canning class, 6-9 p.m., \$10, Bingham Extension – contact Abby May 208-785-8060
	22	BC Demonstration Contest, 9 a.m., Bingham Extension
	23	BC Horse Show, 8 a.m., EISF Grandstands
	24	BC Horse Driving Show, 9 a.m., EISF Infield
	24	BC Horse Trail Show, 3 p.m., EISF Infield
	24	BC Working Ranch Show, 4 p.m., EISF Grandstands
	28	BC Style Revue, 5 p.m., Bingham Extension
	30	Poultry Banding, 8-9 a.m., Bingham Extension
	30	BC Dog Show, 5 p.m., EISF Dairy Goat Arena

Food Safety Message:

Food preservation, especially canning, may just seem like something your grandma used to do, but it is always important to learn how to preserve and save money by growing and eating your own food. Not to mention you can choose the additives and flavors you put in each jar. However, it is important to ensure that the food you preserve remains safe to consume.

This summer, join a class at the Extension office to ensure you are using safe canning practices. These classes are perfect for experienced canners or beginners looking to learn more. No prior experience is needed.

Canning Essentials Classes: Summer Canning Classes are available! Come learn how to preserve food in a safe way. Classes held 6-9 PM at the Bingham County Extension Office. Call (208) 785-8060 or scan QR code to register and pay to hold your spot.



Canning Essentials

A series of educational and hands-on food preservation classes
presented by University of Idaho FCS Educators

Abby May & Jenifer Reader

and other Master Food Safety Advisor Volunteers

Summer 2026

May 20th 6:30-8 pm, (Free)
Canning Basics: Intro to Water bath and Pressure Canning

June 8th 6-9 pm, \$10 Hands-On
Water Bath canning high acid fruits: Jams & Jellies

July 21st 6-9 pm, \$10 Hands-On
Pressure canning vegetables: Green Beans & Veggies

August 12th 6-9 pm, \$10 Hands-On
Water Bath canning acidified vegetables: Salsa & Quick Pickles

September 17th 6-9 pm, \$15 Hands-On
Pressure Canning Meat Products: Meats & Potatoes



University of Idaho
Extension
Bingham County



MASTER
FOOD SAFETY
ADVISOR
University of Idaho Extension

All classes will be held at the Bingham County Extension Office
at 412 West Pacific St, Blackfoot, Idaho. Space is limited.

To register: call (208) 785-8060 or scan the QR Code.

Unfilled classes will be canceled 3 days before class date. Register Early!

<https://forms.office.com/r/jAARzV1QM6>



Upcoming Events:

Summer Pressure Canner Testing: Remember to come and get your pressure canner dial gauge tested prior to canning meat or vegetables this summer. Testing is \$2.

Free testing days are on the following Tuesdays: May 26, June 23, July 14, Aug 11, Aug 25, Sept 15

What else would you like to see?

We want to know what people are interested in learning! Please scan the QR code below to participate in a brief survey. Alternatively, email or call Abby May at abbymay@uidaho.edu or (208)785-8060 and share your thoughts.



Managing Beneficial Insects on your Property

Beneficial insects are essential allies for farmers and gardeners, providing natural pest control, pollination, and improved ecosystem balance. Common groups include predators like lady beetles and lacewings, parasitoids such as certain wasps, and pollinators including bees and hoverflies.

Managing for these insects begins with increasing plant diversity. Establish a mix of flowering species that bloom from early spring through late fall so nectar and pollen are continuously available. Native plants are especially effective because they support insects adapted to local conditions.

Reducing pesticide use is critical. Broad-spectrum insecticides often eliminate beneficial insects along with pests, disrupting natural control systems. When intervention is necessary, consider targeted approaches such as biological controls or selective products that minimize non-target impacts. Integrated Pest

Management (IPM) strategies—monitoring pest levels and applying thresholds—can help guide these decisions.

Habitat is another key factor. Maintain field edges, hedgerows, or insectary strips to provide shelter and overwintering sites. Leaving some crop residue or adding mulch can protect ground-dwelling species. Cover crops not only improve soil health but also offer additional habitat and floral resources.

Water availability can further support insect populations, especially in dry climates. Small, shallow water sources or areas of moist soil can make a difference. Finally, tolerate low levels of pest activity, as they serve as food for beneficial insects. By fostering diversity and reducing disturbance, you can build a resilient, self-regulating insect community that enhances productivity and sustainability.

