

Beef Cattle Project Guidelines

Project Goals:

To aid the development of young people into responsible adults by:

- Teaching responsibility through working with animals that depend on them to provide proper feed and care.
- Teaching the value, use and management of money through its investment in animals, feed, equipment and when applicable, receiving a return on investment.
- Teaching sportsmanship and cooperation through participation in working with other members and shows.

To help young people gain an appreciation for:

- The place of livestock in agriculture and its contribution to people.
- The anatomy and physiology of a ruminant animal.
- The importance of proper growth and development of breeding and market animals.

To help young people gain skills in:

- Selecting the kind of animal that will make rapid, efficient gains and produce a high-quality product.
- Feeding animals for optimum growth and proper development, while considering health and welfare.
- Grooming and showing steers and heifers.
- Keeping records.

General 4-H Requirements

1. Youth interested in joining the club may attend one meeting before enrolling into the program.
2. To be fully enrolled, a member must have paid the enrollment fee, have an up to date account in the enrollment system, as well as a signed release for that 4-H year.
3. All 4-H members are required to complete one public presentation per 4-H year.
4. All 4-H beef members must complete a project record book for each type of project they are completing (ie. steer vs heifer). Members must also complete one set of core pages for the year. All record book components are due by September 30th of that year.
5. All members must participate in at least one club fundraiser and one club community service event.
6. To be in good standing, members must be in with the Code of Conduct and club bylaws.

Ownership

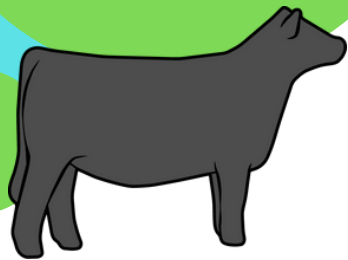
1. All animals must be owned OR sponsored by the exhibitor.
2. Sponsored animals are permitted. In accordance with state policy, each member is allowed two sponsor animals per species, as long as they do not own an animal in that same species. Visit <https://cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/project-animal-forms>



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Registration

1. ALL steers (includes Youth Livestock Sale, *Big E* (beginning 2025) & regular 4-H) must be weighed at the January weigh-in, with the exception of prospect steers (born after January 1st of the current year).
2. All heifers, prospect bulls, prospect steers and cow/calf pairs must be registered with the 4-H office using the online form by June 1st of the current year. Animals that are not registered by this date are not eligible to be shown in 4-H.
3. Prospect bulls are permitted, but must be born on or after January 1st of the current year, showman must be 8+ years of age, must have rings or snap rings and be handled with both halter and rings (Exceptions - calves, nursing cows under 5 months old).
4. Youth may register as many owned animals by June 1st as they would like.
5. All registered animals must be accompanied by valid registration papers to be shown in a purebred class. These papers must be uploaded online when the animal is registered with 4-H.
6. Any animal registered on either the January weigh in date or the June 1st registration must be in the care of the member from that date forward.

Dutchess County Fair Policies

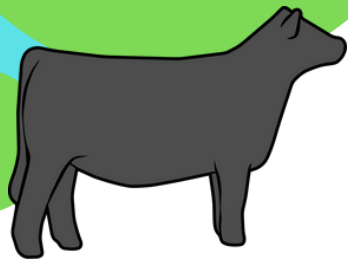
1. Online entries close August 1st; Entries must be completed by 8/1 in order to show (no exceptions).
2. Only heifers and cow/calf pairs registered by June 1st using the online beef registration form will be eligible to show in the 4-H show.
3. Housing: All animals must be kept in the designated barn.
4. Adult Assistance: Adults may assist in two ways: 1) When there is a safety issue; and 2) To help with morning barn clean up. At all other times the 4-H member is responsible for doing all the work or recruiting other members to assist them if chores are beyond their physical limitations. This does not apply to Cloverbuds.
5. Cloverbuds: all Cloverbuds must be accompanied 1:1, by an adult, 18+ when in the ring for exhibition purposes. Cloverbuds are not allowed to exhibit bulls. Cloverbuds are ages 5-7 as of January 1st of that year.
6. Fitting: Only qualifying Dutchess County 4-H members are permitted to help fit any 4-H beef animals, but the owning member must be present. Fitting must take place at the exhibitor's area in their 4-H section of the beef barn. Tents must have two open sides at all times when working with animals.
7. **Morning Clean-up: ALL exhibitors are responsible for doing morning clean up in their area. Proper and thorough clean up must be completed by 9:30 am.**
8. Barn Duty: Youth must complete barn duty in the barn to include sweeping, picking up manure, answering questions, and keeping the public from touching the animals. Poor jobs or failure to complete barn duty may require additional barn duty. Youth failing in this duty may not be allowed to show, may not be allowed to sell in the Youth Livestock Sale, and may forfeit the privilege to exhibit at the fair the following year. This will be decided by the species Advisory in consultation with 4-H staff.
9. Exhibits: Signs with farm names will be allowed. No dividers without prior approval from the 4-H Beef Club Leaders. . No fans in the aisle.
10. Showmanship: Each exhibitor must show his/her own animal in Showmanship. NO borrowing or trading of anyone's animals will be allowed, with the exception of Cloverbuds.
11. Dress Code: Showmanship: Black or dark solid colored pants/jeans in good repair with a short sleeve/long sleeve button down collared shirt with no logos (club or farm), no writing and no graphics.

