

FEEDER STEER

Fair Superintendents - Greg Baker & Sara VanDyk

This project is open to all exhibitors 5-19 years old. 5-7 year olds will participate in non-competitive classes and will NOT sell in the auction. Guidelines are available at www.canr.msu.edu/Kalamazoo4H or from the 4-H Office. A mandatory Profit and Loss Statement, an educational exhibit, and a participation meeting are required for this project. In compliance with the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, all animals must have electronic (RFID) tag (USDA approved official identification) to come to the fair.

A spring picture (must be submitted to the superintendent via Facebook, email, or snail mail by dates listed below), vaccinations, dehorning, castration, electronic (RFID) ear tag in the calf's ear and Feeder Calf record book are mandatory!

Exhibitors may purchase more than 2 calves, but, only 2 may be brought to the fair. There is an option of selling 2 calves at the auction. Owners of the Grand and Reserve Champion calves have the option of selling during the 4-H livestock auction, or they may take them home to bring them back as a finished steer the following year. The calf must have an average daily gain of 1 ¾ pounds per day to go through the auction. Exhibitors must let the superintendents know after the feeder calf show if their calf will be sold. The exhibitor's name, calf tag number, RFID tag number, and a picture of a clean calf with the exhibitor must be given to the superintendent by Tuesday of fair week if the calf is going through the auction. Stalls must be cleaned out by 8 a.m. Sunday following fair.

Dairy Feeder Steer

These calves must be 100% Dairy Breeds that are any of the following: Holstein, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, Guernsey, Jersey born between January 1 and February 28 (Feb. 29, if applicable) and in the exhibitors possession by April 1. **Calves must be de-horned, castrated and vaccinated.** . A picture of the calf with the RFID tag must be submitted to the superintendent by May 1. Cloverbud (5-8 year-old 4-H members) calves must be born between January 1 and March 31 of the current year. All Cloverbud classes will be non-competitive.

Beef Feeders

Beef calves can be purebred or mixed. A dairy/beef cross is considered a beef calf. Calves must be born between January 1 and May 30th. **Calves must be de-horned, castrated and vaccinated.** The calf must be in the exhibitor's possession by May 30. A picture of the calf with the RFID tag number must be submitted to the superintendent by May 30.

Feeder Calf Showmanship

All exhibitors must participate in Feeder Calf Showmanship. 4-H exhibitors must show their own animals with the exception of Cloverbud members. Dairy and Beef calves will compete together in showmanship. The Top Showman will be eligible for Master Showmanship. All Cloverbud classes will be non-competitive.

Educational Exhibit

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge in the care, management and sciences related to the dairy feeder calf.

The educational exhibit with a Profit and Loss Statement must also include a record book for Feeder Calves (link: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_market_animal_record_book) this will be considered a minimum. The member may submit a poster, video, or any other creative idea in addition to the record book. Exhibitors may combine the feeder calf notebook with a market steer notebook. The exhibit must be turned in the Saturday before the fair during still project judging. Exhibitors must be knowledgeable of all aspects of their project and be able and available to speak with the general public in the barn during fair week.