



Dairy Activity Sheet - 2024

Level 2- Grades 6-7-8

Due May 24 to the Extension Office



\$1.00

What you will do in this project:

- Enroll in the 4-H program by January 15.
- Complete a minimum of 2 activities on this Dairy Activity Sheet and turn it into the Extension Office **by May 24** or earlier. This activity sheet consists of activities, and record sheet.
- Attend County 4-H Dairy workshops when offered.
- Recommend that the 4-H family purchase and review the project resource manual.
- Refer to the Allen County 4-H Rules Book for a complete listing of all regulations concerning this project.
- To show heifers or cows at the County Fair or Indiana State Fair identify animals in Indiana 4honline by May 15.
- To show heifers or cows at the County Fair level complete FairEntry online by the May 24, 2024 deadline.
- All Dairy Cattle shown at the Allen County Fair and the Indiana State Fair must have an 840 RFID tag.
- To exhibit beef, dairy, swine, goats, sheep, llama/alpaca, horse and pony, rabbits, and poultry, 4-H members must be certified either through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program or Indiana's Quality Livestock Care program. These are annual programs that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. For more information about in-person trainings in your county, please contact your County Extension Office. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqcaprogram.org/>. If completing online, please email a copy to your county extension educator. Must be done by May 24, 2024.

Management Tips:

- Each dairy farm has their own methods of feeding and raising the cattle, make sure you follow carefully the methods and practices of that farm.
- Make sure the cattle are feed twice daily according to their growth rate and condition.
- Provide clean, fresh water to cattle at all times.
- Provide hay for roughage.
- Check daily for sickness, unusual things, or change in behavior.
- If out in pasture, provide protection from adverse weather conditions.
- Make sure pens are well cleaned and bedded at all times.
- Practice washing and brushing cattle before the fair for a soft and shiny coat of hair.
- Clip your show cattle far enough in advance of the fair to give time for the hair to grow back. Full body clipping is usually done 30 to 60 days before the fair.
- Exercise cattle daily in the coolness of the morning and evening, not in the heat of the day to avoid stressing your cattle.
- Practice posing your heifers and cows correctly.
- Practice leading your cattle with you walking backwards. Walking forward may also be used. Remember to walk slowly.

4-H Member: _____ 4-H Club: _____

Grade in School (January 1, 2024) _____ Years in this project _____

Signature of 4-H Member verifying that you have completed these activities:

Signature of Parent that you have reviewed this information:

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

4-H Animal Care:

The Indiana 4-H program strongly supports positive animal care and strongly opposes animal abuse. 4-H is also dedicated to the mission of developing youth and volunteers through "Learning by Doing" programs. 4-H livestock projects teach life skills such as acquiring knowledge, making decisions, and applying leadership skills.

- When working and caring for animals, it is important to insure that appropriate safety measures are in place for both the animals and the persons who care for them. Therefore, there is no substitute for knowledge, common sense, and experience.
- Animal handlers should study and learn to anticipate an animal's reaction and try and avoid problem situations. It is most important that 4-H members understand an animal's behavior so one can "outsmart" not "out-muscle" an animal. Foremost in the 4-H'er mind should always be safety of the handler and the animal. Moving animals is more of an art than a science. Movement of animals requires planning and knowledge to accomplish it with the least amount of time, effort and stress to the animal.
- An animal's good health is often directly related to the environmental factors associated with its living space. The presence of predators, dust, odors, pests, temperature, and humidity has a direct effect on an animal's well-being.
- Animals react favorably to daily care and comfortable housing. Consideration should also be given to specific animal needs such as size of their housing space, lighting, and ventilation. The best facilities and equipment cannot and should not be a substitute for daily observation and careful attention to signs of illness, injury, and/or unusual behavior.
- Frequent consultation with your veterinarian is a must. Reasonable attention must always be given to the use of drugs and their approved withdrawal times.



Manure Management

When you are raising dairy animals you also have animal waste to take care of. This is known as manure. How are you going to take care of this manure?

When you decide on a manure storage facility you should make sure that it will be able to handle storage for how long? _____



Each state must abide by federal regulations set up by who? _____

_____. However, each state may have more strict regulations. Do you feel that the EPA is doing their job well in your area? _____

Concentrated animal-feeding operations (CAFO) are being established more in our area. These CAFO's are watched by the EPA. CAFO's also follow strict regulations. These CAFO's house many dairy animals. According to the Ohio State Dairy Resource Handbook, how many dairy animals are on a large CAFO? _____. CAFO's in our area are larger than this and create much more manure. They need to have a successful manure management plan in hand.

