



Cloverbud Mentor Program

BEEF

Mentor—First Year

Cloverbud

Mentor

YEAR

Welcome!!

Welcome to the Cloverbud Mentor Program. This is an exciting program where you as one of the younger members will get to experience the joys of working with an animal. This program is designed to give you the basic information about Beef animals. Throughout this booklet you will get the opportunity to color, do crossword puzzles, word searches and much more all while learning about the beef animal.

You and your mentor will meet regularly and during these meetings you are to go through this booklet and discuss and learn the different topics that were chosen by the Jr. Livestock Committee. The topics covered in this booklet were chosen to be the most important things a new member should know.

At the end of each page you and your mentor are to sign both of your signatures. This shows that you both worked on this booklet and understand the information provided.

The topics covered in this booklet include: breeds of beef cattle, terminology, parts of the animal, safety and handling, what it takes to raise your animal, different feeds, animal fitting and showing and by-products. These chosen topics cover every aspect of the beef animal.

We as the 4-H Staff hope you have fun working with your animal and your mentor and learn a lot while doing it. At the end of this booklet are two very important pages, one is for you to put pictures of you and your mentor working with the animal and on this booklet, the other is for you to write about your experiences during the project.

Sincerely,

4-H Staff



Beef Breeds

Angus



The Angus breed originated in Scotland from groups of closely related cattle breeds native to the shires of Aberdeen, Kincardine and Angus. Angus are moderate-sized, muscular animals, renowned as a carcass breed. They are solid black in color but a small amount of white is permitted on the underline, behind the navel scar.

Shorthorn



The Shorthorn originated in the north-eastern part of England in the 1700's. Shorthorns are a distinctive red, white or roan color and can be polled or horned. They have a good mothering ability and docile temperament.

Hereford



The Hereford breed originated in Herefordshire in south-west England and is one of the earliest British cattle types to have been systematically improved or upgraded. The Hereford color is characteristic, with the body color varying from rust brown to a deep rich red. Face, crest, dewlap, underline, switch and legs below the hocks are characteristically white.

Simmental



This breed originated in the Simme Valley of Switzerland during the 18th century. World Simmental Federation statistics puts the number of Simmental cattle worldwide at over 40 million. Simmentals vary in color from yellowish brown to straw color to dark red, with white markings on their head, brisket, belly and legs.

A Family is a Family!

Just like you have a mom and a dad, so do animals, they are just called different names. Every species of animals has their own terminology for moms and dads, boys and girls, and even the family as a whole. Can you figure out which name belongs where?

Match the term with its correct meaning

Use these terms below to fill in the table. Have your mentor help you and explain any terms you do not understand. Some of the words may be used more than once. Check your answers when you are done and write the number of answers you got correct in the space provided.

	Beef	Dairy	Sheep	Swine
Male	Bull	Bull	Ram	Boar
Female	Cow	Cow	Ewe	Sow
Castrated Male	Steer	Steer	Wether	Barrow
Young Female	Heifer	Heifer	Ewe Lamb	Gilt
Baby	Calf	Calf	Lamb	Piglet
Process of giving birth	Calving	Calving	Lambing	Farrowing
Group	Herd	Herd	Flock	Herd

