



Dairy

Congratulations on deciding to participate in the Dairy Project! We hope that you find this to be a positive and rewarding experience. There is a lot to know and a lot to learn when participating in this project and it is easy to get overwhelmed. Don't worry, we're here to help! There are many people willing to help you out, and there are lots of resources available! Some of the best resources are fellow club members who participate in the project as well. If your club does not have any members participating in the project, feel free to contact the 4-H Office for contact information of individuals in other clubs that will be more than willing to help you out.

SELECTION OF ANIMALS

- It is important to pick a project that is age appropriate for the exhibitor.
- If you do not have Dairy Animals of your own, leasing is an option
- Animals are divided into classes based on breed and age.
- There are also rules that need to be followed about what animals an individual can show. For more information go to: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/animal-ID/>

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- Animals must be properly identified by one of several accepted methods, and affidavit forms must be submitted by May 15th.
- Accepted methods of Identification can be found at: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/docs/Dairy-info-sheet.pdf>

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing that is clean and dry along with good nutrition and good ventilation are necessary.
- Fellow Dairy Participants are an excellent resource for information about proper nutrition and care
- For more detailed information reference the Project Resources listed below

HALTER BREAKING AND PREPARING YOUR ANIMAL FOR THE SHOW

- Start working with your animal at an early age, and continue to work with it before the show
- Proper fitting takes time and practice don't get discouraged! Ask others for help!
- For more detailed information reference the Project Resources listed below

SUPPLIES

- Rope halter and show halter
- Clippers and extension cords
- Curry comb and brushes
- Hose, nozzle and soap for washing your animal
- Water pail and feed pan
- Broom and pitch fork

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Have the majority of your fitting done the day before the show
- Arrive early to get your animal washed and ready for the show
- Know what class you're in, and what order the classes will be run in the show
- Wear proper attire for the show. For Dairy, this means white pants and a white shirt, and no hats

PROJECT RESOURCES

Holstein Foundation

http://www.holsteinfoundation.org/pdf_doc/workbooks/Showing_Ready_Workbook.pdf

Holstein Canada

<https://www.holstein.ca/PublicContent/PDFS/EN/PreparingToLead.pdf>

<https://www.holstein.ca/PublicContent/PDFS/EN/ShowmanshipLeadingToWin.pdf>

Purebred Dairy Cattle Association

<http://www.purebreddairycattle.com/pages/Literature.php>

Additional Resources

<http://showingdairycattle.weebly.com/showing-dairy-cattle.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCUxFpxmQJ8>

University of Minnesota Extension

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/projects/animal-science/>

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN STEARNS COUNTY

Stearns County 4-H Dairy Knowledge Bowl Team: January- March

Stearns County 4-H Dairy Judging Team: February – September

Stearns County Holstein Club Fitting Clinic: May or June

Central Minnesota Dairy Day Youth Show: June

Stearns County 4-H Livestock Project Open Fair Day: July

Stearns County 4-H Dairy Show: July

Stearns County 4-H Project Days: Spring or Fall on alternating years