2016 Beef Information Sheet

Prepared by the 4-H State Fair Beef Show Committee and the Center for Youth Development

This information sheet gives details on the rules for this year’s Minnesota State Fair 4-H Beef Show. Although some counties may follow slightly different guidelines, these rules will apply at the state level.

OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Ownership Requirements for All Animal Science Projects are uniform for Beef, Cats/Pets, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Dog, Horse, Lama, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine. Animals must be owned solely by the 4-Her or the 4-Her’s family. The family includes the 4-Her’s parents/guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animal may be owned by grandparents as long as the 4-Her’s parents are actively involved with and working on the farm. Animals owned in partnership with non-family members (as defined above) must be leased and follow guidelines within the lease agreement. Lease agreements must be submitted by May 15 with 4HOnline data. Market animals (with the exception of prospect calves) cannot be leased.

OWNERSHIP CLARIFICATIONS 2016

➤ With the new Online ID process, 4-H families are no longer able to identify animals as a family group. They might, for example, have identified a number of animals as being owned by the “John Doe Family.” Under the new Online ID process, families will need to enter each animal in one of 4-H member’s profiles. A good rule of thumb might be to break all animals to be ID’ed up such that each family member gets about the same number if animals ID’ed in their name. For example, if the John Doe Family is ID’ing 12 barrows and there are three siblings in the John Doe Family, you might consider putting 4 barrows in each sibling’s name. It is also a good practice to put at least one animal under each sibling. The determination of which sibling exhibits which animal at the County Fair can then be delayed until the ID checkpoint at County Fair. It is at the County Fair ID checkpoint for each species that animals must be declared by a specific sibling and cannot be switched to another sibling after that.

➤ The same animal cannot be identified by more than one 4-H family unit. Let’s say a livestock production operation is a partnership between two brothers – both having children in 4-H. The cousins in this example must identify different animals. They might identify several as the “John Doe Family” and several others as the “Jim Doe Family.” But the same animals CANNOT be identified by both families. Let’s say a similar operation is owned by two unrelated partners. In this case the same philosophy would apply. Each family may identify any number of animals but NO animals can be identified by both families. The exception to this rule is in Horse, Dog and Lama where it is permitted for animals to be ID’ed by two 4-Hers, but with restrictions described elsewhere in the Species Information Sheet.

➤ Families are eligible to transfer female animals between market/breeding classes up until county fair verification if they meet identification standards (all market animals require a 4-H tag by the market id deadlines for each species). After this point - animals must show in the class that they entered in (if shown as a market animal at county fair - must show as a market animal at state fair). Animals must also meet 3 criteria:

   ▪ Leasing (not available to market animals)
   ▪ Animals under a lease are not eligible to be shown as a market animal.
   ▪ County Requirements (central ID or not)
   ▪ If your county requires a central Identification for market animals - and you did not make it to that ID with your animal - you are not eligible for a market class.
   ▪ ID date (for beef)
   ▪ If you did not identify your beef heifer by February 15th (state ID deadline) - you are not eligible for a market class.

Again in 2016! All cattle at exhibitions must be officially identified. For complete 2016 Exhibition Entry Requirements and acceptable official ID, visit this link: http://mn.gov/bah/official-id.html

4-H ID information at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID

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LEASING PROGRAM

- 4-H Beef Heifers, Cow/Calf Pairs, and Prospect Market Calves may be leased.
- Market Beef and Dairy Steers cannot be leased.
- If a breeding animal or prospect calf is leased, the "Minnesota 4-H Breeding Beef and Cow/Calf Lease Agreement" must be completed then uploaded and/or submitted as part of their ID process (lease agreements are also due on May 15).