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12. Record Books: The designated record books must be presented to Leaders at each monthly meeting for review. Independent members must present their Record Books to the 4-H office prior to August 1st for review. If Record Books are not brought in for review, the child may forfeit the right to sell their animal.

13. Assistance at Shows: If there is a shortage of available beef club members, other Dutchess County 4-H members, in good standing to show, may assist in showing during the market class and the breed classes.

Ag & Markets Guidelines (note that these are from 2023 and may change from year to year)

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection with animals properly identified. See Animal Identification section above.
- Rabies vaccination is required for all cattle 4 months of age or older (see above).
- All cattle must be negative to an approved test appropriate to detect Bovine Viral Diarrhea persistent infection (BVD-PI). The date and results of the testing must be noted on the certificate of veterinary inspection.
- All cattle must be vaccinated against bovine respiratory disease complex including bovine respiratory syncytial virus, bovine virus diarrhea, infectious bovine rhinotracheitis and parainfluenza with a product administered in a manner and time frame adequate to confer protective immunity for these diseases for the duration of the fair. The date and vaccine product should be documented
- Official ID must be applied to animals prior to regulatory testing and completion of the CVI. Cattle must be identified by an official USDA approved ear tag. Radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tags, commonly referred to as "840 RFID tags," are strongly recommended.

Big E Participation

To be eligible for Big E participation, members must:

- be in good standing with the club (includes community service, fundraiser attendance, public presentation, enrollment, and up to date record book)
- the decision of allowing first year 4-H members to attend will be made on a case by case basis, considering facts like commitment to the program and experience
- be 12+ years old as of Jan 1st of that year
- register their animals with Big E by the specified deadlines
- must attend all Big E club meetings
- have shown the animal(s) they wish to exhibit at Big E at the Jersey Fresh Jackpot, the Big East, ENY or Dutchess County Fair.
- participate in showmanship at the Dutchess County Fair in the 4-H beef show.

Big E Junior Leaders- Members chosen by their state that do not have an animal at The Big E. The member must meet above age requirements. The Junior Leader will participate in all contests except Fitting and Showmanship and the type show. August 1st deadline.

ANY YOUTH WISHING TO EXHIBIT AT BIG E MUST MAKE A FINAL DECISION REGARDING PARTICIPATION BY AUGUST 1ST.

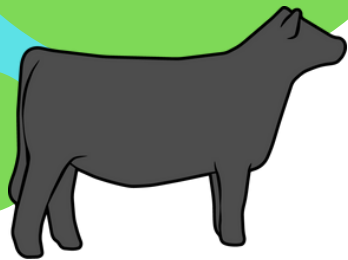
***See Big E website for more information.**

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Youth Livestock Sale

To be eligible for the Youth Livestock Sale members must:

- be a member in good standing (includes community service, fundraiser attendance, public presentation, enrollment, and up to date record book)
- be 8+ years old as of Jan 1st of that year
- weigh-in their market animal on the scheduled date
- follow and meet all Youth Livestock Sale guidelines and requirements
- Animals must be on or after January 1 of the prior year. A veterinarian will mouth if necessary.

SPONSORED ANIMALS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO BE SOLD IN THE LIVESTOCK SALE.

- Weight & Age: 1100 pounds and above at weigh-in at the fair on Tuesday at 9 am.
- Placing: Up to, but not more than, 12 steers will sell in the sale. ALL CHAMPION AND RESERVE CHAMPION ANIMALS MUST SELL. All animals will be placed by a judge and sold in quality order. Only animals deemed appropriate quality for sale by the judge will sell. The judges' decision is final. All animals that are placed high enough to sell, MUST sell.
- Youth will be allowed to sell two animals in a species or division if there are not enough youth whose animals qualify for the sale. The judge will place all animals entered and youth with more than one qualifying animal will sell the higher placing animal first.
- Sale Unit: Steers will sell by the pound.
- Commission: Will be 10% up to the first \$1,000 and 7.5% for anything over \$1,000 per unit, automatically deducted from seller's check.
- Antibiotics/Drugs: Any animal testing positive for drug residue in their system will be replaced by the seller. The seller will forfeit the right to sell indefinitely.
- Trucking: Seller must truck animals from the fairgrounds to the sale designated slaughtering facility. Any other destination is the responsibility of the buyer.
- Slaughter & Processing Fees: Responsibility of the buyers. However, the youth must pay the processor, and obtain an invoice which will be submitted to the buyer for reimbursement.
- Delivery of Meat to Buyer: Responsibility of the seller unless buyer requests other arrangements.

See Youth Livestock Sale documents for more information: <https://www.dutchessfair.com/participate/exhibitors-competitions/>

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