Table from: G. Credler , “Encouraging beneficial insects PNW 550, 2001

Table 1.—Beneficial insects and pests controlled.

Predators

Big-eyed bugs
Green lacewings
Hover flies (syrphid flies)
Lady beetles
Minute pirate bugs

Parasitoids

Hymenoptera parasites
(e.g., Ichneumonids,
braconids, and chalcids)
Tachinids

Pests controlled

Aphids, leafhoppers, lygus bugs (nymphs), spider mites
Aphids, leafhoppers, plant bugs (immature), spider mites, thrips
Aphids
Aphids, mealybugs, scales, spider mites
Aphids, spider mites, thrips, immature stages of many small insects

Pests controlled

Aphids (immature), cutworms, loopers, omnivorous leaf tiers, oriental fruit moths, tortrix moths

Codling moths, Colorado potato beetles, corn earworms, cutworms, grasshoppers, hornworms, imported cabbage worms, plant bugs, tussock moths, others



Harvest Management of Alfalfa in Southern Idaho

Timely and careful harvest management is essential for producing high-quality alfalfa hay in Southern Idaho’s irrigated systems. The balance between yield, quality, and stand persistence starts well before cutting and extends through curing and storage.

According to University of Idaho Extension research, the highest feed value occurs when alfalfa is harvested at late bud to early bloom. Delaying harvest increases dry matter yield but also raises fiber content, reducing digestibility and protein levels. Market demand for premium dairy hay often justifies earlier cutting, even though frequent harvests can slightly shorten stand life.

Harvesting conditions also affect quality. Alfalfa should be cut when soils are dry and irrigation has been withheld for about two weeks prior to harvest, then resumed shortly after hay removal. Cutting too soon after irrigation can slow drying and encourage disease. Proper conditioning of stems at cutting accelerates uniform drying—critical for reducing field losses

from rain or leaf shatter.

Baling should occur once moisture content drops below 20 percent to prevent spoilage; excessive handling of dry hay increases leaf loss. Storage under cover is critical, as uncovered hay can lose up to 30 percent of its total digestible nutrients.

Effective harvest scheduling, irrigation coordination, and equipment management can minimize losses and maintain the nutrient density Southern Idaho buyers expect. The most profitable alfalfa operations focus on harvesting for quality, not just yield—a principle emphasized by the University of Idaho Extension.

Sources: uidaho.edu Cooperative Extension publications, including Hall, Seyedbagheri & Torell, and Vodraska & Seyedbagheri.

BINGHAM COUNTY LIVESTOCK EDUCATION DAY CAMP

FRIDAY MAY 29, 2026 (10 AM - 12 PM) EISF NEEDLECRAFT BUILDING



SWINE HEALTH

LEARN HOW TO KEEP YOUR PIG HEALTHY AND WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR



EGG GRADING

UNDERSTAND EGG VISCOSITY, COLOR AND SIZE



SCOURS IDENTIFICATION

MAKE SCOURS EXAMPLES OUT OF PUDDING



MEAT TASTING

YOUR CHANCE TO TASTE MEAT FROM ALL LIVESTOCK SPECIES!!



CARCASS JUDGING

LEARN WHERE YOUR FAVORITE CUTS OF MEAT COME FROM



GOAT SHOWMANSHIP

FIND NEW WAYS TO EXCEL IN THE SHOW RING



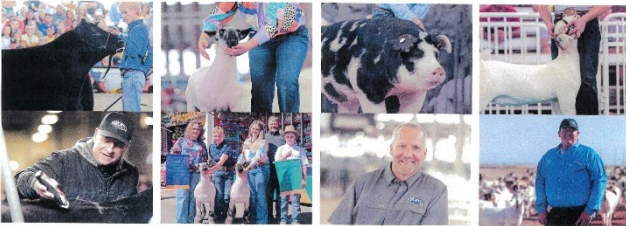
THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO PROVIDES AND IS AN EQUAL OPPURTUNITY EMPLOYER AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION. WE OFFER OUR PROGRAMS TO PERSONS REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, RELIGION, AGE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR DISABILITY.

WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS?