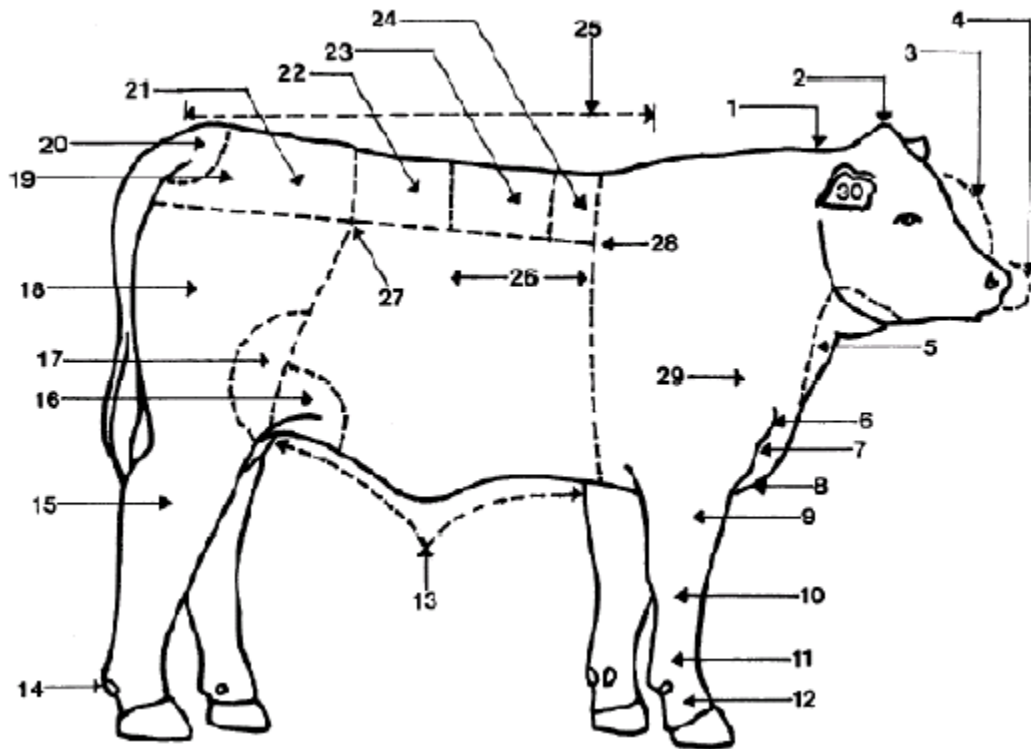
Number correct on 1st try: _____

Number correct on 2nd try: _____

Word Bank		
Calf	Gilt	Wether
Herd	Cow	Ram
Barrow	Flock	Bull
Piglet	Ewe	Steer
Heifer	Boar	Ewe Lamb
Calving	Lamb	Lambing
Sow	Farrowing	

Signature: _____

Parts of a Beef Animal



Beef Animal Parts Identification Key

1. crest	10. knee	19. pin bone	28. heart girth
2. poll	11. shank	20. tail head	29. shoulder
3. face	12. pastern	21. rump	30. ear
4. muzzle	13. underline	22. loin	31. rump
5. dewlap	14. dew claw	23. back	32. cod
6. shoulder point	15. hock	24. crop	33. twist
7. brisket	16. flank	25. topline	34. pin bones
8. chest floor	17. stifle	26. ribs	
9. forearm	18. quarter	27. hooks	

*Picture and Chart from: Canada 4-H Beef Manual



Safety and Handling

Since you were a little kid your parent has always told you “safety first”. Whether it be crossing the road and looking both ways for oncoming traffic, wearing a helmet when riding your bike or putting your seatbelt on every time you get into the car. Safety is everywhere including on the farm and especially working with animals. You should always be aware of what is going on around you when it comes to dealing with your animal. Below are some safety tips and fill-in-the-blank messages to help you become aware of what you should watch for and do when working with animals.

Tips on Safety

- Livestock have wide angle vision. They see everything except what is directly behind them, so never walk close to an animal when walking behind them.
- Blocking vision calms cattle.
- Cattle have poor depth perception when looking down and forward.
- Cattle move toward bright, non-glaring light; glares off of shiny objects can scare animals and cause them to stop moving or run the other way.
- Moving objects distract cattle.
- Sudden, loud, high frequency noises distract cattle; try to be calm and have a soft voice when working with them.
- Cattle are herd animals. They handle much easier in groups.
- When handling your animal, always move at their pace and never try to rush them.
- Hitting your animal will only make them more scared of you and what is happening to them. This defeats the purpose of getting them used to you.

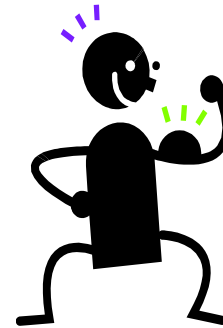
Fill in the Blank

1. When entering an animal’s pen, always remember to Lock the gate after entering.
2. To protect your feet, you should always wear Boots when working with animals.
3. You should be most careful around a cow and her newborn Calf.
4. When working with your calf always walk Beside your calf.
5. Never approach your animal by Running up to them.
6. A Soft voice is better than a Loud voice when working with cattle.

