



Dairy Activity Sheet - 2023

Level 3 - Grades 9-12

Due June 30 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 31** 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 31, 2023 deadline.
- All Dairy Cattle shown at the Allen County Fair and the Indiana State Fair must have an 840 RFID tag.
- To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This is an annual program 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://yqca.org/>. **Attach a copy of YQCA card.**

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, 2023) _____ 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:

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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.



Take a Look into a Future Career

You have entered high school and are now being asked by the Guidance Counselors if you have decided on a future career. You may think it is too early, but your classes you take in high school will help you get into further schooling or out into the work field. Yes, you have received some good background from your experiences on your farm, working with your cattle, and through 4-H & FFA. Now you do

need to decide on your future. Is the Dairy Industry or any area of agriculture going to be a part of your life in the future? Let’s take a closer look and answer the following questions?



1. What careers fall under Production management? _____

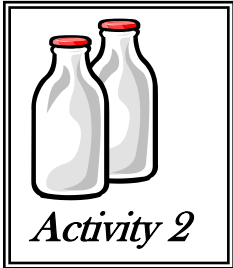
2. What job might be found in dairy through an Agribusiness degree? _____

3. If you were wanting to assist and provide services to producers and consumers what careers would you be looking towards?

4. Explain the job field of “Research & Teaching”. _____

5. When you are looking for a job or a career, what are the most important characteristics that employers are seeking?

6. Write a sample letter below to a future employer about the following position:
COWMAN – Ready to Move Up? Manage quality 80 cow herd – calves – show. Your knowledge & skills earn well with outstanding benefits. Contact us now at Bullseye Farms, Route 79, Boise, Idaho 48920. Attach sample letter to these pages.



Housing for Your Milking Herd

Resource: OSU Dairy Resource Handbook Chapter 8

Some milking herds are housed into different groups. Your dairy farm may not have all these types of groups. In large herds that have the space and facilities, it is common to see the herd divided into groups. By placing the cows into groups, this allows for less competition for feed. Name some of the groups:

There are three types of housing common for a milking herd. Give a brief description of each of the following:

Tri-stall (or stanchion) barn - _____

Freestall barn - _____

Open corrals - _____

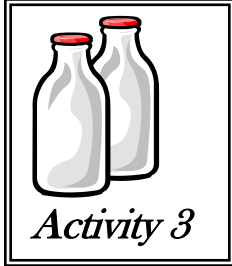
Many different types of bedding/bases have been used for free stalls over the years. They are _____.

Two of the more common types of bedding are _____ and _____. A sand base should be _____. Sand bases are comfortable, _____, and help prevent _____. Four inches of shredded _____ sandwiched between a heavy weight polypropylene fabric. A small amount of chopped straw or sawdust is used on top of the mattress.

Management of the facilities should be examined twice a day. _____ and _____ should be removed. Fresh bedding should be added once or twice a week as necessary. All of this is done to make sure the cows are _____ and _____. Good management is important.

Eating areas must be clean and in position so the feed can not be contaminated by manure and accessible with a feed wagon. Waters should not be located so that a cow will have to travel far.

Maternity pens are needed to provide space for _____.
_____. Sick animals should be kept in a separated area from the rest of the milking herd to _____. Both of these areas should be easily accessible and easy to observe.



From Moo to You

Your cows have been milked and the milk is being stored temporarily in the bulk tank before the milk hauler comes and takes the milk to the processing plant. Once at the processing plant, the milk goes through several steps before being sold to the consumer. The following activity will help you become more aware of how the milk goes from “cow to consumer”.

1. Dairy Farms and milk processing plants are routinely inspected to make sure the facilities are clean and that milk is being handled properly and safely. What organization is responsible for this inspection and what is their main responsibility?

2. Your milk hauler will check the temperature of the bulk tank before putting your milk on the milk truck. What is the recommended temperature that milk needs to be kept cooled at in the bulk tank? Why this temperature important?

3. Your milk hauler will also take a milk sample out of each bulk tank on your farm before putting your milk on the milk truck. Explain why this milk sample is taken.

Your milk is transported to the milk processing plant for processing. Before your milk hauler can unload the milk truck, a sample is taken of his load. If the sample is okay, he unloads his milk truck. However, if the sample is bad, then each of the samples he took on each dairy farm he picked up is tested to find out which milk stop may have made his load bad. If your sample is the bad one, there are consequences that will be taken by the milk processing plant. Each processing plant has their own guidelines to follow. The most important items for you the producer to remember and practice is good, clean working habits to insure good quality milk coming off your farm.

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, 2023

____ Completed Animal ID in 4honline by May 15, 2023

____ Completed Fair Entry on line by May 31, 2023

____ Copy of YQCA card attached