BEEF

2026

COMMITTEE: Amy Shumaker, Chair, David Allen, Mike Bartram, Austin Schneder, Chad Seaman & Avery Wood

March 15	**Project Enrollment Deadline**
May 1	**Project Possession Deadline**
May 1	**Feeder Calf & Breeding Entries Due, Friday, 4:30 p.m., OSU Extension office**
May 1	**Beef Ambassador Applications Due to OSU Extension office**
May 19	**Beef Ambassador Contest, Thursday, 4:30 p.m. Interviews, Contest at 7:00 p.m., OSU Extension office**
July 8	**Skillathon, Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 8	**Barn Party for Beef Exhibitors: Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC Area (FREE)**
July 10	**Beef & Feeder Calf Project Arrival: Friday, 12:00 p.m., to 11:00 p.m. Fairground-LEC**
July 11	**Beef & Feeder Calf Project Arrival: Saturday, following the Open Beef Show to Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Fairground-LEC**
July 12	**All Beef & Feeder Calves in Place: Sunday, 8:00 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 12	**Beef Barn Meeting, Sunday, 10:00 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 12	**All Steer, Market Heifer & Feeder Calf Weigh-In and Breeding Heifer Check-In: Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 13	**County Born & Raised & Beef Showmanship: Monday, 6:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 14	**Steer, Market Heifer, Breeding Heifer & Feeder Calf Show: Tuesday, 4:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 16	**Costume Class & Ice Cream Party, Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 17	**Project Release: Friday, 11:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 18	**Sale of Champions: Saturday, 1:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC** **Sale order: All grand champions & reserve grand champions, goat, lamb, beef, poultry, rabbit, dairy & swine** **No equipment or projects are to be moved during the Junior Fair Livestock Sales.**
Dec. 9	**Market Beef Tag-In for 2027 Projects: 6-8 p.m. Steers must be castrated before or at tag in. Vet services will be available with a fee for junior fair projects only.**

General

1. The Beef Committee will assign stall space by project areas and clubs. If tack space is limited, please see department chair. Stall assignments will be posted before the open show.
2. No tack permitted in grooming chute area.
3. Exhibits are not allowed in LEC until after the open show or no earlier than the designated move in time.
    a. Exhibits may not be removed until designated release times.
4. Clubs are encouraged to decorate their exhibit space with club banners, thank you buyer signs, etc.
5. Aisles are to be kept clean and clear for fair goers.
6. Chutes are only permitted in the work chute areas.
7. All beef animals must be dehorned.
    a. Scurs cannot be longer than ¾ inch.
8. All issues not covered by these rules will be at the discretion of the Beef Committee.
9. All Beef Committee decisions are final.
10. Beef Committee reserves the right to combine classes based on participation/exhibitor entries, including showmanship.
11. Each exhibitor may show 1 born & raised project per project area for Born & Raised.
    a. (Ex: If you have 2 feeder steers and 1 feeder heifer you may select 1 to exhibit in born & raised.)
12. Born & Raised must be declared by noon on Sunday of the fair.
13. Feeder steers & heifers will show together not separate for Born & Raised.

Showmanship

1. Registration will be taken during the weigh-in.
2. Mature animals and feeder calves will show together.
3. Showmanship Divisions:
    a. Beginner Division - 8 - 9 years of age as of Jan. 1 of current year
    b. Junior Division - 10 -11 years of age as of Jan. 1 of current year
    c. Intermediate Division - 12 - 13 yrs. of age as of Jan. of current.
    d. Senior Division - l4 yrs. & older as of Jan. 1 of the current year.
4. Junior Fair members with a beef project (only division winners are eligible) may enter the showman of showmen contest.

5. Sweepstakes contestants must be a senior division overall winner.
6. Showmanship participants must show an animal tagged in their name and may only show in 1 division.

Beef Breeding

1. Breeding Heifers must be in member's possession by May 1.
2. All beef animals must be in place as noted above and will be released after the beef show or with consent from the beef committee. This includes breeding stock.
3. No more than two animals owned by an exhibitor may be shown in any class.
4. All projects must be declared in the exhibitor's name by May entries.
5. Registration papers must be submitted with May entries with tattoos and will be rechecked at the fair. Breeds must be declared on May entries.
6. Heifers must be declared as a breeding or market project by May 1.
7. Animals without breed registration certificates show in the crossbred class.
8. First and second place animals in each class are eligible for champion class.
9. There are no bull classes or cow/calf classes.
10. All breeding animals will be shown in their respective breeds.

