



# Dairy Activity Sheet - 2024

## Level 1- Grades 3-4-5

### Due May 24 to the Extension Office



**\$1.00**

#### What you will do in this project:

- Enroll in the 4-H program by January 15.
- Complete a minimum of 2 activities on this Dairy Activity Sheet and turn it into the Extension Office by **May 24** or earlier. This activity sheet consists of activities, and record sheet.
- Attend County 4-H Dairy workshops when offered.
- Recommend that the 4-H family purchase and review the project resource manual.
- Refer to the Allen County 4-H Rules book for a complete listing of all regulations concerning this project.
- To show heifers or cows at the County Fair or Indiana State Fair identify animals in Indiana 4honline by May 15.
- To show heifers or cows at the County Fair level complete FairEntry online by the May 24, 2024 deadline.
- All Dairy Cattle shown at the Allen County Fair and the Indiana State Fair must have an 840 RFID tag.
- To exhibit beef, dairy, swine, goats, sheep, llama/alpaca, horse and pony, rabbits, and poultry, 4-H members must be certified either through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program or Indiana's Quality Livestock Care program. These are annual programs that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. For more information about in-person trainings in your county, please contact your County Extension Office. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqcaprogram.org/>. If completing online, please email a copy to your county extension educator. Must be done by May 24, 2024.

#### Management Tips:

- Each dairy farm has their own methods of feeding and raising the cattle, make sure you follow carefully the methods and practices of that farm.
- Make sure the cattle are feed twice daily according to their growth rate and condition.
- Provide clean, fresh water to cattle at all times.
- Provide hay for roughage.
- Check daily for sickness, unusual things, or change in behavior.
- If out in pasture, provide protection from adverse weather conditions.
- Make sure pens are well cleaned and bedded at all times.
- Practice washing and brushing cattle before the fair for a soft and shiny coat of hair.
- Clip your show cattle far enough in advance of the fair to give time for the hair to grow back. Full body clipping is usually done 30 to 60 days before the fair.
- Exercise cattle daily in the coolness of the morning and evening, not in the heat of the day to avoid stressing your cattle.
- Practice posing your heifers and cows correctly.
- Practice leading your cattle with you walking backwards. Walking forward may also be used. Remember to walk slowly.

4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in School (January 1, 2024) \_\_\_\_\_ Years in this project \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of 4-H Member verifying that you have completed these activities:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent that you have reviewed this information:

\_\_\_\_\_

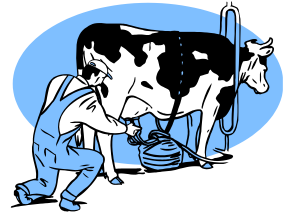
**4-H Animal Care:**

The Indiana 4-H program strongly supports positive animal care and strongly opposes animal abuse. 4-H is also dedicated to the mission of developing youth and volunteers through "Learning by Doing" programs. 4-H livestock projects teach life skills such as acquiring knowledge, making decisions, and applying leadership skills.

- When working and caring for animals, it is important to insure that appropriate safety measures are in place for both the animals and the persons who care for them. Therefore, there is no substitute for knowledge, common sense, and experience.
- Animal handlers should study and learn to anticipate an animal's reaction and try and avoid problem situations. It is most important that 4-H members understand an animal's behavior so one can "outsmart" not "out-muscle" an animal. Foremost in the 4-H'ers mind should always be safety of the handler and the animal. Moving animals is more of an art than a science. Movement of animals requires planning and knowledge to accomplish it with the least amount of time, effort and stress to the animal.
- An animal's good health is often directly related to the environmental factors associated with its living space. The presence of predators, dust, odors, pests, temperature, and humidity has a direct effect on an animal's well-being.
- Animals react favorably to daily care and comfortable housing. Consideration should also be given to specific animal needs such as size of their housing space, lighting, and ventilation. The best facilities and equipment cannot and should not be a substitute for daily observation and careful attention to signs of illness, injury, and/or unusual behavior.
- Frequent consultation with your veterinarian is a must. Reasonable attention must always be given to the use of drugs and their approved withdrawal times.



## Careers involving the Dairy Industry



It may seem like years away, but have you ever given thought of a career that might involve Dairy Cattle or the Dairy industry? It is not too early to start thinking about a career in these fields. See if you can find the following words or terms in a word search

1. Which one of the careers listed on the next page would you like to know more about?

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2. Where do you think you could start to look up more information about this career you are interested in? \_\_\_\_\_

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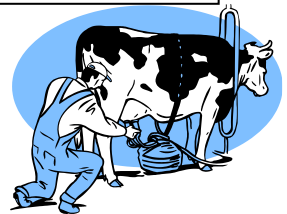
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### Activity 1

## Manure Management

When you are raising dairy animals you also have animal waste to take care of. This is known as manure. How are you going to take care of this manure? First you need to understand a few things.



