



Beef

SELECTION OF ANIMALS

- Select market steers prior to February 15th
 - Market steers and market heifers should be at finished market weight by the fair
- Select breeding animals and prospect calves prior to May 15th

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- ID forms can be found on 4-H online/ ear tags can be picked up at extension office
- Market steers and market heifers need to be identified and a completed ID form must be submitted by February 15th
 - Steers can be identified either by a 4-H ear tag or registered through a breed association
- Breeding animals and prospect calves need to be identified and a complete ID form needs to be submitted by May 15th

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing (a clean dry area), good ventilation, and proper nutrition

HALTER BREAKING YOUR ANIMAL

- Start halter breaking your animal at an early age
 - Refer to the website http://mysrf.org/pdf/pdf_beef/b7.pdf

SUPPLIES

- Supplies needed for getting your animal ready for the fair
 - rope halter and show halter
 - brush and scotch comb
 - spray bottle
 - hose, nozzle and soap for washing your animal (dish or laundry soap will work)
 - clippers
 - show stick
- Supplies needed at the fair
 - all of the items listed above
 - water pail and feed pan
 - broom and fork
 - neck tie- for tie outs

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Arrive early to get your animal washed and ready for the show
- Know what class you are in
- Wear proper show clothes (jeans and leather shoes or boots)

* More information can be found on the University of Minnesota 4-H website.

* ASK QUESTIONS- ask other 4-H'ers or adult leaders if you need help or have any questions. You may contact the general livestock superintendent, Bob Kokett.





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/Showring_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



Lama

SELECTION OF ANIMALS

- Llama or alpaca may be shown from year to year
- If leasing an animal make arrangements early in the 4-H year
- Gelded males, females and intact males not of breeding age may be shown

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- ID forms can be found on 4-H online
- Animal needs to be identified before May 15th
- A photo is used to ID the animal

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing clean dry area with good ventilation
- Outdoor area must including a shelter from the sun
- Proper nutrition and ample water need to be provided

TRAINING YOUR ANIMAL

- Your animal must work with a halter and a lead rope
- Spend time leading the animal several times a week if possible
- The animal, and youth, need to practice proper movement needed during the show
- The animal should be familiar with and practice various types of obstacles
- Youth will plan and make a costume if participating in costume show

SUPPLIES

- Grooming tools
- Equipment for washing and blowing out the animal
- At the fair the animal will need a hay bag and water bucket
- Bring equipment for cleaning the animals stall

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Arrive early and groom your animal for the fair
- Wear proper show clothes, white shirt, black pants, and black shoes or boots
- Always be courteous and helpful to other 4-H members in the show



Poultry

You have decided to take on a poultry project to show at the County Fair and are wondering, “What do I do now?”

There are a few things that need to be done; first you will have to decide what type of poultry project you want to show at the fair.

Choices include Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys Pigeons or Guineas. Keep in mind that all birds have to be hatched after January 1st of the year you’re going to show the birds.

A Statement of Origin is required for Chickens, Turkeys and Guineas. Ducks and Geese do not require a Statement of Origin but if you can get one it is a good idea to have it.

An example Statement of Origin is included. If you buy birds from a hatchery, ask for one and they will include it with your bird order. If you buy birds from a breeder, bring one for the breeder to sign or send it to the breeder for them to sign.

PIGEONS

Pigeons may be entered in three classes; Sporting, Fancy or Utility, depending on their breed. They can be shown either as a mated pair for birds older than one year or as a young bird for birds hatched during the current year. Pigeons must be banded with seamless bands to be shown.

If you are a 4-H Cloverbud you will only need to bring one bird to the fair. I recommend a gentle breed of chicken like a Rhode Island Red or a Wyandotte. A duck like a Pekin will also work if you spend some time with it before the fair so that it is tame.

Once you are older than a Cloverbud you then can show two birds or a trio depending on the project you wish to take on.


Two Birds are needed in:

Brown and White Egg laying pens and Market pens

Three Birds are needed in:

Breeding Pens which consist of one male and two females of the same breed.

If you are showing for the first time I would recommend an Egg Laying Pen. The hens should be laying eggs by the time the fair starts. Brown egg layers are generally calmer than white egg layers. The best brown egg layers are a hybrid breed such as a Gold or Red Star birds. To ensure your birds are laying by the start of the fair, I would purchase chicks within the first two weeks of March. A close second for beginners to show would be a pen of Market Chickens. Market chickens are the Cornish Cross birds. The two birds should be 4 to 4.5 lbs by the time of the fair and it generally takes eight weeks for them to reach this weight.



When showing Egg Layers or Market Birds they should look and weigh as close to the same as possible.

The birds should be given baths before the fair. I would recommend two times at a minimum this not only cleans the birds but the more you handle them the calmer they will be for the show.

