

NATIONAL 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE

Background and Purpose

The National 4-H Dairy Conference provides an excellent opportunity for 4-H'ers enrolled in Dairy projects to learn more about the dairy industry, as well as to meet youth from other states. The mission of the conference is to: reward delegates for their state level achievements in the area of dairy cows and dairy goats, provide delegates the opportunity to practice new dairy related skills, observe new dairy techniques, encourage delegates to conduct educational dairy activities in their local communities, foster an increased understanding and appreciation of the dairy industry, meet new people, and share ideas. 4-H members, preferably with a background in dairy cows and dairy goats, are selected annually to attend this conference.

Selection Procedures and Criteria

All 4-H members are eligible who: 1) have at least reached their 14th birthday, but did not reach their 19th birthday, before **January 1, 2012** (Note: 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19); 2) are currently enrolled as an Ohio 4-H member; 3) have a permanent residence in Ohio at the time they participate in the conference; and 4) have not received this award before.

NOTE: Former National Dairy Conference winners are not eligible to apply for another National Dairy Conference trip. However, National Dairy Conference winners may reapply for recognition in other award categories; e.g. State Achievement Awards, State 4-H Scholarships, Ohio Township Association Award, John T. Mount Award, etc.

To apply for this award, members need to complete a State 4-H Achievement Record (according to the directions in the form) and submit it to the County Extension Office before the county deadline. County nominations must be submitted to the State 4-H Office by **February 6, 2012**.

Criteria for evaluation of National Dairy Conference winners is based on the candidates' record of achievement and 4-H dairy experiences listed in the Ohio Achievement Record.

National 4-H Dairy Conference winners will be selected at the state level by a State Awards Selection Committee

The Award and Its Presentation

A State 4-H Award announcement letter will be sent to County Extension Offices the first week of March so that agents can notify winners personally. Individual follow-up letters and commitment forms will be sent directly to winners after **March 20**.

The National 4-H Dairy Conference award winners will be publicly recognized at the Ohio 4-H Youth Recognition Banquet. Each winner will receive an award plaque honoring their achievements. In addition, winners will receive a free trip to the National 4-H Dairy Conference which is scheduled to be held at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin during late **September 2012**.