

# PURDUE EXTENSION BOONE COUNTY

## 4-H FEEDER CALF WORKSHEETS

Grade 10-D



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. In market cattle, finish refers to the amount of fat cover. What are some desirable traits that would indicate the right amount of finish? Check the traits that apply.

- \_\_\_\_\_ no excessive fullness of brisket  
\_\_\_\_\_ extra length of body  
\_\_\_\_\_ freedom from patches around tail head  
\_\_\_\_\_ strong topped  
\_\_\_\_\_ smooth and uniform fat cover over ribs

2. After a calf is born, you can help it to start breathing by following these steps.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_

3. After a heifer or cow calves, she needs approximately \_\_\_\_\_% more energy, 50% more \_\_\_\_\_, 50% more calcium and \_\_\_\_\_% more phosphorus in her diet. In addition Vitamin A requirement increases about \_\_\_\_\_%.

4. If you were buying breeding heifers, you would need to pay attention to structural correctness. You should look for animals that have the following characteristics:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Move with a long, reaching stride  
D. \_\_\_\_\_  
E. Proper slope to the shoulder  
F. \_\_\_\_\_

Answers can be found in the OSU Beef Resource Handbook – 4-H 117R.

5. Structural differences are important to understand with beef. Find the proper name for these structural problems:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ When viewing the hind legs from the rear, the hocks are turned inward or are placed close together, causing the toes to turn outward.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ When viewing the rear legs from the side, the hock has too much angle or set, causing the animal to stand too far underneath itself. Often these animals will droop excessively from hocks to pins.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ The hock has too little angle or set. The animal is too straight through the joint, resulting in stiff, restricted movement because of lack of flexibility.

6. When evaluating breeding cattle, several important characteristics must be examined. Traits that contribute to volume and capacity include the following:

- A. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. \_\_\_\_\_
- C. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Thickness of quarter
- E. \_\_\_\_\_
- F. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Match the answers. Draw an arrow to match word with the answers.

- 18 – 21 days                      A heifer will come into heat (estrus) at this age, depending on breed and weight.
- 283 days                          The cattle heat (estrus) cycle repeats in this period of time if she is not bred and if nutritional needs are being met and if she does not have a disease.
- 8 months                          The normal gestation period for cattle.

8. In cattle, some of the heritable traits are considered economically important. The top two Traits are:

\_\_\_\_\_ 70% heritability and \_\_\_\_\_ 60-80% heritability