Signature: _____

What it takes to Raise a Healthy Animal

Animals need some of the same necessities as you or I do. For us to grow up big and strong we need simple things like food, water and exercise. Those are just the basics though, and you also have to include healthy lifestyle, shelter, clothing, and sleep. All of the things that are listed above for you also need to be provided for your animal and since your animal cannot run out to Wal-Mart or McDonald's to get these things you must provide them. Check out the tips and ideas.



Is your calf really sick or do they just not want to go to school?

Signs of a sick calf

- Poor appetite
- Temperature higher than 102.5 degrees F
- Droopy ears
- Rapid, noisy breathing
- Dry, crusty or runny nose
- Limping
- Patchy hair coat
- Diarrhea

Sick animals act just like you do when you are sick, except they don't get to lie on the couch and watch cartoons. When your animal is sick or becoming sick, you will notice them lying around more often; they tend to not eat their food like they normally do and start to run a fever. If this happens you should ask your mentor what is wrong and what should be done. If a veterinarian has to be called to the farm try to be there to witness your animal getting medicine to make him/her feel better. You should also take that opportunity to ask the veterinarian any questions that you might have about your animal's health and behavior.

Fill out the chart below describing what a calf should act like and look like while they are sick and when they are healthy. Use this guide whenever you visit your calf to make sure they are in tip top shape for you to practice and visit with them.



Calf Health Chart

Calf Identification _____
 Breed _____
 Age _____ Sex _____ Weight _____
 Weather Temperature _____
 Housing _____
 General State of Health:
 _____ Excellent _____ Good _____ Poor

Describe how the calf looks and acts:

Calf Examination	Signs of a Healthy Calf	Signs of a Sick Calf
Ears and Eyes		
Eating Habits		
Temperature		
Fecal Matter		
Drinking Habits		

*Chart from: 4-H Skills for Life Activity Guide

Not only do you have to watch your animal carefully for sickness but you also have to know how to properly manage them. Managing your animal isn't just about keeping it healthy. It involves making sure they get the proper amount of food and water, shelter to protect them, and enough exercise. The next couple of pages cover in detail some management tips and what your animal needs to be healthy and show ready.

Beef Management Tips

- Provide clean fresh water to cattle at all times.
- Feed steers about 2.5 pounds dry feed for every 100lbs of body weight.
- Feed twice daily.
- Check daily for injuries, sickness or unusual change in behavior.
- Provide shelter from sun, wind and rain.

Beef Management Tips Cont.

- De-worm and treat for parasites.
- Replace bedding often if stalled.
- Rinse animal to clean hair and make the hair grow better.
- Brush calf to calm and clean it.
- To train animal work with it at least three times a week until show time.

A Home is a Home of Course!!!



Home #1

vs.



Home #2

Who belongs where? This is the question that poses an interesting debate. You as a human have a certain type of place that you call home and so does your animal. So, what is the difference? Well don't get discouraged because it will all be explained to you right now!

A home is a place where you go to get out of the weather, a place for you to sleep, a place where you spend time with your family eating meals and a place where you can relax after a long day at school. Well, after reading that description are you still a little confused about the difference between the houses? I am. Could you help me out? In the space provided below list some comparisons between the two homes to show their similarities and their differences. After you have put down some of your ideas, write a couple of sentences describing where and why your animal lives where it does.

Home #1 (Examples)
4 walls and a roof
Bedrooms
People live here

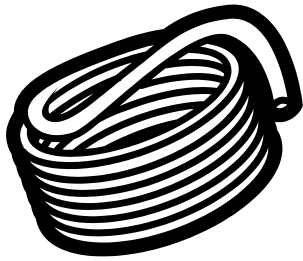
Home #2 (Examples)
4 walls and a roof
Stalls
Animals live here

WHICH DID YOU CHOOSE?
Animals live in home 2

Signature: _____

More care tips

Color in the picture after you have read the care tip. Then guess what the picture is and write the answer next to it.



