



## Livestock shows, county fairs

One of the most frequently visible faces of KDA is also one of the most heartwarming: the excited grin of a young 4-H participant or FFA member as he or she takes the ring at a youth livestock show.

KDA sponsors and staffs these shows because Kentucky agriculture needs its young people nurtured and developed as the leaders of tomorrow.

In 2003, KDA began a new junior livestock exposition at Murray, complementing

similar events in Bowling Green and Morehead. The new **Western Rivers Junior Livestock Expo** featured 125 participants in the judging skills contest and 200 animals exhibited in the show.

The Morehead show has a five-year history, and the Bowling Green show has logged its twelfth year. In 2003, both of these set records for exhibitor and livestock participation.

KDA launched a new **goat show in Elizabethtown** in 2003. Participation in all KDA goat shows during the third year that were offered have tripled original levels; 268 participating students exhibited 431 tagged goats during 2003.

Again in 2003, KDA awarded four **scholarships** each to young exhibitors of beef cattle, dairy cattle, goat, horse, sheep, and swine.

The program of financial assistance to **county fairs** continues strong throughout the state in 2003. KDA helped sponsor local county fairs and livestock shows in 107 of Kentucky's 120 counties.

The first in a planned series of **educational CDs**, "Livestock Math" and a companion disk on showmanship skills, was developed by the Division of Show & Fair Promotion. The interactive programw quiz elementary and junior high children on basic math and livestock production.

Also, the division created a page for action photos and show results on the KDA Web site.

local senior centers, at Extension offices in 38 counties, and to clients served by the Commodity Supplemental Food Program in Louisville.

"With this new Senior FMNP and a similar program for women and children, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture is issuing more than \$1 million worth of coupons good for sales at approved community farmers' markets," said Anna Lucio, program coordinator.

The Senior FMNP program began in Adair, Allen, Anderson, Barren, Bath, Boone, Boyd, Carroll, Carter, Edmonson, Elliott, Floyd, Franklin, Garrard, Grant, Henry, Hopkins, Jackson, Jessamine, Laurel, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Marion, Martin, Mason, Menifee, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Nelson, Pendleton, Powell, Pulaski, Oldham, Rockcastle, Rowan, Russell, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Taylor, Trimble and Woodford counties of Kentucky.

Inter-government program partners with KDA are the Cabinet for Health Services's Office of Aging, and the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

