

Michigan Dairy Heifer Replacement Project

2008 Michigan Dairy Expo



Overview

An exciting opportunity for 4-H and FFA members from across the state of Michigan continues to gain popularity. The Michigan Dairy Heifer Replacement Project allows youth to learn more about the dairy industry through the selection, raising, breeding, and marketing of dairy heifers. In 2007, two Michigan youth participated in the 5th year of the project and the two heifers sold averaged over \$2100.00.

While the primary goal of this project is for each youth to gain dairy knowledge and experience, each youth will also have the opportunity to earn money through the sale of their dairy replacement heifers. The 2008 Michigan Dairy Expo will host a sale of replacement dairy heifers after the Michigan Dairy Youth Show. Dairy producers from across Michigan will have the opportunity to purchase high quality dairy replacement heifers. Listed below are the project guidelines and rules.

Youth Eligibility

- Youth must be 9 and no older than 19 on January 1, 2008.
- Youth must exhibit heifers in the All Michigan Dairy Youth Show at Michigan Dairy Expo.
- Youth may enter a maximum of two heifers in the project.

Heifer Selection

- Any dairy breed of heifer is permitted.
- Registered or grade heifers are permitted.
- Dam of heifers must meet minimum lactation production records which will be included in sale catalog.

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| Holstein | 18,000 lbs |
| Jersey | 12,000 lbs |
| Brown Swiss | 16,000 lbs |
| All other dairy breed | 14,000 lbs |

- Sire of heifers must be registered.
- Heifers must be born between June and October of 2006.

Heifer Reproductive and Health

- All animal health requirements to exhibit cattle at Michigan Dairy Expo must be met.
- Heifer must be due to calve between September 1 and December 1, 2008.
- Heifers must be bred artificially.
- All heifers should be pregnancy checked by a veterinarian prior to sale.

Heifer Enrollment

- All heifers will have to be entered by May 15, 2008.
- Official entry forms can be obtained from County Extension offices or the State 4-H Dairy Office.
- Each entry form will include official identification and a picture of each heifer.
- Each entry form will include a short written description of the project by each youth.
- No heifer substitutions will be allowed after June 15, 2008.

Sale Information

- All youth and heifers must meet all project requirements to participate in sale.
- A sale catalog listing youth and heifer information will be prepared.
- Sale heifers will be identified at Michigan Dairy Expo with neck chains and stall signs.
- Sale advertisement will be done across the state.
- A sale committee of dairy producers, leaders, volunteers, and dairy cattle merchandisers will assist Michigan Dairy Expo conducting the project and sale.
- A 10% commission on each heifer sold will be used to assist with sale and Michigan Dairy Expo costs.
- Sale will take place on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, in the early evening at the MSU Pavilion.

For additional information, contact Joe Domecq, Dairy Youth Specialist, at (517)353-7855 or domecqjo@msu.edu.

**2008 Michigan Dairy Expo
Dairy Heifer Replacement Project
Consignement Form**

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|--------------|------------|--|
| Name | | | | | |
| Address | | | | | |
| City | | State | | Zip | |
| Phone | | | Email | | |

I wish to consign the following female:

| | |
|--|--|
| Name: | |
| Breed: | |
| Registration number: <small>(If Grade please note)</small> | |
| Date of Birth: | |
| Dam: | |
| Sire: | |
| Breeding Date: | |
| Projected Calving Date: | |
| AI Sire: | |
| Identification: <small>(Ear tag #, tattoos, etc)</small> | |

Please include the following information with this form:

- Photocopy of registration papers (if applicable)
- Photograph of heifer
- Pedigree information (DHIA or Production records of Dam and Sire)
- Completed Questionnaire

**Mail to: Joe Domecq
Dairy Youth Specialist
1250F Anthony Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824**

**Michigan 4-H Dairy Heifer Replacement Project
Sale Heifer Questionnaire**

Please answer the following questions in detail on an additional sheet of paper. Questions should be answered in paragraph or essay form and be several sentences long. Please type answers.

1. Please explain why and how you chose this heifer for this project.
2. Discuss your feeding/nutrition program for this heifer.
3. Please explain your sire selection and reproductive program for this project heifer.
4. Please discuss your health management program for this heifer.