Name two ways manure systems can be categorized:

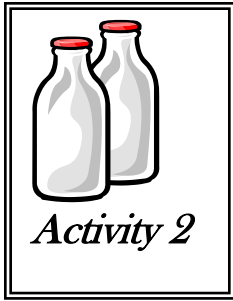
1. _____
2. _____

Which manure systems does your farm use? _____

A good manure management habit on your farm will help in keeping what two qualities under control:

_____. These qualities are important in keeping our community a better place. Dairy Farmers have a role to play in the community's acceptance of animal agriculture. As dairy farmers we need to be advocates for _____ & _____. The public concern is very important. This could shut down our dairy farms.

Resource: Ohio State University Dairy Resource Handbook Chapter 9



Mammary Gland and Health

The cow belongs to a class of animals known as _____ which have the ability to produce milk from _____. Most mammals produce only enough milk to feed their young. Dairy cattle are now able to produce milk for long periods of time and produce more milk than one calf could ever use.

The mammary gland is also known as an _____. This is located on the outside of the cow's body. It can weigh _____ pounds when empty. On the average it can hold _____ pounds of milk, but could hold more. How many compartments does a cow's udder have? _____ these compartments are known as _____ and each are drained by _____.

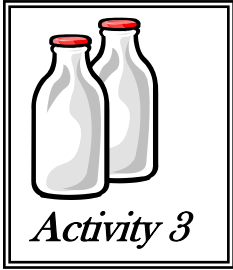
It is important when your cow enters the milking parlor that they experience the same _____, _____, _____,

_____ every milking so the pituitary gland releases oxytocin. This oxytocin causes muscle cells to contract and squeeze the stored milk to release.

Mammary health is important. Mastitis could affect your cow's health. This is an inflammation or infection in the mammary gland. And is the most costly dairy cattle disease. Name the two types of mastitis _____ & _____. Organisms cause mastitis. There are two mastitis-causing organisms based on the source of the bacteria. What are these two groups? _____ & _____. Several management practices will help prevent the occurrence and/or transmission of mastitis. List a few ways:

General on-farm cleanliness is the key to a good mastitis prevention program. The use of a _____ is widely recommended to help reduce the occurrence of mastitis.

Let's hope this information has helped you become more aware of the mammary health in your dairy herd.



Feeding Systems

It is time to feed your dairy animals. How are you going to feed them? What will they be eating? No matter what you feed your animals the feed intake will have a direct effect on milk production and the profit your dairy operation will make.

There are several different ways that dairy animals can be fed. This depends on your facilities and the way you run your farm. The three main ways your animals may be fed. List them below and briefly explain them:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What is meant by balanced ration? _____

What does DM stand for? _____

Tell what the characteristics of the following feedstuffs that may be fed to dairy animals are:

Dry molasses _____

Trace Mineral salt _____

Distillers grains _____

Milo _____

Ground corn _____

Dried sugar-beet pulp _____

Did some of these feedstuffs sound familiar to you? _____

Name some other feedstuffs that you use on your farm _____

Resource: Ohio State University Dairy Resource Handbook – Chapter 5

ALLEN COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK RECORD



Records serve as a way to measure your own success with a project. When answering these questions, you should be able to see where improvements can be made for next year and if you wish to continue with this project for another year.

For this Project Record:

Why did you choose to raise and care for these animals this year?

How many animals did you manage during the past 12 months? _____

How many were market animals? _____

How many were breeding animals? _____

How many animals did you purchase or add during the past 12 months? _____

Did you purchase these animals alone or in partnership with someone else? _____

If you did purchase animals, why and how did you determine which animals to buy?

Did you sell any of your animals during the past 12 months? _____

If yes, how did you find a buyer for your animals?

Describe improvements you made to your animal's housing during the past 12 months.

(Include equipment, buildings, land, etc...)

List two new things that you learned about your project animals or the breed that you did not know before.

1.

2.

Where did you go to find more information about the care of your animals?

What health practices did you use with your animals the past 12 months?

In regards to raising these animals, what is one thing you will do differently the next 12 months that you did not do this past 12 months?

Premise ID Number where cattle are coming from _____

____ Completed 4honline enrollment by January 15, 2024

____ Completed Animal ID in 4honline by May 15, 2024

____ Completed Fair Entry on line by May 24, 2024