AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System

Menard County Extension Service
PO Box 485 Menard, Tx 76859
email: menard-tx@tamu.edu
web: http://menard-tx.tamu.edu
phone: 325-396-4878

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TO: **Menard County 4-H & FFA Exhibitors**

SUBJECT: **New Requirement for ALL 'out-of-county' MAJOR LIVESTOCK SHOW Exhibitors**

Moving forward into the 2011-2012 Major Show Season... Quality Counts Verification will be a part of the process for entry in all major shows. This means all exhibitors that plan to show in a **major livestock show** will need to demonstrate their knowledge of the Six Pillars of Character and the Eight Core Concepts presented in the Quality Counts Curriculum.   *IN OTHER WORDS*...All exhibitors planning to show at any 2012 major livestock show will be required to review the "Quality Counts Verification Curriculum" and pass the test before being eligible to enter any major livestock show in 2012.

Things you need to know about Verification Certification:

* 2011 - State Fair of Texas will implement Quality Counts Verification on a voluntary basis. (September 2011)

* 2012 - Starting in 2012, all Major Livestock Shows in Texas will require Quality Counts Verification at the time of entry - This means all major show exhibitors will need a certification number showing they have passed the quality count verification test. Certification numbers will be required on the entry forms. (November)

* A Verification number is obtained by answering 80% of the questions correctly on an online test.

* Extension Agents and Ag Teachers will have access to the Verification Records for the county and they will be required to certify each exhibitors' verification number at time of entry.

To obtain your Verification Certification...   you must pass the online verification test and obtain a Quality Counts Verification number.   To help you acquire your Verification Number... Quality Counts Verification is now active and ready to be used!

1) go to the website http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/... in the upper right hand menu right under the heading, click on the link"Texas Trails". You will need to watch the entire training to be able to pass the test.

    Your initial username and password is your email address and your county name. *Example: Username - jj-kidd@tamu.edu Password - menard.   You should log in and set up your own unique password.*

2)   Return to the home page after watching 'Texas Trails' and click on "Verification" in the same upper right hand corner to take the quiz. *You can take the quiz as many times as necessary ... but you MUST PASS WITH AT LEAST AN 80 SCORE.*

If you need a computer, you can come to the Extension office and use our computers to review "Texas Trails" and take the test. It takes at least 30 minutes to go through the entire process. If you have questions, call the office.

Sincerely,

Jerry Kidd
Menard County Extension Agent- AG/NR