2020 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 4-H 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-H'ers or the 4-H'ers family. The family includes the 4-H'ers 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-H'ers 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 lease guidelines. All information must be submitted by May 15 with 4HOnline data. Market animals (with the exception of prospect calves) cannot be leased.

All Animal Ownership Deadlines:

- **February 15**: market beef (beef steers, market heifers and dairy steers)
- **May 15**: breeding beef, prospect calves, dairy, dairy goats, dog, horse, lama, meat goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep, swine. Fryer rabbits (should be 70 days old at show) 4-H'er must own the doe of fryer rabbits and doe must be identified by May 15.
- **June 1**: Jr. meat goat doe kids
- **July 1**: Jr. dairy goat doe kids

Ownership Clarifications

- With the 4HOnline ID process, 4-H families are not able to identify animals as a family group. Under the 4HOnline ID process, families will need to enter each animal in one of the 4-H member 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 the animals are ID’ed in their name. For example, if the John Doe family is ID’ing 12 animals and there are three siblings in the John Doe family, you might consider putting 4 animals 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 by ID deadline. 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-H’ers, 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 (if shown as a market animal at county fair it must show as a market animal at state fair). Animals must also meet three 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.

**Leasing program**

- Market beef and dairy steers cannot be leased.
- Beef heifers, cow/calf pairs, and prospect market calves are eligible to be leased.
- Leased animals must follow the guidelines in the Minnesota 4-H Animal Science Lease Program Fact Sheet. All ID information and the Minnesota 4-H Animal Science Lease Information Form must be submitted by May 15 with 4HOnline data.
- Registration papers on leased animals may be in the animal owner’s name.
- **The same animal cannot be identified/leased by more than one 4-H family unit.**

**Health requirements for expositions, county and state fairs**

**ALL SPECIES**

All animals will be inspected by the official veterinarian on the opening day of the exhibition and daily during the exhibition. The official veterinarian will order the immediate removal to a quarantine facility or removal from the exhibition premises of any animal showing clinical signs of any infectious, contagious or communicable disease, including ringworm and warts. 4-H exhibitors who have an animal quarantined by the official veterinarian may request to utilize another 4-H member's animal for showmanship classes only.

Any animal showing evidence of any disease, abscesses, or any open contagious lesions will not be allowed to exhibit or show and will be subject to isolation or expulsion depending on the nature and seriousness of the disease, abscess or lesion in question. If illness of any nature is suspected in any animal, said animal is subject to examination by the official veterinarian and owner or exhibitor of said animal must abide by the decision of this veterinarian. Animals with warts or ringworm may not be shown. A statement from a veterinarian that an animal is being treated for these diseases is not acceptable. Animals known by the exhibitor to have an infectious,
communicable disease or to have been exposed to an infectious, communicable disease, or to be from a quarantined flock, may not be entered in an exhibition.

**Identification**

- All cattle, swine, sheep and goats exhibited at the fair must have official identification (ID) that meets the requirements of both state and federal animal identification rules. The goal of these ID requirements is to uniquely identify animals so they can be traced to their source in a disease outbreak. The type of ID used in each species may vary, but each official ID is unique to that animal within the United States. For pictures of official ear tags and more information about official ID in livestock, visit the Board of Animal Health Official ID page (mn.gov/bah/official-id/).

- There are no state or federal requirements at this time to officially identify camelid species or rabbits.

- All chickens, turkeys and game birds at exhibitions, except baby poultry, must be individually identified with a leg or wing band. Young poultry that are too small to band, can be exhibited as a group if the Hatchery Permit number or NPIP number is written on the cage.

- Animals originating out of state should have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) at the time of acquisition (purchase) to travel across state lines. If housed in MN, a CVI is not needed for exhibition at the county or state fair. If housed in another state and crossing into MN at the time of exhibition (county or state fair) the CVI requirement is in effect. A CVI is valid for 30 days from the date of the inspection.

**Cattle**

1. Individuals must be officially identified. The following ear tags are considered official ID for cattle:
      i. Brucellosis (Bang’s) orange vaccination tags (only applied by accredited veterinarians);
      ii. Metal or plastic NUES tags. Metal tags are no longer available from the Minnesota Board of Animal Health however sources for ordering the tags and applicators can be found on the Minnesota Board of Animal Health website.
   b. USDA AIN visual or RFID tag [15 digit number starting with 840]. Must display U.S. shield.
   c. Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) tag [15 digit number starting with 124].
   d. Alternate identification applied to cattle prior to March 11, 2015 is an American ID tag (8or 9 digit number beginning with the prefix ‘USA’). This includes the National Farm Animal ID and records (FAIR) by the Holstein Assoc., Inc.
   e. Breed registry tattoos and tags are valid for cattle originating from Iowa, Missouri and South Dakota. Cattle must be accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration numbers. Breed registry tattoos and tags are also valid for cattle moving within Minnesota if accompanied by documentation listing the breed registration numbers. “Pending” breed registrations are not acceptable. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is not an acceptable form of documentation for this purpose.