BIRTHDATES

Breeding Heifer – Spring Calf: January 1 – April 30, 2016
Breeding Heifer – Fall Calf: September 1 – December 31, 2015
Breeding Heifer – Summer Yearling: May 1 – August 31, 2015
Breeding Heifer – Junior Yearling: January 1 – April 30, 2015
Breeding Heifer – Senior Yearling: September 1 - December 31, 2014
Cow/Calf: Calves must be born on or after January 1, 2016
Prospect Market Calves: January 1 – April 30, 2016
Market Beef: January 1 – August 31, 2015
Dairy Steers: January 1 – August 31, 2015

SHOW DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

**Heifers:**
- To show in the registered breed classes, exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed and present an original registration paper, including Spring Calf Breeding Heifers. All registered heifers must have an ear tattoo that matches the tattoo number on the registration papers. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Heifers without the original registration papers (when required) can place no higher than a blue ribbon, and cannot win Champion honors and will be moved to the Commercial heifer division.
- This year’s show will include classes for the following registered breed divisions: Black Angus, Red Angus, Charolais, Composite Charolais (1/2 or more), Hereford (Polled & Horned), Maine Anjou (1/4 or more), Limousin (1/2 or more), Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, South Devon (1/2 or more) and Simmental (purebred), Foundation Simmental (1/2, 5/8, 3/4 blood), Chianina (6.25% or more), Gelbvieh (1/2 or more) and “Registered All Other Breeds” (AOB) (must have registration paper and cannot be a lower % of another eligible Breed Division).
- **All other animals will be in the “Commercial” division, and must have a 4-H ear tag.**
- A spring calf class is available for all breed divisions. **Spring calves do not have to be from a cow/calf project.**
- Spring Calves must be weaned (no nurse cows), and registered spring calves must have an original registration paper.

**Cow/Calf Pairs:**
- To show in the registered breed divisions, exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed and present an original registration paper for both the cow and the calf. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** (See breeding heifer rule.)
- This year’s show will include classes for the following registered breed divisions: Black Angus, Red Angus, Hereford (Polled & Horned), Shorthorn (Registered & Shorthorn Plus), Simmental (Registered & Foundation), and “Registered All Other Breeds” (AOB).
- All other Cow/Calf pairs will be placed in the “Commercial” division, and must have a 4-H ear tag.
- For exhibitors in the cow/calf division: both cow and calf are brought to the show ring (not for showmanship).
- Calves in Cow/Calf Pairs can be heifers, bulls, or steers.
- Prospect Market Calves and Spring Calves do not need to be from a cow/calf project.
- Prospect Calves and Spring Calves may be part of a cow/calf exhibit at the county level and still be State Fair eligible.
- Embryo Transfer (ET) calves may not be part of a cow/calf pair, but may be shown as Prospect Calves or as Spring Heifer Calves.

**Prospect Market Calf Exhibits:**
- Prospect calves will be weighed and shown in weight classes (no breed divisions).
- **Prospect Calves must be ID’d with a 4-H ear tag by May 15, but do not have to be from a cow/calf project.**
- Classes for heifers and steers will be judged as market beef prospects.
- Prospect market steers must be castrated. (no bull calves)
- Prospect calves must be weaned (no nurse cows).
- The 4-H leasing program is available for prospect market calves.
**Market Beef:**

Beef steers will be shown by the breed classification in the 4-H Beef Show at the Minnesota State Fair.

- This year’s show will include divisions for the following registered breeds: Black Angus, Hereford (Polled & Horned), Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Charolais, Limousin, Maine Anjou, and Simmental. **New for 2016:** “Slick-Shorn” Market Steer Division
  - All breed division steers must show visual characteristics of that breed.
  - To show in the registered breed classes that require a registration paper, exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed and present the original registration paper. All registered steers must have an ear tattoo that matches the tattoo number on the registration paper, with the exception of the Charolais Steer Division.
  - Steers without the original registration paper can place no higher than a blue ribbon and cannot win Champion honors, cannot be in the 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction, and will be moved to the Crossbred steer division.
  - Champion and Reserve Champion Black Angus steers are subject to a blood test to verify the authenticity.
  - All Black Angus and Shorthorn steers must be out of a purebred sire and purebred dam and have registration papers.
  - All Shorthorn Plus steers must have a registration paper and must meet the registration requirements of the National Breed Association.
  - All Maine Anjou steers must be 1/4 blood concentration or more, and must have a registration paper.
  - All Limousin steers must be 50% or greater according to the NALF percentage and must have registration papers from the NALF.
  - All Hereford steers must be out of a purebred registered Hereford bull and a purebred registered Hereford or Polled Hereford cow, and must have a steer certificate from the American Hereford Assn (AHA).
  - All Simmental steers must be half-blood or more and must have a registration paper from the Simmental Association.
  - All Charolais steers must be a minimum of 50% Charolais and exhibit Charolais breed character. They will be screened by a breed representative during the Market Beef Weigh-In at the State Fair. (No registration paper is required).