1. For a dairy operation, a manure storage facility would be needed to provide storage for how long?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. A lactating cow may eliminate an average of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds per day of feces and urine.
3. Environment regulations play an impart part in how you can handle your manure. Regulations have been developed to protect the water supply from the \_\_\_\_\_ that as started in \_\_\_\_\_ and revised in \_\_\_\_\_. This is enforced by the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Each state must follow federal regulations, but there are some states that have more strict regulations on manure management.
5. Federal regulations in existence are primarily for animal-feeding operations. The most common of these operations is called CAFO. What does CAFO stand for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Manure system must be able to handle feces, urine, and bedding materials used on a farm. Name two types of manure systems: \_\_\_\_\_  
& \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Describe how your farm handles the manure that your dairy animals produce:

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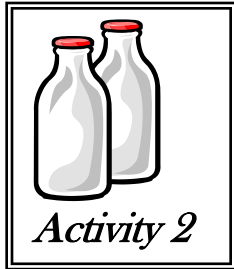
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Manure management is very important. This helps keep your animal clean and healthy. Also, it will help make your farm appearance look better and please your nearby neighbors.

Dairy Resource Handbook from Ohio State University- Chapter 9



## Mammary Health

A cow is known as a \_\_\_\_\_. These cows have the ability to produce milk from what glands? \_\_\_\_\_. These glands are also called what? \_\_\_\_\_.

A cow's udder is located entirely outside the body. When empty it can weigh \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. A cow's full udder can hold between \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of milk. The cow's udder has \_\_\_\_\_ compartments. These are also known as \_\_\_\_\_ and are drained by \_\_\_\_\_.

Milk production is a function of motherhood. Cows give the most milk when they are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. It is important to have a routine milking procedure for the cows to let their milk down properly.

Mastitis could be costly to your dairy farm. What is mastitis? \_\_\_\_\_. List some ways to prevent mastitis: \_\_\_\_\_

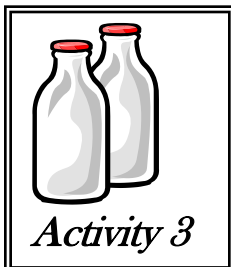
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Let's hope this information has helped you become more aware of mammary health in your dairy herd.

Dairy Resource handbook from Ohio State University – Chapter 7



## Feeding Systems

Your dairy animals are hungry. What will they eat? Do you know that no matter what type of feeding system you use, management is the key to success. Feed costs and feed intake can have a direct effect on milk production and the profit that your dairy operation makes.

What are the three main systems that could be used to feed your dairy animals.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

A balanced ration is one that will provide all the necessary nutrients that your animals need during one day. On most farms a nutritionist will figure out the ration you need to use for your cows to keep their production up. Your calves may use the same ration for years that work for your farm.

The following scramble words are some feedstuffs fed to dairy cattle: You will need to unscramble them,

1. Basyneo amel	
2. Ydr salsoesm	
3. Cdraked nochr	
4. Ewrrbse aring	
5. Ugndor rcno	
6. Areu	
7. Ahy eucb	

Does your farm use some of these feedstuffs that you unscrambled? \_\_\_\_\_

Resource – Chapter 5, Ohio State University Dairy Resource Handbook

# ALLEN COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK RECORD



*Records serve as a way to measure your own success with a project. When answering these questions, you should be able to see where improvements can be made for next year and if you wish to continue with this project for another year.*

## **For this Project Record:**

Why did you choose to raise and care for these animals this year?

How many animals did you manage during the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_

How many were market animals? \_\_\_\_\_

How many were breeding animals? \_\_\_\_\_

How many animals did you purchase or add during the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you purchase these animals alone or in partnership with someone else? \_\_\_\_\_

If you did purchase animals, why and how did you determine which animals to buy?

Did you sell any of your animals during the past 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how did you find a buyer for your animals?

Describe improvements you made to your animal's housing during the past 12 months. (Include equipment, buildings, land, etc...)

List two new things that you learned about your project animals or the breed that you did not know before.

1.

2.

Where did you go to find more information about the care of your animals?

What health practices did you use with your animals the past 12 months?

In regards to raising these animals, what is one thing you will do differently the next 12 months that you did not do this past 12 months?

Premise ID Number where cattle are coming from \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Completed 4honline enrollment by January 15, 2024

\_\_\_\_ Completed Animal ID in 4honline by May 15, 2024

\_\_\_\_ Completed Fair Entry on line by May 24, 2024