C-A-L Ranch invites you to a

CATTLE, LAMB, PIG & GOAT LIVESTOCK CLINIC



KIRK STIERWALT

ROGER & LISA SHEARER

KENT BENNINGTON

KELSEY PFEIFFER

MAY 15

Eastern Idaho State Fairgrounds
97 Park St. Blackfoot, ID 83221

9:00-11:00AM

Check-in at 8:30AM

Have Questions? Reach Out:

HEATHER STRUPP
Bingham Co.
4-H Coordinator
hstrupp@uidaho.edu
208-785-8060

BRET PECK
Blackfoot C-A-L Ranch
Store Manager
208-680-7161

DEMONSTRATIONS

Cattle with Kirk Stierwalt
Lambs with Roger & Lisa Shearer
Hogs with Kent Bennington
Goats with Kelsey Pfeiffer

Please Do Not Bring Your Animals

Practical Demonstrations, Giveaways & Refreshments



To enrich education through diversity the University of Idaho is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer and instructional institution. Persons with disabilities who require a barrier-free method for communication of program information or reasonable accommodations need to contact Bingham County 4-H by May 11, 2026, at 412 West Pacific Street, Blackfoot, ID 83221; phone 208-785-8060.

BINGHAM COUNTY



University of Idaho
Extension

Learn Everywhere with 4-H

Earn High School Credit

Build Life Skills

Summer Enrollment opens May 1

STEPS TO ENROLL

- Enroll with school you are using (contact Extension Office for details regarding available schools)
- Go to: <https://keeplearning.uidaho.edu/search/publicCourseAdvancedSearch.do?method=doPaginatedSearch&csplIndex=true&showInternal=false&courseSearch.courseDescriptionKeyword=Learn+Everywhere>
- Set up account
- Go to courses and choose course
- Add to cart and pay the credit fee
- Do required modules as well as other 4-H club requirements
- Print rubrics (5) Learning activity, exhibit, record book, presentation & interview
- Contact 4-H Office when you are ready for interview

**Summer
2026**

For More Information:
Eastern District Learn Everywhere
Coordinator - Christie Evans
christie@uidaho.edu

Bingham County 4-H Coordinator-
Heather Strupp
hstrupp@uidaho.edu
208-785-8060



Bingham County 4-H
412 W Pacific, Blackfoot
(208) 785-8060
hstrupp@uidaho.edu

Bingham/Bonneville /Fort Hall /Butte

4-H Camp

June 15-17, 2026

Alpine, Wyoming



Camper registration now available

Camp Registration Fee \$100 (partial scholarships available)

Spots are limited. Registration and payment will hold your spot.

- Must be 8 years old as of January 1, 2026 to attend.
- Campers from ages 8-12 years old.
- Registration forms are available at the 4-H Office
- Registration is based on first come first serve basis, only completed registration forms and payment turned into the office will hold a spot.

Hiking!

Crafts!

Meet new friends!

Dance/Movie Night

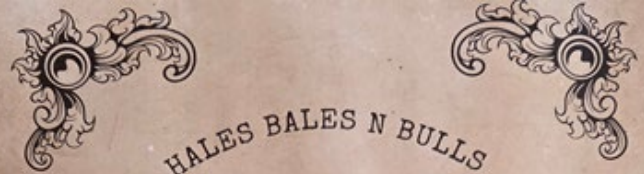


STAY IN CABINS!

Campfire program!

