TUSCOLA COUNTY LARGE LIVESTOCK 4-H/FFA YOUTH BEEF PROJECT HANDBOOK

Beef Co-Superintendents:
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YOUTH BEEF STEER & BREEDING BEEF REGULATIONS

1. Exhibitors are responsible for following all rules and regulations pertaining to their project. Refer to Youth General Regulations and Youth Large Livestock Regulations elsewhere in this book and Health Requirements for Livestock Exhibited in Michigan at www.michigan.gov/mda-exhibitinfo for additional rules.

2. An exhibitor may tag up to two (2) market beef animals or designate a family alternate at time of tagging. More information about tagging is below.

3. Exhibitor can NOT exhibit or sell more than one market beef project.

4. No stags or bulls will be allowed to stay at the Tuscola County Fair. (Only exception is the bull calf class). All steers must be properly castrated and healed by fair time.

5. All steers/heifers must be properly de-horned and healed by fair time. If you have any questions about your animal’s horns/scurs, contact the beef superintendent(s) no later than the 2nd Friday in April to have your questions answered. An animal showing up at the fair with horns or scurs (that have not been approved by the Superintendent and 4-H Program Coordinator) will not be allowed to stay at the Tuscola County Fair. No vet slips/No excuses.

6. Market dairy beef must have 100% Dairy Bloodlines and conform to dairy standards. Animals not having 100% Dairy Bloodlines must be shown as market beef. A committee of three (3) people will settle any discrepancies of this rule. The committee will consist of: Large Livestock Chair, Beef Superintendent(s) and 4-H Program Coordinator.

7. Market beef must weigh a minimum of 1,000 pounds. Market dairy beef must weigh a minimum of 1,100 pounds.

8. Any market beef project not making specified weight requirements will be allowed to show in their own class and showmanship, but are ineligible for Grand or Reserve Champion and will not be allowed to sell in the market livestock sale.

9. Grand and Reserve Champion market beef projects MUST sell. This does not include homegrown.

10. Market beef will be sold by the head using their total value as a base price for buyers. This base price will be guaranteed if the buyer elects to resell at United Producers. A representative from United Producers will grade the market beef projects using industry standards.

11. Record Books ARE REQUIRED. Please pick up your record book at the MSUE office or print it off when you get the emails. It is recommended that you begin your project book when you start working with your steer/heifer. Record Books must be completed in blue or black ink. Record books will be due to the Superintendent no later than Monday of fair week at Noon. Your record book must be signed by you the member, your parent and your leader. This will help to ensure that the record book is complete. Incomplete record
books will not be accepted and you will not be allowed to show until complete.

12. Club leaders are required to turn in their stall count to the MSUE Office no later than July 1. Please remember to include stalls for breeding stock that your club members will be bringing to the fair. The Superintendent(s) will assign stalls by 4-H Club at the designated set-up time. This will help to determine if there is enough room to include tack stalls.

13. No water is to be left in front of a market beef/dairy project.

14. Not more than one (1) male and two (2) females may be exhibited.

15. Three (3) females are allowed provided one (1) animal is the progeny of an exhibited female.

16. Beginning Weigh-In/Tagging: It is encouraged for exhibitors to participate in the beginning weigh-in at tagging. This beginning weight tells where your market beef project is currently at and how much weight your animal is going to need to gain to finish for the fair. It is recommended that you have your market beef projects vaccinated to help prevent them from getting sick. Contact your vet to work with you on a vaccination schedule for your market beef project. If you decide not to participate in the beginning weigh-in (you will not be eligible for Rate of Gain) and not attend the tagging date at United Producers, you are required to submit a photo of your animal with it’s RFID tag in it’s ear. We need to be able to read the RFID number. This must be submitted one (1) week prior to the tagging date. If the photo is not sufficient you will be contacted to submit another photo to the MSU Extension Office on the Friday before tagging.

17. All market beef steers must have the Tuscola County Large Livestock Sale Tag in their ear, prior to unloading at the fair. All other tags must be removed from the ears, with the exception of the RFID tag. You, your parents or your Leader may contact the MSU Extension office to designate how many tags you need, pick them up and put them in your market beef projects ear. You must identify which number you picked up goes with which RFID tag at the time stall counts are submitted by your leader.

18. Breeding stock will be released on Sunday of Fair Week.

19. All tack stalls/tack must be picked up prior to load out on Sunday. Late Saturday night would be best. This will help to make load out and stall clean-up quicker on Sunday.

EXPECTATIONS OF EXHIBITORS/CLUBS FOR FAIR WEEK

**IF THESE EXPECTATIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWED 4-H/FFA MEMBER WILL BE YELLOW TAGGED THEN RED TAGGED THE REMAINDER OF FAIR WEEK, PER THE LIVESTOCK CLEANLINESS POLICY.**

1. Animals fed and watered and stalls cleaned by 9:00 am

2. No manure in stalls between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. Your animals are on public display, you need to present a clean/comfortable animal to the public to avoid any animal rights/animal activist issue. It is
encouraged to have 4-H members within a club to work together to take care of all of the steers/heifers in their 4-H Club or FFA Chapter and establish a barn duty schedule so the pens remain clean and animals remain watered if it is hot out during this time.

3. Hay out of stalls, not to be mixed in with bedding.

4. If it is hot out, offer water to your animals to drink and rinse them frequently throughout the day to help keep them cool. Remember if you are taking a drink, offer your animal a drink.

5. Keep sawdust under entire animal. No cement should be showing at any time.

6. If your club has a tack stall, all tack for that club needs to be in the tack stall. No feed pans, water tubs/buckets, grooming supplies to be left behind the animals in the aisle/walk ways.

7. Grooming chutes must be set up in the designated area, if one is provided. If a designated area is not provided for grooming chutes, grooming chutes may be brought in and set-up the night before the show starting at 3:00 pm and taken down after the show is complete by 8:00 pm. Any questions, please see the superintendent.

8. Feed pans and water pails/tubs are not to be left in the open. They must be put in a tack stall if one is provided. Any feed pans and water pails/tubs that are full and/or empty, left out behind the stalls will be yellow tagged. This is for bio-security reasons to keep our visitors safe.

9. It is your responsibility as an exhibitor to be present on Sunday for the load out of your animal. If you can not be there, someone from your family/club must be present to load your animal out.

10. It is your responsibility as an exhibitor to clean your stall(s) upon the conclusion of the fair on Sunday. It is not your parents or fellow club member’s or fellow 4-Her’s responsibility. It is not the superintendent’s responsibility to run the skid steer to push the sawdust/manure to the designated area for you. You will clean your stall and haul the sawdust/manure to the designated area. Any exhibitor not present to tear down and clean their stall will be fined per the Cleanliness Policy that you signed.

11. If your market beef project is displayed in the Hall of Champions, you will be required to tear down and clean that pen also. If you do not tear down and clean your Hall of Champions Pen you will be fined for that also.