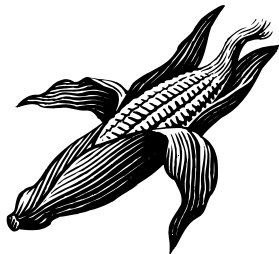
Hose

Your animal should have fresh water to drink everyday. A growing steer can drink up to a bathtub full of water a day when it is hot outside. Water is very important in a growing animal's daily diet. Animals drink better if they have warm water in the winter and cool water in the summer.



Straw

Your animal likes to have warm clean places to sleep just like you do. Winter is the most important time for you to provide bedding for your animal. You should clean out your animals' pen about three times a week so they always have clean bedding to lie on. This also helps keep them dry.



Corn

Your calf cannot grow without food and the nutrients it provides. Hay and grain are the top choices for cattle feed. Ask your mentor what they feed their animal and make sure you remember when fair time comes.

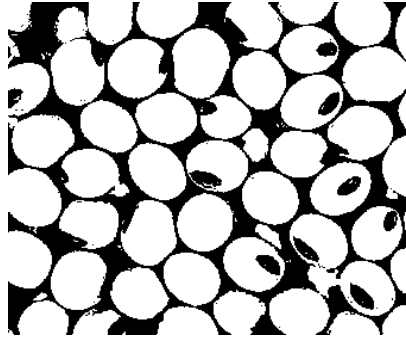
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FEED ME!!!!

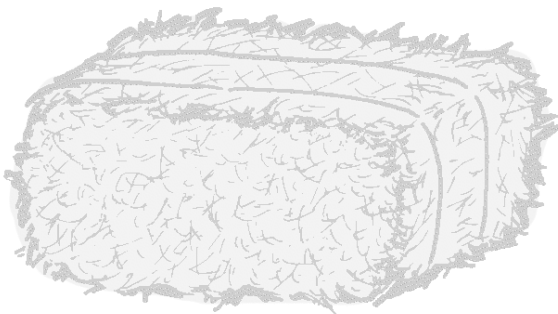
Match the correct feed with its name. After you have named them correctly, color the pictures as you would see them out in a field.



1



2



3



4

Pasture Grass	<u>4</u>	Corn	<u>1</u>
Soybeans	<u>2</u>	Hay	<u>3</u>

Signature: _____

It's almost Fair Time Are You Ready?

So you have spent the last couple of months working hard and preparing for that last week in July when all your hard work gets to be shown to everyone. Fair week is fast approaching but don't just load your cattle up and head to the fair. There are a few things you need to make sure you have so that when it is your time to shine you are prepared. Below are some pictures of things you want to make sure you have with you when you make your way to the fairgrounds. As this might be your first time showing cattle you do not need all of the equipment shown.



1. Curry Comb



2. Scotch Comb



3. Soft Brush



4. Rice-root Brush



5. Clippers



6. Show Halter



7. Show Stick



8. Rope Halter



9. Neck Rope



10. Hammer



11. Pliers



12. Bucket



13. Feed Pan



14. Hose



15. Water Boots



16. Blower

Not Shown: Pitchfork, Show Box, Straw, Hay, Feed, Spray Bottle

Training and Grooming

More than likely your animal will already be halter broken and ready to lead. In case it is not here are some tips and guidelines your mentor can follow to break it.

- Catch the calf and put a rope halter on it. Let it drag the rope for a few days.
- Tie the calf up to a sturdy post, in a cool dry place. Never leave it alone.
- Tie it up with its head high. Tie up for one hour or less.
- Tie the calf up daily for several days.
- Once the calf gets used to being tied up, try approaching it while talking calmly so the calf gets used to your voice.
- Once your mentor is able to reach the calf, start scratching it around its tail head and down his back.
- KEEP HANDS AWAY FROM ITS HEAD, THIS CAN IRRITATE IT AND CAUSE IT TO START BUNTING.
- After the calf allows your mentor to scratch it and stand calmly, have your mentor start leading the calf.
- Continue catching, tying, and walking for several weeks and the calf will be broke to lead in no time.
- Comb or brush the calf daily using the proper techniques to train the hair to grow in the direction you want it to. Always have your mentor or an older person helping you.