**RULES FOR THE “SLICK-SHORN” MARKET STEER DIVISION”:** Hair must be “slick shorn”, which includes the entire body and legs, with the exception of the switch. For Steers to qualify for the “Slick-Shorn” Division, they must be shorn to no more than ¼ inch on any location of the body, excluding the tail switch. Steers will be checked at time of Weigh-In for compliance with the hair length requirement, with hair no longer than ¼ inch uniform length at any location on the body, other than the tail switch. The tail switch can be no more than 12 inches above the end of the cartilage of the tail, and the tail switch may be ratted and balled, or bobbed off. Steers may be clipped after they arrive at the State Fair to meet the requirements, up until the time of Weigh-In.

Any steer found not to be in compliance with the hair length rule at the time of the Market Beef Weigh-In will not be allowed to show in the “Slick-Shorn” Division, and will be placed in its original Division. All steers must meet ¼ inch hair requirement prior to Weigh-In on Wednesday. Any decisions on eligibility for the “Slick-Shorn” Division that are made by the 4-H Beef Show Management will be final, and those decisions will not be subject to protest.

- All other beef steers will be placed in the “Crossbred” division, which will include all other breeds and crosses and will be divided into 3 divisions for the show.
  - Market Heifer Division. Classes will be divided by weight. Champion and Reserve Champion Market Heifers will compete against steer division champions for Overall Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef.
  - A screening committee will verify the steers on entry day of the state fair. Any steer not meeting the requirements for a particular breed will automatically show in the “Crossbred Steers” class. All decisions by the screening committee are final and are not subject to change. Exhibitors may not switch classes once they have crossed the scale.

**Dairy Steers (Pure Breed and Crossbred):**

- Pure Breed Dairy Steers must be 100% dairy bred. Exhibitors must identify what breed their dairy steer is when they pre-register with their county extension office at the time of State Fair Registration.
  - These 5 dairy breeds are accepted without registration papers: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, & Jersey.
  - Milking Shorthorn dairy steers must be registered with the American Milking Shorthorn Society. Any animal carrying the “S” suffix will not be eligible for the dairy steer show but will be eligible for the beef steer show.
  - A committee will examine all pure breed dairy steers as they cross the scales at verification. This committee may request a blood type on dairy steers that they do not feel represent the genetics of the dairy breed that it is entered under. The exhibitor and the exhibitor’s family will incur the total expense of the blood type test (approximately $50.00). If a dairy steer is questioned by the committee the exhibitor has the option to withdraw the steer form the
dairy steer show and enter it in the appropriate beef steer class or to take it home. The champion and reserve champion dairy steers will be blood typed, by the MN State Fair, at their expense.

- **CROSSBRED DAIRY STEERS** – Crossbred Dairy Steers must be from the following breeds in any combination: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, Milking Shorthorn, Montbeliarde, Normande (dairy), Norwegian Red, Red & White, and Viking Red (Swedish, Danish, and Finnish Red). All breeds in the Cross must be listed when ID'ing a crossbred dairy steer.

  - Crossbred Dairy Steers must exhibit Dairy characteristics, as determined by a Screening Committee selected by the 4-H Beef Show Committee. The Screening Committee will determine final eligibility for the Crossbred Dairy Steer Division. Any Crossbred Dairy Steer that is “screened out” will be moved to the appropriate Crossbred Market Beef Division, and can place no higher than a blue ribbon.

