

# Dairy Steer/Dairy Calf Feeder Steer

Superintendent: Darren Wilkinson

Phone: 269.319.9845

**State Fair Entry:** Yes

**Animal Drop Off/Check In:** Saturday, July 5, 2025; Drop Off: 8:00AM-10:00AM; Check In: 11:00AM-1:00PM, Dairy Barn Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

**Show Day:** Monday, July 7, 2025; 3:00PM, Show Arena, Kosciusko County Fairgrounds

## **Dairy Calf Feeder Steers:**

1. If feeder steer/dairy steer is determined a cross, an exhibition class(es) will be created but not eligible for any awards. They will be eligible for auction.
2. Calves must be weighed, ear tagged with RFID and County tag, dehorned, castrated, and vaccinated by or at the tag-in on April 12, 2025. This will take place from 9:00AM-11:00AM in the east end of the beef barn at the fairgrounds.
3. Off-premise housing forms (if applicable), enrollment worksheets (these are to assist you only in entering information into 4HOnline and do not serve as official enrollment documents), and \$5.00 per calf fee and \$10.00 per 4-H'er pen are due at spring tag-in.
4. All dairy feeder calves must be weighed and tagged with RFID and County tags to be eligible for vet services that will be provided only on the day of spring tag-in.
5. It is strongly recommended that calves be born after January 1, 2024. Any calf weighing over 300 pounds at the April tag-in will show in an overweight/exhibition class and will not be eligible for any awards at the county fair in July. They will be eligible for auction.
6. Calves must weigh at least 225 lbs at July Fair check-in.
7. All calves must be weaned before the county fair.
8. A member may tag in six (6) and show two (2) calves, but may only sell one (1) calf.
9. A 4-H member will be eligible to sell one (1) dairy calf feeder steer in the auction.
10. If a feeder steer is going to be shown at the next year's county fair, the 4-H member must enroll in the dairy steer project, properly enroll the steer in 4HOnline and follow the dairy steer rules.
11. Grooming: Body clipping is optional, grooming oils are permitted, but no professional grooming is allowed.
12. Classes will be determined by weight. This will be done at the discretion of the Dairy Calf Feeder Steer Committee.
13. Calves will be grown for a feeder calf (NOT VEAL) finishing operation.
14. The vaccinations should be given by or obtained at spring tag-in on April 12, 2025.
  - Bovishield Gold 5
  - Ultrabac 7
  - Or similar vaccines recommended by your veterinarian
15. Show sticks are optional.
16. Barn rules
  - No moving of fans, only committee member(s) can adjust the fans.
  - No additional fans shall be used in the DCFS/Dairy Steer portion of the barn.
  - No automatic water devices are allowed in the dairy barn or buckets of any size are allowed to be left in the pen.
  - No attaching of tape, nails, bolts, glue, etc. to painted walls. Committee member(s) must grant permission if these items are needed.
  - Alleyways are to be kept clean and free of show boxes and feed.
  - No straw is allowed for bedding. Please use sawdust or shavings.
  - 4-H members are responsible for cleaning out their stalls after the sale, but they need to wait to clean out their stalls until their animals have been sold and loaded onto the trailer.
  - No metal feed pans are to be used.
17. Beginning at 8:00AM Saturday, all Dairy Feeder Calves must be checked by superintendent/committee member before unloading.
18. All Dairy Calf Feeder Steers which are not eligible to be sold will be released after 9:00PM on Wednesday or Thursday from 6:00AM to 8:00AM. Any other arrangements must be cleared with committee.
19. All feeder steers have to be a purebred dairy breed: Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss or Milking Shorthorn. The DCFS committee has a crossbred information sheet with examples of pictures and characteristics of crossbreds available to all members. If a calf is in question that it is a crossbred, the committee will make their determination of crossbred status by majority vote within one month of the April weigh-in. Any dispute of their ruling must be brought before the 4-H Council within one month of the April weigh-in.

**Dairy Steers:** In addition to these rules, also please refer to the following rule #'s under the Feeder Steer section: Rules #1, 11, 13.

1. One 4-H member may check-in up to 6 dairy steers. Can only show a maximum of 2 dairy steers.
2. Horned steers will not be allowed to exhibit.
3. No glues or adhesives may be used.
4. All Dairy Steers have to be a purebred dairy breed (Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss or Milking Shorthorn), crosses of dairy breeds and/or beef breeds will not be allowed! The DCFS Committee has a crossbred information sheet with examples of pictures and characteristics of crossbreds available to all members. The ONLY Dairy Steers that need to come to April tag in are those Dairy Beef Steers that don't already have both the Kosciusko County 4-H 5-digit tag and an 840 RFID tag. Dairy Steers MUST be halter broke. If a steer is in question that it is a crossbred at the April weigh in, the committee will make their determination of crossbred status by majority vote. Any dispute of their ruling must be brought before the 4-H Council within one month of the April weigh-in.
5. Dairy Steers must weigh a minimum of 1,000lbs. at July Fair Check-in to be eligible to show & sell. If weight requirement is not met, the steer must be taken home immediately.
6. Dairy Steers must be double-tied with rope neckties while stalled in the dairy barn. NO CHAINS ALLOWED!
7. Show sticks are optional.
8. Barn rules:
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**Steer Classes:** Steer classes will be broken equally according to weight.