Archery & Rifle

3 MEALS A DAY IN THE LODGE!



HALES BALES N BULLS

COMMERCIAL BEEF SHOW & POTLUCK DINNER

JULY 15, 2026

1575 W 100 S PINGREE, ID 83262
CONTACT MORGAN 208-604-2489

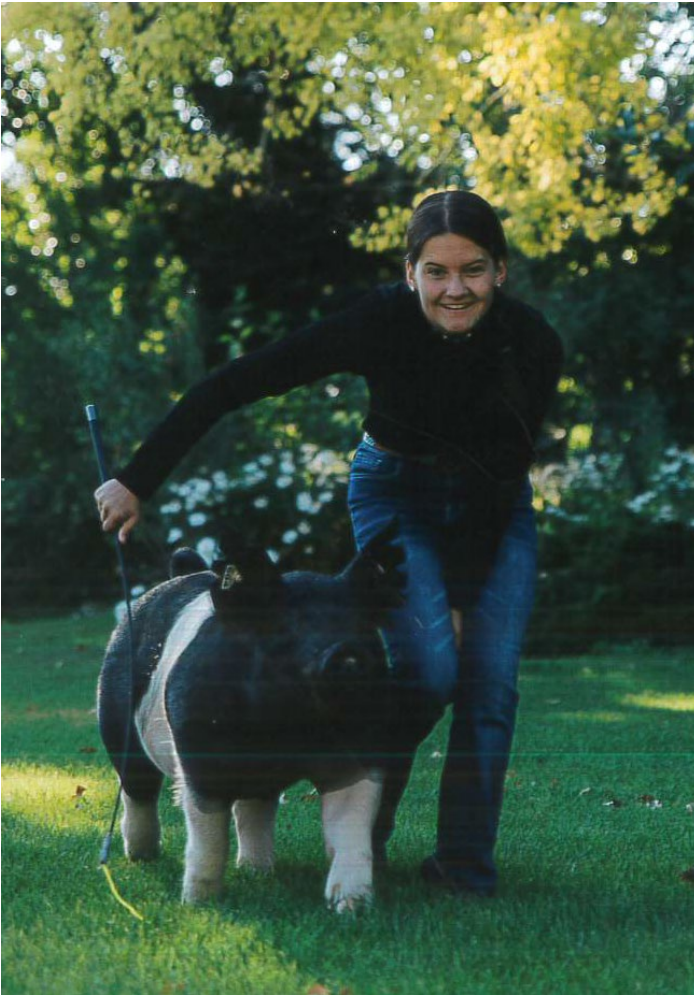
5:30 PM

BRING YOUR FAVORITE BBQ
SIDE & A SMILE! WE'LL EAT
FIRST AND JACKPOT SECOND



Congratulations!

To our 4-H Scholarship recipients!!!



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

UPCOMING DAY CAMPS

ALL DAY CAMPS ARE LOCATED AT THE OFFICE UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

You MUST be completely enrolled on 4h.zsuite.org and have enrollment fees paid at the office PRIOR to being added to any day camp lists.

Registration for day camps are **NOW** on 4h.zsuite.org in the events sections of your family profile. **Register online. Limited space!**
ALL FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE OFFICE 1 WEEK PRIOR TO DAY CAMP IN ORDER TO ATTEND!

We are able to accept cards over the phone or at office with a \$3 service fee.

May	28-29	Cake Decorating, TRADITIONAL (8+), 9-Noon, \$25 *must attend all days
	28-29	Cake Decorating, CLOVERBUD (5-7), 1-3 p.m., \$25 *must attend all days
June	1-4	Galaxy Gateway, TRADITIONAL (8+), 10-noon, free *must attend all days
	1-4	Galaxy Gateway, CLOVERBUD (5-7), 1-2:30 p.m., free *must attend all days
	12	BBQ Apron Sewing, TRADITIONAL (8+), 10-Noon, free
	23-26	STEM Week, TRADITIONAL (8+), 9:30-Noon, free *must attend all days
	29-7/1	Dino Discovery, CLOVERBUD (5-7), 10-Noon, free *must attend all days
July	6-9	Global Passport, TRADITIONAL (8+), 10-Noon, \$10 *must attend all days
	6-9	Global Passport, CLOVERBUD (5-7). 1-2:30 p.m., \$10 *must attend all days
Aug	10-12	Byte-sized Science, TRADITIONAL (8+), 10-Noon, free *must attend all days

The Bingham County News is published by the Bingham County Extension Office. All comments should be directed to Carmen Willmore.
 UI Extension Office, Bingham Co.
 412 W. Pacific St.
 Blackfoot, ID 83221
 (208) 785-8060
 bingham@uidaho.edu

Extension Educators:
 Abby May, Family & Consumer Sciences
 Reed Findlay, Forages/Horticulture
 Carmen Willmore, 4-H/Livestock

Staff:
 Krista Cernyar, Office Manager
 Heather Strupp, 4-H Coordinator
 Abigail Shipley, 4-H Secretary

Web Site:
<https://www.uidaho.edu/bingham>

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information or reasonable accommodations to any programs listed in this newsletter need to contact the Bingham County Extension Office two days prior to the event at 412 West Pacific St., Blackfoot, ID 83221, phone 208-785-8060, email bingham@uidaho.edu.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM
 UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
 BINGHAM COUNTY
 412 WEST PACIFIC
 BLACKFOOT ID 83221



To keep current and up-to-date!

UI Extension, Bingham County