  - Crossbred Dairy Steers will be in a separate Division, and will not compete against the Purebred Dairy Steers (current Dairy Steer Show) for championship. Crossbred Dairy Steer exhibitors will be included in the Dairy Steer Showmanship competition with other Dairy Steer exhibitors.

**REGISTRATION PAPERS**

- All registration papers must be originals. Photocopies or faxes will not be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- All required registration papers must be presented at the time of verification or weigh-in on entry day and the ear tattoo in the animal must match the tattoo number on the registration paper.
- Any beef exhibit entered in a registered class or division without an original registration paper (where required) can place no higher than a blue ribbon, and is not eligible for championship awards or the 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction.
- Registered beef animals without registration papers will be moved to the commercial or crossbred division.

**IDENTIFICATION DETAILS, FORMS & DEADLINES**

- Also refer to your county ID letter and online at: [www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID](http://www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID)
- **Market Beef & Dairy Steers** ~ Must be tagged with a Minnesota 4-H eartag by February 15 AND the ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by February 15.
- **Breeding Heifers** ~ Commercial (See registered note below) must be tagged with a Minnesota 4-H eartag by May 15 AND the ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15.
- **Cow/Calf Pairs** ~ Commercial (See registered note below) must be tagged with a Minnesota 4-H eartag by May 15. (Calves must be tagged by County Fair) AND the ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15. If calf is not born by May 15, that should be noted on the form and then the calf should be identified before your county fair. **Both the cow and calf must be ID’d.**
- **Prospect Market Calves**: Must be identified with a MN 4-H eartag by May 15 AND the ID data entered online or the beef worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15.
- **Registered heifers and cow/calf projects** must be identified by with an ear tattoo that is recorded and matches the tattoo number on the registration paper. (Calves must be tattooed by County Fair.)
- If a breeding animal or prospect calf is leased, the “Minnesota 4-H Breeding Beef and Cow/Calf Lease Agreement” must be completed then uploaded and/or submitted as part of their ID process (lease agreements are also due on May 15).

**DATES OF STATE FAIR 4-H LIVESTOCK ENCAMPMENT & SHOW TIMES**

**4-H Livestock Encampment** ~ Wednesday, August 24 – Sunday, August 28

  - Weigh-In & Check-In
    - Wednesday ~ 1:00 – 7:00 pm (All Breeding Heifers and Cow/Calf Pairs must be verified)
    - Wednesday ~ 1:00 – 7:00 pm (All Market Beef, Dairy Steers, and Prospect Calves must be weighed)
  - Beef Exhibitor Meeting ~ Thursday – 10:30 am

**Show Day & Times**

  - Cow/Calf Show ~ Thursday – 1:00 pm
  - Heifer Show ~ Thursday – 2:30 pm
  - Market Beef Show ~ Friday – 7:30 am, &
  - **Prospect Market Calf Show** ~ Friday, following Market Beef Show in the Coliseum
  - Dairy Steer Show ~ Friday – 7:30 am
  - Showmanship ~ Saturday – 8:00 am

**Championship Event**

  - 1:30 p.m. on Friday in the Coliseum
  - This event will include the selection of: Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Prospect Market Calf, Top 3 Overall Cow/Calf Pairs, Top 5 Overall Beef Heifers, Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Steer, Top 5 Overall Market Beef, as well as the announcement of beef interview winners and State Fair Scholarship winners.