2. Cattle from Minnesota do not need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI).

3. Cattle from outside Minnesota.
   a. Must meet Minnesota importation requirements. See Minnesota.gov/bah/imports.html or call the Minnesota Board of Animal Health at (651) 296-2942.
b. A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is required and must list the Minnesota State Fair as consignee and an import permit number must be documented on the CVI. An issued CVI is valid for 30 days from the date the animals were inspected by an accredited veterinarian.

c. Cattle from outside Minnesota must meet the importation requirements of their state of origin if they are returning.

**Birthdates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breeding Heifer – Spring calf</td>
<td>January 1 – April 30, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding Heifer – Fall calf</td>
<td>September 1 – December 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding heifer – Summer Yearling</td>
<td>May 1 – August 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding heifer – Junior Yearling</td>
<td>January 1 – April 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeding heifer – Senior Yearling</td>
<td>September 1 – December 31, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow/calf</td>
<td>Calves must be born on or after January 1, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prospect market calves</td>
<td>January 1 – April 30, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market beef</td>
<td>January 1 – August 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy steers</td>
<td>January 1 – August 31, 2019</td>
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</tbody>
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**Identification details, forms and deadlines**

Also refer to your [county ID letter and Animal ID online](z.umn.edu/MN4hanimalID).

- **All market beef & dairy steers:** Must be tagged with a Minnesota 4-H ear tag by February 15 AND the ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by February 15.
- **Registered breeding heifers and cow/calf pairs:** Must be identified with an ear tattoo that is recorded and matches the tattoo number on the registration paper. The ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15. (Calves must be identified by county fair.)
- **Commercial breeding heifers and cow/calf pairs:** Must be identified with a Minnesota 4-H ear tag or with an ear tattoo that is recorded and matches the tattoo number on the registration paper by May 15 and the ID data entered online or the ID worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15. (Calves must be ear tagged by the county fair.) Both the cow and calf must be ID’d.
- **Prospect market calves:** Must be identified with a Minnesota 4-H ear tag by May 15 and the ID data entered online or the beef worksheet submitted to your county extension office, by May 15.

**Registration Papers**

- 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 a 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 placed in an appropriate division.
Weight Guidelines

- All market beef and dairy steers must be born after January 1, 2019.
- The recommended state fair minimum market weight for market beef and dairy steers is 1,000 pounds.
- The recommended maximum market weight for market beef is 1,500 pounds, and for dairy steers is 1,600 pounds.

Show divisions and classes

Breeding heifers:

- **The following registered Breeding Heifer breed divisions will be offered in 2020:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed Division</th>
<th>Registration Requirement</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Angus (purebred)</td>
<td>Shorthorn (purebred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Angus (purebred)</td>
<td>Shorthorn Plus (1/2 or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charolais (purebred)</td>
<td>South Devon (1/2 or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite Charolais (1/2 or more)</td>
<td>Gelbvieh (1/2 or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hereford (purebred)</td>
<td>Simmental (purebred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limousin (1/4 or more)</td>
<td>Foundation Simmental (1/2, 5/8, or 3/4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Anjou (3/4 or more)</td>
<td>Maintainer (1/4, ½, or 5/8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite Charolais (1/2 or more)</td>
<td>Gelbvieh (1/2 or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Simmental (purebred)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Foundation Simmental (1/2, 5/8, or 3/4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- All breeding heifer exhibits must display appropriate breed characteristics to receive top honors and maintain Purple Ribbon Auction eligibility.
- To show in the registered breed divisions and classes exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed and present a registration paper, including spring calf breeding heifers. All registered heifers must have an ear tattoo that matches the tattoo number on the registration paper. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Heifers without registration papers (when required), can not win champion honors, and will be moved to an appropriate division.
- 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 meet requirements in the first bullet.
- All other animals will be in the “commercial” division, and must meet ID requirements.
- Chianina heifers must be 6.25% or more to show in the AOB division.

Cow/calf pairs:

- To show in the registered breed divisions, exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed and present registration paper for both the cow and the calf. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** (See breeding heifer rule.)
- For exhibitors in the cow/calf division: both cow and calf are brought to the show ring.
- The second animal must be shown by another eligible 4-H member.
- Calves in cow/calf pairs can be heifers, bulls or steers.
- Prospect calves and spring calves may be part of a cow/calf exhibit at the county level and still be state fair eligible in any of these divisions.
● 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.

● **The following cow/calf pair breed divisions will be offered in 2020:**
  - Black Angus (purebred)
  - Red Angus (purebred)
  - Hereford (purebred)
  - Simmental (purebred & Foundation Simmental)
  - Shorthorn (purebred & Shorthorn Plus)
  - All Other Breeds” (AOB) (Must be registered.)

● All other cow/calf pairs will be in the “commercial” division, and both cow and calf must meet ID requirements.

● All beef exhibits must display appropriate breed characteristics to receive top honors and maintain Purple Ribbon Auction eligibility.

