

Indiana Dairy Cattle CDE

Updated 10/2024

Dairy Cattle

A. State Event Rules

1. There is no area qualifying event.
2. The state contest will be held in conjunction with the Indiana Holstein Dairy Show.
3. Divisions will be designated as Junior Reasons, Senior 4-H Reasons, Senior FFA Reasons, and Questions. Questions division will include grades 3-12 and 4-H & FFA. Refer to the State Ag Judging Committee Handbook for team designations. Awards will be presented at the state contest to all divisions.
4. Participants will judge 6 - 8 classes of lactating dairy cows and dairy heifers. Oral reasons will be given on four of the classes as judges determine by Senior 4-H and Senior FFA contestants while Junior contestants will present oral reasons on two classes. Lactating classes are preferred for oral reasons. Questions division contestants will answer questions for the four senior level reasons classes.
5. All contestants are to enter the contest with a clean notebook and no notes or handouts other than what may be provided by the contest coordinator. The group leader is to take away from contestants any notes or handouts in their possession.
6. Each participant will be given 15 minutes to place and take notes on each class in the state event.
7. Each participant will be allowed two minutes to give each set of oral reasons. Notes cannot be used by Senior 4-H or Senior FFA contestants while giving oral reasons. Junior contestants may use their own notes taken during the contest.
8. Animals will be designated by number: 1-2-3-4.
9. Fifty points will constitute a perfect score on a placing class and on a set of oral reasons.
10. The overall team ranking will be determined by totaling all scores of the top three team members. All four team members will be eligible for individual awards.
11. Ties (based on the three highest contestants' scores that went into making the tie) will be broken by the following criteria for each division:
 - a) **Individual rank** - If two or more contestants have the same total points score, it will be broken by total reasons/questions score.
 - b) **Team rank** - If two or more teams have a combined total score that is the same, the tie will be broken by a combined total reasons/questions score.
 - c) If still tied for either Individual and/or team rank, the contestant or team having the highest placing score in the class(es) with the lowest total cuts, will be listed first.
 - d) If still tied, the contestant or team with the highest total placing score (adding together the placing scores on reasons/questions classes) on reasons/questions classes, will be listed first.
 - e) If still tied, the contestant or team with the highest single class reason/questions score will be listed first.
 - f) Ties for individuals and teams in the oral reasons/questions category will be broken such that the contestant or team with the lower total placing score (adding together the placing scores on reasons/questions classes) on reasons/questions classes, will be listed first.If all of the above fail, duplicate awards shall be given.
12. Awards will be provided to the top 5 overall teams, top 10 overall individuals (6th-10th ribbon only) in each division. Top 5 oral reasons in Junior, Senior 4-H and Senior FFA Divisions will receive awards.
13. Group Leaders. A group leader shall be in charge of each group to move the contestants, to assist in supervising the class, to see that the animals are properly exhibited, and to answer any questions, which may not pertain to the actual placing of the animals under consideration.
14. Students, volunteers and coaches will be selected as leadsmen for the contest. If sufficient holders are not present for a class, the animals will be judged in stanchions.
15. Indiana FFA may conduct their dairy showman contest in conjunction with the state event, using those contestants to lead animals. An individual cannot compete in both the state dairy cattle CDE and dairy showman contest if both are at the same time.

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16. The designated national contests will be World Dairy Expo for 4-H and National FFA for FFA divisions.

B. Suitable References:

1. Hoard's Dairyman CDE Guide, available from: Hoard's Dairyman, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
2. Dairyman's DHI Manual, available from herds on test, Indiana State Dairy Association, Purdue University
3. Dairy Cattle CDE Techniques by G. W. Trimberger and W. M. Etger, available from bookstores serving Purdue students or Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.
4. Cattle and Dairy Goat Evaluation and CDE, Oregon State University, 4-H 709.
5. Teaching 4-H Oral Reasons, EM 4789, Washington State University.

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