Beef Breeding Classes

Spring Heifer Calf-March 1 to May 1, 2026
Junior Heifer Calf-Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 2026
Winter Heifer Calf-Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025
Senior Heifer Calf-Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2025
Late Summer Heifer Calf-July 1 to Aug. 31, 2025
Early Summer Heifer Calf-May 1 to June 30, 2025
Jr. Yearling Heifer-March 1 to April 30, 2025
Late Jr. Yearling-Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 2025
Sr. Yearling Heifer-Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2024

Steers & Market Heifers

1. All steers and market heifers must be born after Dec. 1, 2024 to enter.
2. A member can show a maximum of three mature market beef projects but can sell only one market project.
3. All Junior Fair market animals must be in the owner's possession and must have been weighed and tagged on the December tag-in date on the Clinton Co. Fairground's scales to be eligible for the Junior Fair beef show and sale. Tag numbers will be recorded and used as official records for members with EID tags for beef projects.
4. A maximum of three market beef animals are permitted. All steers will be ear tagged by the committee.
5. Market beef projects must be in place and weighed as noted above. Steers will be placed into classes according to their weight. There will be no breed classes. The Beef Committee will have final decision on all class divisions. Steers weighing less than 900# will show for grade only. This weight will be the show weight. Steers must weigh 875# to get a re-weigh one half hour after the last steer is weighed.
6. In order to sell in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale, steers must weigh at least 900#. Steers that do not weigh 900# are not eligible for the fair sale.
7. The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef Project are required to sell in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. Exhibitors wishing to sell steers or market heifers in the sale must turn in a sale card during the market show or turn in a card to the Senior Fair Office by 6:30 p.m. on Thursday of the fair.
8. Rate of Gain will be calculated on all steers and market heifers.
9. All beef animals must be in place as noted above and will be released after the beef show or with consent from the beef committee. This includes breeding stock.
10. The Champion and Reserve Champion Steer and Champion and Reserve Champion Market Heifer will compete for the titles of Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef Overall. Classes will be determined by the beef committee. Awards will be given for each class and for the Overall Market Beef.
11. The Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef Overall will be the only champions required to sell in the Junior Fair sale.
12. The county born animal class is for any cattle that were born in Clinton County.
13. Heifers must be declared as a breeding or market project at May entry deadline.
14. Show Order: **Monday, July 13, 6:00 p.m.** County Born & Raised, Showmanship – Beginner, Junior, Intermediate and Senior, (ungroomed) and **Tuesday, July 14, 4:00 p.m.** Feeder Calves, Beef awards, Breeding Heifers, Market Heifers, Market Steers, and Championship Classes.
15. Beef Committee will be responsible for interpretation of these rules.

Feeder Calves

1. Feeder calves must be in place and weighed according to the beef schedule.

2. Feeder calves must weigh a minimum of 300 pounds and a maximum of 700 pounds at fair time and must be weaned. Generally, this is a Dec./Jan. calf.
3. The feeder calf must be in the possession of the member by May 1 and entries turned into OSUE by May 1.
4. A member can take a maximum of 2 feeder heifers and 2 feeder steers but can only sell one market project.
5. The feeder calf must be either a heifer or steer. No bulls. Bull calves must be castrated before the fair.
6. Nurse cows will **NOT** be permitted at the fair with the feeder calf project.
7. Feeder calf classes are Market Feeder Steers and Market Feeder Heifers.
8. Feeder calves will be shown by weight. Classes will be determined by the beef committee. Awards will be given for each class and for the overall feeder calf.
9. Exhibitors wishing to sell a feeder calf in the sale must turn in a sale card at the announcers stand during the market show or turn in a sale card at the Senior Fair Office by 6:30 p.m. on Thursday of the fair.
10. All pens shall be clean and aisles clear. If you don't keep your area clean you will forfeit all winnings and will not be eligible to show the following year.
11. Show Order: **Monday, July 13, 6:00 p.m.** Showmanship – Beginner, Junior, Intermediate and Senior, (ungroomed) and County Born & Raised (ungroomed), **Tuesday, July 14, 4:00 p.m.** Feeder Calves, Beef awards, Breeding Heifers, Market Heifers, Market Steers, and Championship Classes.

Outstanding Beef Exhibitor Award

This award recognizes two beef exhibitors that excel in project knowledge, showmanship and class placings based on a point system. A Grand and Reserve Overall Beef Exhibitor will be awarded.
1/3 will be the exhibitor's skillathon score
1/3 will be the exhibitor's showmanship placing
1/3 will be the exhibitor's class placing

Showmanship and Class Placing are scored according to the following tables:
Only the top 10 of each (division or class) will receive points. If there is < 5 exhibitors in the (division or class), scoring will be adjusted (see table #1).

# of Exhibitors	Maximum Points Allowed for First Place
Greater than or Equal to 5	100
4	98
3	96
2	94
1	92

For Divisions that have 5 or more EXHIBITORS:

Placing	Earned points	Placing	Earned points
1st	100	6th	90
2nd	98	7th	88
3rd	96	8th	86
4th	94	9th	84
5th	92	10th	82

Possible bonus points awarded to overall class placings:

Overall Grand	5 points
Overall Reserve	2 points
3rd Overall	1 point

1st Tie Breaker: Class Placing of Exhibitor's 2nd Animal
2nd Tie Breaker: 10 Question Test given by Clinton County 4-H Extension Educator.

A member may exhibit a market or breeding beef project or feeder calf project to qualify for this award.
Additional rules are under Junior Fair Rules and Livestock Rules.