Setting up

Setting your calf up is one of the most important parts in showing. When you are in the show ring you will be expected to set your calf up and have it stand there so the judge will be able to come up and touch the calf and talk to you. Setting up your calf is not something that your calf automatically knows and does, you must train it and continue to work on it for several months. Below are some tips and directions on properly setting up your calf.

- When first introducing the show stick to your calf hold its head up high and slowly rub under his belly with the stick. He/she might want to kick at it or move around but keep trying.
- Once your calf will stand still while its belly is being scratched, try to position your calf's feet.
- Use your boot toe or the end of your show stick to place his/her front feet, while your mentor is holding the calf. To move the foot back press on the flesh just above the front of the hoof, to move it forward pull up on the dew claw.

- To position the back feet use the end of your show stick the same way you positioned the front feet.
- Once your calf is positioned correctly with all four feet at each corner of its body, continue to scratch its belly.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER TO BE PATIENT. NEVER LOSE YOUR TEMPER. THIS IS SOMETHING NEW FOR THE CALF. REMEMBER, YOU DIDN'T LEARN TO WALK IN JUST ONE DAY.

** SCRATCH THE BELLY WHEN YOU STOP THE CALF AND AFTER POSITIONING YOUR CALF'S FEET. THIS HELPS CALM IT DOWN AND KEEP ITS TOP LINE STRAIGHT.

**IF YOUR CALF IS FAIRLY WELL SET UP, LEAVE IT ALONE.

It's Show Time!!

Show day is an exciting time. The time has finally come when you and your mentor will get to lead your animal to the show ring and show everyone what you have learned and accomplished. Here is a quick run down of how a typical show day runs and some tips to help calm the nerves.

- A few hours before the show is to begin make sure you and your mentor give your animal a bath or rinse with water. This helps cool it off and helps make your animals hair ready to style.
- Once you and your mentor have given your calf a bath or rinse, blow dry it and allow it to eat and lay down in a clean bed. Remember, it will be a lot easier to work with when it is calm.
- About thirty minutes before the show get your animal up and in a chute or someplace out of the straw and start getting it ready (it is up to you and your mentor just what exactly is involved in getting ready, examples are final touch ups on clipping their hair, using adhesives and mousses, etc. Your mentor will teach you and assist you.) (Keep it very simple for your cloverbud years. We strongly suggest just brushing it).
- One hour before the show is time to get your show clothes on. Be sure to wear boots or hard-toed shoes. Jeans and a collared shirt are fine.
- Once you're done put the calf's show halter on and give it one last drink of water before you and your mentor head to the show ring.
- You and your mentor will enter the ring as directed.
- Once you're in the show ring, set up your animal and follow the directions of the judge or ring helper ** Remember to SMILE**

Signature: _____

Beef: It's not just for dinner!

Did you know that not all of a beef animal will end up as food? An animal is composed similarly to you and I, we both have bones, intestines, blood, and other internal organs that are not eaten. Those other parts are good for something though, instead of throwing them in the garbage they are processed into useful items that you and I use everyday. How many things can you think of that are some sort of a beef by-product? Use the word search and word scramble to find them.

Beef By-Products

E M R R T D F R Z T B S C N P
D V C V L T D W G N G E Y U A
G I O M A R S H M A L L O W I
E D C L T J F F C D U D A L N
C T I E G E I R K R E N C Z T
S H O E S L Z Z S A B A U C B
G N E Q M E L E R T U C Q W R
R S L W C D H A E E Z W H L U
S T T C I C Y Y B R R D Q S S
Z J R L T N P N K E F D D M H
E U I A J H G R M R S I B C S
H V M J P T K G B I Q A T R X
A E S W I G T C U F N G B N L
N H B S Q K O B O M W V S F A
C H S I L O P E O H S K D V Z

ANTIFREEZE
BASEBALL GLOVE
CHEWING GUM
CANDLES
DICE
FILM
FIRE RETARDANT

GLUE
MARSHMALLOW
MATCHES
PAINT BRUSH
SHOE POLISH
SHOES

Signature: _____

Word Scramble

Unscramble the words to reveal some common products that are all made from beef by-products.

