January 29, 2024

Dear 4-H Beef Member:

This letter contains important information about the beef project so please read through the entire letter and keep it for future reference.

**Member Enrollment**

* All members must be enrolled in 4HOnline. You are not an active 4-H member until the $15 State Program Fee is paid and approved.

**Animal ID Requirements**

* **ID Days will be held on:**
* **Friday, February 23rd – By appointment only,** families will need to call or text Jeff Smoker at 219-280-0524 by February 15, 2024.
* **Saturday, February 24th from 9:00 a.m. to NOON. CST for Beef, Dairy Beef and Market Heifers.**
* **Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for Dairy Feeder Steers.**

Enter the fairgrounds at the Horse & Pony Arena off Zigler Road (Grandstand Drive).

* *ALL BEEF* animals (includes market steers and market heifers, dairy beef steers, dairy feeder steers, commercial heifers and registered heifers) must have a Radio Frequency Identification tag (840 RFID tags). Please note that it is imperative that any animal that loses the RFID Tag must have a new tag issued and linked with the corresponding hair sample.
* The Extension Office must be notified if any tag is lost or removed or the animal will not be allowed to show at the La Porte County or State Fair. A local county tag (yellow) will also be placed in market steers, market heifers, commercial heifers and dairy feeder steers.
* Animals led off the trailer will get a small gift.

**Animal Enrollment Requirements**

* Any youth that plans on exhibiting livestock this year at the county and/or State Fair will need to enroll their animals in the 4HOnline system.
* Animals will need to be enrolled online by the 4-H or family member by going to the following website address: <https://v2.4honline.com>.
* Dairy Steers & Dairy Feeder Steers must be 100% purebred.
* Siblings may show each other’s animals. All the possible animals may be shared amongst siblings must be enrolled by a 4-H member of that family. All animals do not have to be enrolled under each sibling’s name to be co-enrolled. **Registered heifers cannot be co-enrolled.**
* **Animals will need to be entered before May 15th**.

**Beef ID Worksheet**

Enclosed is a Beef ID Worksheet for your record keeping and assist you while enrolling your animals in 4HOnline.

* This is ***NOT*** an animal enrollment form nor does it enroll your animals!
* You will need to bring it with you to the fairgrounds on ID Day.

**YQCA or Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Requirements**

Each 4-H member who is participating in Beef or Dairy Feeder, Sheep, Goat, Swine, and Poultry projects will need to complete a quality assurance program.

* The Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program. These trainings will all be held in-person for the upcoming year and information will be posted when available.
* YQCA certification (online only) will be accepted. Please visit <yqcaprogram.org> to take the online training. Contact Dave Hesters for a coupon code to help with the fee. Once completed it is your responsibility to send a copy of your certificate to the Extension Office so they have record of completion. Those certificates can be sent directly to [woznia11@purdue.edu](mailto:woznia11@purdue.edu)

**Fair Entry**

* FairEntry is the second step in being able to exhibit animals at the LaPorte County Fair. All 4-H members will need to enter the animals that they intend to bring to the fair exhibition in FairEntry by June 14, 2024.
* You will use the same email and password that is used with 4hOnline when visiting <https://fairentry.com>

**County Fair**

LaPorte County Fair dates for 2024 are July 6th – 13th. The 4-H Beef shows will be held on Sunday, July 9th and Tuesday, July 11th. The show order is as follows:

Sunday: Cow/calf, prospect calves, dairy feeders, feeder showmanship, county bread and carcass.

Tuesday: Registered heifers, dairy steers, dairy showmanship, beef steers, and all levels of showmanship.

* Check in will be on Friday, July 5th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
* Check in for Prospects, dairy feeder steers and cow/calves is Sunday, July 9th by 9:00 am

**State Fair**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | For State Fair | Max # to Enroll | Deadline |
| Beef and Dairy Beef Steers | 840‐RFID Tag and 5‐digit County Tag and DNA Hair Sample | 10 Total steers | May 15 |
| Commercial and Market Heifers and Dairy Feeder | 840‐RFID Tag and 5‐digit County Tag and DNA Hair Sample | 10 Total | May 15 |
| Beef, Registered Heifers | 840‐RFID tag and Tattoo and DNA Hair Sample | 10 Total heifers | May 15 |

The following table is what is required for a 4-H member to be eligible to show in the 4-H livestock shows at the 2024 Indiana State Fair.

Regards,

Jeff Smoker Kelsey Guadarrama

4-H Beef Committee Chairman 4-H Youth Development Educator