All eligible exhibitors must participate in the Beef Show Championship event, or special awards will be withheld.
WEIGHT GUIDELINES

➤ All Market Beef and Dairy Steers must be born after January 1, 2015.
➤ The RECOMMENDED State Fair minimum weight is 1,000 pounds for Market Beef and Dairy Steers.
➤ No check weights prior to Weigh-In on Wednesday

WEIGH BACK OF MARKET BEEF AND DAIRY STEERS

➤ All market beef and dairy steers receiving a purple ribbon will be weighed back as they exit the show ring.
➤ All market beef and dairy steers must be within 5 percent of their entry day weight on Wednesday.
➤ Any market beef or dairy steer not meeting the 5 percent criteria will be lowered from a purple ribbon to a blue ribbon
and will not be eligible for the 4-H Auction or special awards.
➤ No feed or water may be given to animals following weigh-back until after the Division Championship, unless
authorized by Show Management. Violations will result in a drop of one ribbon placing and no consideration for
Division Championship.

MOUTHING OF MARKET BEEF AND DAIRY STEERS

➤ All market beef and dairy steers receiving a purple ribbon will be mouthed as they exit the show ring.
➤ Any market beef and dairy steers with two or more visible eruptions of permanent teeth will be lowered one ribbon
placing. They are not eligible for champion honors or the livestock auction.
➤ Counties are encouraged to mouth market beef at the county fair and before bringing them to the state fair. An
informational sheet on mouthing steers is available at: http://z.umn.edu/4hbeefproject

STATE FAIR INTERVIEWS

AGE DIVISIONS: INTERMEDIATE = GRADES 6-8, SENIOR = GRADE 9 AND UP

➤ To qualify for awards above a blue ribbon, exhibitors must participate in the Beef interview activity. (Wednesday
evening).
➤ There are no make-up interviews for Cow/Calf exhibitors because these shows are the same day.
➤ Make-up interviews in the 4-H Beef Office on Thursday (1:00-1:30 pm) for breeding heifer exhibitors and on
Friday (6:45-7:15 am) for Market Beef, Dairy Steer, and Prospect Market Calf exhibitors.
➤ Award Winners will be selected during the Cal-Back Activity held on Thursday ~ 11:00 am – 12:30 pm and will Award
winners will be recognized during the Championship Event.
➤ There is no opportunity to make up the Call-Back Activity. 4-Hers selected to participate in the Final Interview Activity
will be notified at the beef exhibitor meeting and names will be posted outside the 4-H Beef Office.
➤ Interview Activities will include a seminar, computer test, and an oral interview.

MARKETING OF MARKET BEEF AND DAIRY STEERS

➤ Exhibitors of non-auction market beef and dairy steers are given the choice to consign their cattle to market or take
them home.
➤ Exhibitors must sign a consignment form in the 4-H beef office from Thursday 1 pm until Friday, 5:00 pm to
send their cattle to market.
➤ All Market Beef and Dairy Steers in the 4-H Auction must go to market, and become property of the Minnesota State
Fair after the 4-H Auction.
➤ Exhibitors are responsible for any market discounts that apply.

STATE FAIR SHOWMANSHIP

AGE DIVISIONS: INTERMEDIATE = GRADES 6-8 & SENIOR = GRADE 9 & UP

➤ Divisions: (1) Market Beef, (2) Cow/Calf & Prospect Market Calf, (3) Heifer, and (4) Dairy Steer (including crossbred).
➤ Show order (except Dairy Steers) will be as listed, with Intermediate Division first, followed by the Senior Division
➤ Any 4-Her exhibiting a Cow/Calf pair, Prospect Market Calf, Breeding Heifer, or Market Beef who wants to
participate in showmanship must pre-register at the time of weigh-in and ID on Wednesday. Beef
showmanship will be held on Saturday morning beginning at 8:00 am.
➤ The Dairy Steer Showmanship (Pure Breed and Crossbred Dairy Steers) Contest will remain the same as past years
with exhibitors being selected for showmanship finals during the Dairy Steer Show on Friday
➤ Exhibitors must use their own animal for showmanship.
➤ Exhibitors in the Cow/Calf Division may show either the cow or the calf, but not both (one animal is brought to the
show ring).
➤ Beef Showmanship at the State Fair will be a “NO FIT” Show…no use of adhesives or color products. The
judge will be advised and any violation will result in disqualification from Showmanship.
➤ The top 5 Showmanship contestants in each Division will receive awards.
STATE FAIR HERDSMANSHP
- Canopy’s or pop-up tents will only be allowed in designated and approved areas.
- Animals must be maintained and look presentable to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. daily.
- Tie-out spaces must be reserved with State Fair registration. Animals may go to tie-outs after 8:00 pm
- FANS – All fans must be mounted on the side of cattle, 6 feet or less from the cattle tie wall. No water-type fan coolers of any kind are allowed. Cage stalls are not allowed at the State Fair (side dividers & front tie panels are allowed).
- Please see the Herdsmanship section of the 2016 Premium Book for further updates. In 2016, there will be specific requirements regarding electrical cords and generators in the cattle barn.