Household products

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. STTTPOHAEO | <u>Toothpaste</u> |
| 2. APEMUK | <u>Makeup</u> |
| 3. WLROAOFX | <u>Floor wax</u> |
| 4. IWHOECGDGES | <u>Doggie Chews</u> |
| 5. DCEIMIEN | <u>Medicine</u> |

Industry

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. MBCLEOTCEKSN | <u>Cement Blocks</u> |
| 2. PXSEIOLESV | <u>Explosives</u> |
| 3. RLTFEISEIRZ | <u>Fertilizers</u> |
| 4. KFAULRDBEI | <u>Brake Fluid</u> |

Signature: _____

Date Finished: _____

Glossary

Barrow- A male pig that is castrated.

Boar- An uncastrated male pig.

Bolus- A mass of chewed food as when a cow chews her cud.

Bovine- An ox, cow or related animal.

Breed- A group of animals with common ancestry and characteristics.

Bull- A male animal that has not been castrated.

By-Product- An item of lesser value than the major product.

Calf- Young animal of either sex, usually less than one year old.

Carcass- The body of a deer or slaughtered animal.

Castration- To remove the testes of bull calves.

Cow- A female heifer that has had a calf.

Dam- Female Parent.

Dehorn- Remove the horns from cattle.

Deworm- Administering a product to an animal to prevent or destroy any worms it may have inside.

Ewe- A female sheep

Ewe lamb- A female sheep that is less than one year old and has not had a lamb.

Family- Ancestry; line of breeding.

Feed- Food given to animals to provide them with essential nutrients.

Fitted- Describing an animal conditioned, trained and groomed for show or sale.

Flock- A group of sheep.

Forage- Vegetable material in a fresh (pasture) dried (hay) or ensiled (silage) state that is fed to livestock.

Gilt- A young female pig that has not yet produced her first litter.

Hay- Livestock feed made from forage that has been cut and allowed to dry so that it may be stored without molding.

Heifer- The young bovine female that has not calved yet.

Herd- A group of animals particularly cattle, horses, pigs or goats.

Hooks- Hip bones.

Lamb- A sheep under one year of age.

Management- Selecting, feeding and caring for beef animals.

Litter- The group of piglets born to a sow at one time.

Market Beef- Steer or heifer fed for the purpose of producing meat.

Market Weight- The weight of the animal when sold for processing.

Nutrients- Ingredients in a ration such as protein and vitamins that help develop bones, muscles and finish.

Offspring- Animals born to a parent, or later generations of the same family.

Pedigree- A record of the ancestry of an animal.

Pin bones- The visible portion of the pelvis; protrudes on each side of the animal.

Polled- Born without horns.

Purebred- An animal descended from a line of ancestors of the same breed; may or may not be registered.

Ram- A male sheep, also known as a "buck".

Ration- The total feed intake of an animal in a 24-hour period.

Registered- Recorded in a herd book of a recognized breed association which issues a certificate that the animal is the offspring of registered parents and meets registration requirements.

Roughage- A kind of feedstuff that consists of leaves and stems of plants. Feeds such as silage, pasture and hay.

Silage- A crop that has been turned in to animal feed through fermentation in a silo, or stored with little exposure to oxygen.

Sire- The male parent.

Sow- A female breeding hog that has produced one or more litters.

Steer- Male castrated when a calf.

Straw- Stems of cereal grains after the grain is harvested. Often used as bedding for animals.

Traits- Characteristics of an animal that people use to evaluate.

Udder- The mammary glands, including the teats of farm animals.

Water- An important food nutrient used by the animal's body to carry away waste material and serves as a built-in cooling system.

Weaned- When a calf is no longer nursing on its mother. The act of separating the calf from its mother when it is about seven to eight months old.

Wether- A male sheep that is castrated.

Yearling- An animal that is more than one year and less than two years old.

Pictures!!

Please include some pictures of you and your mentor working with your animal and on this booklet. This will help show everyone just what the two of you have been working on these last couple of months. (You may include more pages of pictures if you wish)

What did you learn from this experience?

Please write a paragraph describing what you learn during this cloverbud mentor program. Please include things about taking care of an animal, showing, responsibility, team work, etc. be creative and descriptive.