DAIRY BEEF

2026

COMMITTEE: Jennifer Buckley, chair, Don Bickel, Corey Buckley, Robyn Danku & Jim Wilson

March 15	**Project Enrollment Deadline**
May 1	**Project Possession Deadline**
May 1	**Dairy Beef Feeder Entry Deadline Due to OSU Extension office**
May 1	**Dairy Beef Ambassador Applications Due to OSU Extension office**
	Dairy Beef Ambassador Contest, 4:30 p.m. Interviews, Contest at 7:00 p.m., OSU Extension office
May 19	**Dairy Beef Ambassador Contest: Thursday, 4:30 p.m. Interviews & Contest at 7:00 p.m. OSU Extension Office**
June 16	**Skillathon, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Fairground-Swine Barn**
July 10	**Project Arrival: Friday, 12:00 p.m., to 11:00 p.m. Fairground-LEC OR**
July 11	**Project Arrival: Saturday, following the Open Beef Show to Sunday, 8:00 a.m. Fairground-LEC**
July 12	**Barn Meeting, Sunday, 10:00 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 12	**All Steer & Feeder Calf Weigh-In: Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 15	**Showmanship, Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 15	**Dairy Feeder & Dairy Beef Show: Wednesday, Following Showmanship, Fairground-LEC**
July 16	**Costume Class & Ice Cream Party, Thursday, 6:00 p.m., Fairground-LEC**
July 17	**Dairy Feeder & Dairy Beef Are Released: 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 Dairy 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. Dairy Beef department is facilitated by the Dairy Committee.
2. The Dairy 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.
3. No tack permitted in grooming chute area.
4. Exhibits are not allowed in LEC until the designated move in time.
5. Exhibits may not be removed until designated release times.
6. Clubs are encouraged to decorate their exhibit space with club banners, thank you buyer signs, etc.
7. Aisles are to be kept clean and clear for fair goers.
8. Chutes are only permitted in the work chute areas.
9. No straw will be permitted.
10. All beef animals must be dehorned.
    a. Scurs cannot be longer than ¾ inch.
11. All issues not covered by these rules will be at the discretion of the Dairy Committee.
12. All Dairy Committee decisions are final.
13. The Dairy Committee reserves the right to combine classes based on participation/exhibitor entries, including showmanship.

Showmanship

1. Registration will be taken during the weigh-in or barn meeting.
2. 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.
3. To qualify for the sweepstakes contest a member must exhibit a beef feeder or market beef project in the Beef Department. Dairy Beef is not in the sweepstakes contest.
4. Showmanship participants must show an animal tagged in their name and may only show in 1 division.

Dairy Beef Steers

1. All steers must be born after Dec. 1, 2024 to enter.
2. A member can show a maximum of three mature market dairy 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 dairy beef show and sale. Tag numbers will be recorded and used as official records for members with EID tags for beef projects.
4. All steers will be ear tagged by the committee.
5. Market dairy 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 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 junior fair sale.
7. Rate of Gain will be calculated on all steers.
8. All steer class winners will compete for the titles of Champion and Reserve Champion Market Dairy Beef. Classes will be determined by the beef committee. Awards will be given for each class.
9. The Champion & Reserve Market Dairy Steer may sell in the Junior Fair sale, but they are not in the Sale of Champions.
10. Classification of animals as dairy beef will be at the discretion of the committee. Dairy breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Milking Shorthorn and Jersey.
11. Dairy beef steer projects must be 100 percent dairy.
12. The county born animal class is for any cattle that were born in Clinton County.
13. Show Order: Showmanship – Beginner, Junior, Intermediate and Senior, (ungroomed) and County Born & Raised, Feeder Calves, and Dairy Beef Steers.
14. Dairy 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 turn in an entry by May 1.
4. A member can take a maximum of 2 feeder steers but can only sell one market project.
5. 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.
8. Feeder calves will be shown by weight. Classes will be determined by the dairy committee. Awards will be given for each class and for the overall dairy feeder calf.
9. Classification of animals as dairy beef will be at the discretion of the committee. Dairy breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Milking Shorthorn, Guernsey, Holstein & Jersey.
10. Dairy beef steer projects must be 100 percent dairy.
11. 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.
12. Show Order: Showmanship – Beginner, Junior, Intermediate and Senior, (ungroomed) and County Born & Raised, Feeder Calves, and Dairy Beef Steers.

Outstanding Dairy Beef Exhibitor Award

This award recognizes one beef exhibitors that excel in project knowledge, animal care, showmanship and class placings based on a point system.

The Outstanding Dairy Beef Exhibitor Award will be determined using three 25-point categories:

- •Top placing animal – one animal only, 1st, 25 pts. 2nd, 20 pts., 3rd, 15 pts., 4th, 10 pts.,5th, 5 pts.
- •Showmanship, one class only. 1st, 25 pts. 2nd, 20 pts., 3rd, 15 pts., 4th, 10 pts., 5th, 5 pts.
- •Skillathon, a 25 point test will be set up by the Dairy Committee. Only test scores from the designated date will be used. Those not taking the Skillathon during the county date are ineligible for this award. See Livestock Rules for additional Skillathon regulations.
- •Any overall tiebreaker will be determined by Skillathon score.
- •An individual cannot win in their division two consecutive years.

1. The Dairy Committee is responsible for interpretation of these rules.
2. Additional rules are under Junior Fair Rules and Livestock Rules.