If you want to show a Breeding Trio at the fair, birds that are more mature are better. Hatching between January 1st and March 1st is best. Keep in mind that the hatch date has to be after January 1st of the year you're going to show them. The judge will be judging the birds against the "American Standard of Perfection". This book can usually be found at your local library. You will want to show one male that most closely resembles that breed's standards. The two females should also closely resemble that breed's standards. The birds must be of the same breed and color variety and must be purebred.

On show day at the fair you should wear a white long sleeve shirt, black pants and black shoes. You will want keep your eyes on the judge at all times when showing your birds.



Rabbits

SELECTION OF ANIMALS

- All animals must be a pure-bred breed recognized by the ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association). They must also be an unaltered male or female rabbit.
ARBA Website: <https://www.arba.net/>
- All animals need to be selected and owned by May 15th.
- Fryers: Must be 70 days or younger (the mother needs to be owned and ID'ed by the May 15th deadline)
- Rabbit Agility: Animal must be 6 mo. of age or older to begin the training process. An animal younger is not acceptable as their skeleton is not able to handle the stress of training yet.

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- All animals need to have a permanent ID tattoo in the left ear (the rabbit's left ear, not as you are looking at it) that along with the breed, gender and birthdate are reported on the ID form submitted by May 15th.

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing: a rabbit hutch with small wire on the bottom 1/2"x1" and 1"x2" on the sides will protect your rabbit from other animals. It is also good to make sure they have a place to get out of the wind if they are kept outside.
- Good ventilation, proper sanitation and proper nutrition are key. Also make sure there is always enough water available.

SUPPLIES

- Supplies needed for getting your animal ready for the fair.
 - Rabbit brush
 - Harness & leash (agility)
 - Feed dish and water bottles
 - Toe nail clipper (must be a dog toenail clipper, human clipper will crush the nail)
 - Flour (used to stop bleeding if blood line is nicked while clipping toenails)
- Supplies needed at the fair
 - All of the above
 - Broom & dust pan (for clean up in front of cages and after changing out drop pans)
 - Feed and water
 - Pet or Rabbit carrier (will need to get animal to fair and will need while waiting for your turn during the show)

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Arrive early to make sure you and your animal are in the arena for the show.
- Know what breed and class you are showing in
- Wear proper show attire (long sleeve solid color shirt, jeans or black pants and closed toed shoes. NO HOLES in shoes or pants) Long hair should be pulled back.

More information can be found on the ARBA website and the University of Minnesota 4-H website

ASK QUESTIONS-other 4-H'ers or adult leaders if you need help or have questions. You may contact the Rabbit Superintendent, Shannon Olson



Sheep

SELECTION OF ANIMAL

- Select your sheep prior to May 15th
- Lease options are available for breeding sheep

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- ID forms can be found on 4-H online/ear tags can be picked up at the extension office
- An ID form for all sheep, market and breeding, must be submitted by May 15th and they must be tagged by May 15th
- All sheep must have a USDA scrapies tag

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing (a clean dry area), good ventilation, and proper nutrition

HALTER BREAKING YOUR ANIMAL

- Start working with your sheep as soon as possible
- Refer to the website www.raisingssheep.net (how to halter break a lamb)

SUPPLIES

- Supplies needed for getting your animal ready for the fair
 - rope halter
 - hose, nozzle and soap (dish soap works fine) for washing your animal
 - sheep shears
- Supplies needed at the fair
 - all of the items listed above
 - water pail and feed pan

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Arrive early to get your animal ready for the show
- Know what class you are in
- Wear proper show clothes (jeans and leather shoes or boots)

* More information can be found on the University of Minnesota 4-H website.

* ASK QUESTIONS- ask other 4-H'ers or adult leaders if you need help or have any questions. You may contact the general livestock superintendent, Bob Kokett.



Swine

SELECTION OF ANIMAL

- Select your pig prior to May 15th
- Market pigs should be market weight at the fair

IDENTIFICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FORMS

- ID forms can be found on 4-H online/ear tags can be picked up at extension office
- An ID form must be submitted and all animals must be ear tagged by May 15th

CARE OF YOUR ANIMAL

- Proper housing (a clean dry area), good ventilation, and proper nutrition

TRAINING YOUR PIG

- Start working with your pig early. It is easier to train when it is younger.
- Spend time working with your pig every day if possible
- Start driving your hog with a pig whip or pipe in a small pen
- Once the pig is tamed down after a few days or maybe longer you can walk it around the yard
- Exercise your pig daily if possible

SUPPLIES

- Supplies needed for getting your pig ready for the fair
 - hose, nozzle and soap for washing
 - scrub brush
 - whip (or pipe) used to guide your pig around
- Supplies needed at the fair
 - all of the items listed above
 - feed pan

PREPARING FOR THE SHOW

- Arrive early to get your animal washed and ready for the show
- Know what class you are in
- Wear proper show clothes (jeans and leather shoes or boots)

* More information can be found on the University of Minnesota 4-H website.

* ASK QUESTIONS- ask other 4-H'ers or adult leaders if you need help or have any questions. You may contact the general livestock superintendent, Bob Kokett.