

4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program



Due August 1<sup>st</sup>  
to the 4-H office

**OBJECTIVES:**

The objective of this program is to allow youth who might not otherwise have the means to raise/own a dairy heifer or cow to participate in the 4-H Dairy Project by leasing or borrowing an animal. The youth will develop character, knowledge, life skills, and a sense of responsibility with this project, while at the same time gain an increased appreciation for animal agriculture and food production.

**GUIDELINES:**

1. The program is open to any 4-H member in good standing with their county and club. Youth must attend regular meetings and are encouraged to attend dairy educational meetings.
2. 4-H dairy project members wanting to participate in the lease program must turn in a completed 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow form to the MSU Extension office by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

4-H Dairy project members that do not own any dairy cattle may lease and show up to two dairy animals as a beginner (ages 8-11) showman, intermediate (ages 12-14) showman may show up to three dairy animals and senior (ages 15-19) showman may show up to four dairy animals.

Leased animals may be shown in the cow classes if the 4-H youth exhibited the same animal previously at the St. Joseph County Grange Fair. Exceptions to this rule may be determined by the Dairy Superintendent and the 4-H Program Coordinator.

3. The 4-H member is required to keep the appropriate 4-H project record(s) on each animal.
4. In order to exhibit leased animal(s), it must be a confirmed 4-H project. Leased animal(s) are required to follow the same requirements for exhibition as 4-H members who own their own dairy cattle.
5. The owner of the animal(s) hereafter referred to as the sponsor, will determine the specific responsibilities to be carried out by each party - sponsor and 4-H member - jointly with the 4-H member. Signatures of 4-H member, parent/guardian and legal owner are required. The responsibilities should be attached to the Lease/Borrow Form and include, but be not limited to the following:
  - a. The 4-H member's duties and responsibilities while caring for and working with the animal and during any exhibition or project-related activities
  - b. The 4-H member's access to the animal
  - c. Who is responsible for paying expenses associated with the housing, feeding, veterinary care, breeding, entry or activity fees, transportation of the animal, and any other related expenses during the contract/lease period
  - d. A working schedule for carrying out specified duties
  - e. A list of any assistance the sponsor will provide the 4-H member during the contract/lease period
  - f. Any insurance requirements, information, or provisions as determined necessary or appropriate by either or both parties and who will arrange and pay for these items
  - g. What type and how much monetary compensation, if any, is to be provided to the sponsor and when it will get paid

Those listed are only suggestions. For the protection of all involved, the parties may want to consider entering into a written Lease Agreement setting forth their respective rights and responsibilities. MSU Extension cannot advise parties as to what should be included in such agreement, and parties may want to consult with an attorney.

6. The sponsor of the leased animals agrees not to hold the lessee liable for any financial loss from accidental injury or death to the leased animal. It is strongly advised that the sponsor have insurance to cover the value of the animal.
7. The sponsor is not responsible for financial liability from any injury that may incur to the 4-H'er while involved in working with the leased animal.
8. The 4-H member will keep any 4-H premiums or awards received while exhibiting the leased animal(s) during the duration of the agreement - NO EXCEPTIONS.
9. During the 4-H year, the 4-H member will be the only person eligible to exhibit the leased animal(s) in 4-H shows. (The two exceptions are in championship drives and when the animal(s) are part of a group class or club herd.) The sponsor may enter and exhibit the leased animal(s) in non-4H shows.
10. Leased animal(s) may be housed and maintained at the farm facilities of the sponsor, 4-H member, or another mutually agreed upon location.
11. Ownership of the leased animal(s) remains with the sponsor. The title of ownership as stated on the registration certificate of the leased animal will remain in the possession of the sponsor.
12. A copy of the signed Lease Agreement must be on file at the 4-H office by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year and kept by both the 4-H member and sponsor. Check the rules for show(s) the 4-H member will be entering if further documentation of the lease is necessary.
13. The sponsor will make the leased animal(s) available to the 4-H member during the period of the Lease Agreement.
14. The Lease Agreement will remain in force until terminated by either party or the end of the project year. The Lease Agreement may be terminated prior to the end of the project year for reasons such as:
  - a. Failure of the 4-H member or sponsor to carry out responsibilities as agreed by the parties
  - b. Changes in the farming operation of the sponsor
  - c. Changes in the circumstances of the 4-H member
  - d. Mutual agreement of both parties
  - e. On thirty (30) days written notice

The date and reason for the termination prior to the end of the 4-H year must be given in writing and copies kept by the 4-H member, parents/guardians of the 4-H member, sponsor, and the 4-H office.
15. The Lease Agreement will be reviewed by the sponsor, 4-H member, and parent/guardian prior to entering animal(s) at any dairy show to insure the responsibilities are being carried out by 4-H member.
16. The 4-H member, parent/guardian, and sponsor must sign the Michigan 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program Statement of Understanding and Release Form.

I have read all the St. Joseph County, Michigan 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program Agreements and will abide by all requirements.

4-H Member \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Owner \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Joseph County, Michigan 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program

### Statement of Understanding and Release Form (page 1 of 2)

Name of 4-H Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (as of January 1): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club and Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one: Beginner (ages 8-11)      Intermediate (ages 12-14)      or      Senior (ages 15-19)

I have read all the St. Joseph County, Michigan 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program Agreements and will abide by all requirements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### LEGAL OWNER OF ANIMAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dairy/Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read all the St. Joseph County, Michigan 4-H Lease/Borrow Program Agreement. I will abide by it and loan the following animal(s) to the 4-H member notes above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

## St. Joseph County, Michigan 4-H Dairy Cattle Lease/Borrow Program

### Statement of Understanding and Release Form (page 2 of 2)

Animals' Name	ID/Registration #/Unregistered	Ear Tag/Tattoo#	Breed	Date of Birth	Progeny Of

I verify that the 4-H Member is a Member in good standing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dairy Club Leader's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date