**Prospect market calves:**

- **Prospect market calf exhibits:** prospect calves must be ID’d with a 4-H ear tag by May 15.
- All prospect market calves must display appropriate breed characteristics to receive top honors and maintain Purple Ribbon Auction eligibility.
- Prospect calves will be weighed and shown in weight classes (no breed divisions).
- Classes for heifers and steers will be judged as market beef prospects.
- Prospect calves must be weaned and steer calves must be castrated (no bull calves).
- Prospect calves do not have to be part of a 4-H cow/calf project to be eligible for state fair.
- The 4-H leasing program is available for prospect market calves.

**Dairy steers (pure breed and crossbred):**

- Dairy steers must be ID’d with a 4-H ear tag by February 15.
- All pure breed and crossbred dairy steers will be verified for breed authenticity by a verification panel before they cross the weigh scale on Wednesday from 4–6 p.m.
- Any pure breed dairy steer that is not deemed to meet breed authenticity may be moved to the crossbred dairy steer division, provided that the steer is deemed to meet the characteristics for that division. Otherwise it will be moved to an appropriate division in the market beef show, or allowed to show as a dairy steer.
- Any crossbred dairy steer that is not deemed to meet the characteristics for the crossbred division may be moved to another appropriate division in the market beef show, or can receive no higher than a blue ribbon in the 4-H Crossbred Dairy Steer division.
- The verification panel and 4-H Beef Show Management will determine final eligibility for the pure breed and crossbred dairy steer divisions. That decision will be final. The decision is not subject to protests, and no blood tests or DNA sampling will be required and cannot be requested.
- Pure breed dairy steers must be 100% of one dairy breed. 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.
  - The following 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.
• Rules and requirements for the Crossbred Dairy Steer Division ……
  • Crossbred Dairy Steers will show in a separate division.
  • The Champion and Reserve Champion Crossbred Dairy Steers are eligible for the 4-H Auction, provided there is a minimum of eight entries in the division, and the exhibits receive a purple ribbon.
  • The Champion and Reserve Champion Crossbred Dairy Steers will compete in the Market Beef Championship for Grand and Reserve Champion, and Top 5 Overall Market Beef.
  • Crossbred Dairy Steers must be at least 50% from the acceptable breeds listed for the Pure Breed Dairy Steer division, with the balance being from any other beef or dairy breed; however, the steers must show adequate dairy steer characteristics, as determined by the screening committee. Exhibitors should be prepared to identify the breeds of their crossbred dairy steer.

Market beef:

• The following market beef breed divisions will be offered for the 2020 state fair:
  Black Angus, Charlolais, Hereford, Limousin, Maine, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simiental, Market Heifer, British-bred Slick Shorn, Crossbred Slick-Shorn, Crossbred and Other Breeds.
• Market beef must be ID’d with a 4-H ear tag by February 15 (including registered steers in breed divisions).
• To show in the registered breed divisions, exhibitors must meet the registration requirements for that breed. Steers without a registration paper can place no higher than a blue ribbon, cannot win Champion honors or be in the 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction, and will be moved to the crossbred division.
• All breed division steers must show the visual characteristics of that breed. A screening committee will verify steers on entry day. Any steer not meeting the requirements of a particular breed will be moved to the “crossbred” division. All decisions of the screening committee are final and are not subject to change.
• Exhibitors may not switch divisions once they have crossed the scale on entry day.
=Following are the 4-H market beef divisions and requirements for the 2020 State Fair:
  • Black Angus steers must be out of a purebred sire and purebred dam and have a registration paper.
  • Shorthorn steers must be out of a purebred sire and purebred dam and have a registration papers.
  • Shorthorn Plus steers must have a registration paper and must meet the registration requirements of the National Breed Association.
  • Hereford steers must be out of a purebred registered Hereford bull and a purebred registered Hereford or Polled Hereford cow, and must have a registration paper from the American Hereford Assn (AHA).
  • Maine Anjou steers must be 1/4 blood concentration or more, and must have a registration paper.
  • Limousin steers must be 25% or greater according to the NALF percentage and must have registration papers from the NALF.
  • Simmental steers must be half-blood or more and must have a registration paper from the American Simmental Association
  • Charolais steers must be a minimum of 50% Charolais parentage and must have a registration certification paper from the AICA.
● The Market Heifer division will be shown in weight classes (no breed designations). The Champion and Reserve Champion Market Heifer will compete for Overall Champion and Reserve Champion market beef.

● **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 quality 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.
  ● 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 an appropriate division.
  ● All steers must meet ¼ inch hair requirement prior to weigh-in.
  ● 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.
  ● **NEW - British-bred Slick Shorn Steers will be a new Division in 2020.** Eligible breeds include Black Angus, Red Angus, Shorthorn, Hereford, Salers, Galloway, Belted Galloway, Scottish Highlander, Aberdeen, White Park, British White, South Devon or any other recognized British, as well as any crosses including these breeds.

**State fair grooming rules**

● All grooming of livestock, including clipping, trimming and blocking (all species) 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'er 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. Note special rules for grooming chutes and fans on the state fairgrounds.

● No use of adhesives or aerosol cans in the show ring or staging area.