



Project Title: Dairy Beef

Description:

The educational 4-H beef program and related activities (such as workshops and tours) provide youth with a fun and hands-on learning experience which develops both beef subject skills (such as nutrition, housing, and health care) and life skills (such as responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communications). Skills are learned under the direction of caring adults.

Exhibitor Check list:

- ☐ Enroll in 4-H, pay annual program fee, and enter project in V2.4honline by January 15
- ☐ Steers and Feeder Calves must be ID'ed in V2.4honline by May 15
- ☐ FairEntry TBD (please watch website and newsletters)

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. For more information about in-person trainings in our county, please contact your County Extension Office. More information about YQCA is available at <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

Exhibit Guidelines:

Dairy Beef Mini 4-H

1. Mini 4-Hers in Kindergarten may show a feeder calf only. 4-Hers in 1st and 2nd grade may exhibit a feeder calf or steer.
2. Mini 4-Hers may exhibit an animal owned by the Mini 4-Hers or a family member, or the Mini 4-Her may borrow an Allen County 4-Hers show animal.
3. If a Mini 4-Her needs help finding an animal to borrow the Dairy Beef Committee will help connect them with someone.
4. Mini 4-Hers borrowing an animal need to work with the animal prior to fair week. The Dairy beef Community will not provide an animal the day of the show.
5. Participants must submit a Dairy beef enrollment form stating where the animal will come from.
6. Mini 4-Hers will complete and turn in a record sheet upon arrival to the fairgrounds with their form.
7. The 4-H Mini Dairy beef class will held before the steer show. All Mini 4-H members will show together. The members will not be judged, each member receive a participation ribbon.
8. Mini 4-H members will NOT sell in the 4-H Auction.
9. Mini 4-H members who choose to bring their own animal to the fair are required to bring their animal to Tag-in day but will NOT enter their animal's information into 4H Online, however the animal must meet the Dairy Beef breed requirements.
10. Dairy Beef not being exhibited by a regular 4-H member must arrive on the day of the show at a time designated by the Dairy Beef Committee. NO animals are to be loaded out during the show. Note: A mini member may request to check in their animal remain at the fair for the whole week. The committee will decide if there is an adequate space to allow the mini exhibitors animal to be housed at the fair during this time.
11. Mini 4-Hers are not required to have any special equipment. A show stick and scotch comb are optional.

STEER CLASS

1. Animals must be owned by the 4-H member and feed records started no later than January 1 of current year. Siblings will be allowed to co-enroll dairy beef cattle.
2. An animal Record sheets will be due by May 30
3. The animal must be a purebred dairy steer. Either Holstein, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, Jersey, Guernsey, or Milking Shorthorn. No crossbreeds.
4. The animal must be tagged and weighed at the County 4-H Beef Weigh in.
5. Member will be allowed to show no more than three steers.
6. Current HEALTH RULES as specified by the Indiana Board of Animal Health must be complied with and all health papers checked by either the State Veterinarian or a representative before unloading. Health papers should be listed in the 4-Her's name, the 4-Her's and an immediate family member's name, or the 4-Her's and the family name. (Ex. John Smith & Sons, Jane Smith & Sons and Daughters, John Smith and Family).
7. If horns or spurs are visible at weigh-in, a written warning will be given and must be signed by 4-H member or parent/guardian. All horns or spurs must be removed prior to the fair. If horns/spurs are present at the veterinary check, animal will be refused entry.
8. All animals presented for the fair at unloading, should be clean, without excess manure or other debris attached to them.
9. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be selected from the class winners. Steers will be shown by breed and weight.
10. Recognition will be given to the exhibitor whose steer has the best rate of gain from weigh-in until the county fair.
11. All cattle must be double-tied while not attended to in the barn or tie-out area.
12. Minimum weight on dairy beef steers will be 900 pounds to be eligible to sell in the auction. Animal must be in good health condition to sell. If steer is below 900 pounds, owner will be responsible for removal of animal from fair. Committee has final decision for auction eligibility.
13. A Leader's Special Award will be awarded during the auction.
14. Anyone not able to meet any rule will be given due process to have their special circumstances reviewed by the Dairy Beef Committee and, if necessary, the Allen County 4-H Clubs, Inc. Board.

FEEDER CALF CLASS

1. A member may exhibit and show no more than 3 calves. Siblings will be allowed to co-enroll dairy beef cattle.
2. Animals must be owned by the 4-H member and or in the Family name and feed records started no later than April 1 of the current year.
3. The animal must be a purebred dairy calf. Either Holstein, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, etc. No Crossbreeds.
4. The animal must be tagged and weighed at the County 4-H Beef Weigh in held in April.
5. The feeder calf will be required to meet current Indiana Board of Health regulations for show.
6. Calves are suggested to weigh no more than 300 pounds when tagged in April. All calves must be castrated and dehorned. No ruptured calves may be exhibited. The animal must weigh not more than 650 pounds at the fair weigh in. If calf is over 650 pounds, it will be eligible to show in a "Heavy weight" class and not be eligible for Champion.
7. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be selected from the class winners. Calves will be shown by breed and weight.
8. A Rate-of-Gain award will be given to the exhibitor whose calf has the best gain from tag day in April until the county fair.
9. Exhibitors may sell their calf through the livestock auction or keep the calf for the dairy beef project the following year. Exhibitors can sell ONLY a feeder calf or a dairy beef steer; NOT both.

10. A completed Animal Record sheets will be due by May 24, 2024.
11. Anyone not able to meet any rule will be given due process to have their special circumstances reviewed by the Dairy Beef Committee and, if necessary, the Allen County 4-H Clubs, Inc. Board.
12. Calves must be shown with a "show" halter.
13. All cattle must be double-tied while in the barn and the tie-out area.
14. All animals presented for the fair at unloading, should be clean, without excess manure or other debris attached to them.
15. If horns or spurs are visible at weigh-in, a written warning will be given and must be signed by 4-H member or parent/guardian. All horns or spurs must be removed prior to the fair. If horns/spurs are present at the veterinary check, animal will be refused entry.
16. Breed weight classes will compete for Light, Intermediate and Heavy weight champions when there are more than nine animals offered for a breed.

Showmanship will be conducted in 3 divisions:

Member will compete in level according to school grade as of January 1 of current exhibition year.

Junior for grades 3-4-5

Intermediate for grades 6-7-8

Senior for grades 9-10-11-12

Overall Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Showmanship will include current Junior, Intermediate, Senior, previous Senior and Master winners. The top three will advance to the Master Dairy Beef Showmanship competition to be held after the Dairy Beef Steer Showmanship.

1. Once an exhibitor has won a division, they must compete in the next higher division the following year.
2. Master Dairy Beef Showmanship will include the top three exhibitors from the overall Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Showmanship and Dairy Beef Steer Showmanship classes. The judge must place his top three. The winner of the Master class will represent the Dairy Beef species in the Showman of Showmen competition unless the winner has won the Showman of Showmen thru the Dairy Beef species. The second place will then represent the Dairy Beef specie.

Showmanship participants must show their own animal which they exhibited in an earlier class.

Updated 10/2024