STATE FAIR GROOMING RULES
- All grooming of livestock at the fair, including clipping, trimming and manipulation of the hair/wool (such as blocking on sheep, pulling up hair on beef and working up top lines on dairy) must be clearly done by the exhibitor, members of the immediate family or any other registered Minnesota 4-H member. Immediate family members are defined as being parents, step parents, legal guardians, grandparents, brothers or sisters. **The 4-H Her exhibiting the animal should be present and involved in the fitting process at the fair.**
- Any exhibitors found in violation of this rule will be eliminated from further competition in the show and will not be eligible for any awards or premiums – including championships, the auction, and showmanship.
- All grooming chutes must be placed in designated areas and must be registered in the 4-H Beef office with a registration fee. Any chute not meeting this requirement will be removed. Please note special rules for grooming chutes and fans in the State Fair Premium Book.
- No use of adhesives or aerosol cans in the show ring or staging area.

Color Rule--**No artificial color will be allowed on 4-H Market Beef, Prospect Calves, Cow Calf Pairs, and Breeding Heifer exhibits that is applied above the flank of the animal. Coloring materials are acceptable to be applied to the legs and hooves of the animal. All 4-H beef exhibits, except dairy steers, will be checked for artificial color and may be checked anytime during the show. Any animal that displays artificial color cannot receive a purple ribbon, or be named Division Champion or Reserve Champion, or be selected for the 4-H Auction.**

FLUID ADMINISTRATION
- The use of drenching, mechanical pumping devices or other abnormal methods to administer water or fluids to any beef animal will not be permitted.
- Fluids for dehydration or other animal health reasons may be done only after approval for administration from a State Fair veterinarian and show management.
- Any exhibitor found in violation of this rule will be eliminated from further competition in the show and will not be eligible for any livestock awards or premiums – including championships, the auction, showmanship awards, and interview awards.

AUCTION
- The MLBA 4-H Livestock Auction Committee determines the number of market beef and dairy steers that are eligible for the auction.
- All breed and crossbred division champion beef steers including the “Slick-Shorn” Division) and the champion market heifer are eligible for the auction, provided there is a minimum of five entries in that division and the exhibit received a purple ribbon. All reserve champion Division beef steers including the “Slick-Shorn” steers and market heifers are eligible for the auction, provided there is a minimum of eight entries in that division and exhibit received a purple ribbon. Any other 4-H market Beef for the 4-H auction will be selected by the Show Judge.
- The division champion and reserve champion dairy steers are eligible for the auction, including the Crossbred Division.
- The Grand and Reserve Grand Market Beef and Pure Breed Dairy Steers must sell in the auction.
- Other exhibitors of auction animals must notify the 4-H Beef Show Coordinators by the start of the Championship Event if they want to withdraw from the auction.
- **20 percent of all MN State Fair 4-H Auction premiums will be deducted and placed in a “4-H Animal Enhancement Fund” to be used for 4-H Auction Scholarships and other special 4-H Animal Science events.**
- All 4-H Livestock Auction exhibits must be consigned to market, and cannot be taken home.
- 4-H Auction animals become property of the MN State Fair following the Auction, and may be sold to the University of Minnesota for educational purposes.
- Leased animals are not eligible for the 4-H Auction.