

# 4-H & FFA BEEF CATTLE

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

**July 1, 17, 23, 28**

**Livestock Interviews**

**Tuesday, August 12**

By 10:00 AM

All steers, heifers & cows in place. Barn #5.

10:00 AM

Market steers weighed, Beef cattle health inspection.

11:30 AM

Beef Exhibitors meeting – Showplex, with Meat Goat Exhibitors.

**Wednesday, August 13**

11:00 AM

Non-Sale Steer Showmanship, Non-Sale Steer Show, Market Steer Showmanship, Beef Heifer Showmanship, Cloverbuds, Beef Heifer Show, Market Show & NYBBR – Showplex

**Friday, August 15**

6:45 PM

Beef Exhibitors Meeting - Showplex

**Saturday, August 16**

11:00 AM

Special Awards and Announcements prior to auction.

11:30 AM

4-H Market Auction – Showplex (Order: Beef, Lamb, Goat Swine)

6:00 PM

Exhibitor Hot Dog Roast put on by the Erie County Fair Board of Directors – Barn #2

**Sunday, August 17**

6:00 PM

4-H Breeding Beef Released (all exhibitors will receive a release ticket stating specific time of release)

8:00 PM

4-H Market Steers Released

## BEEF RULES – 4-H and FFA

- a) All beef health records must accompany animals to the Fair.
  - a. Steers and heifers must have a RFID 840 tag which is to be used as positive identification on the official beef entry form and health papers and possess a negative result for BVD (Bovine Viral Diarrhea).
  - b. Market steers must have been administered a rabies and shipping fever vaccine on or before July 22, 2025 in order to adhere to the 21 days withholding period.
- b) All beef participants must have submitted a beef identification card listing the RFID 840 tag number and other ear tag information along with a copy of the negative BVD report by January 6, 2025 submitted to Tammi Kron, CCE Erie, 21 S. Grove Street, Suite 300, East Aurora, NY 14052.
- c) Steers must weigh at least **1,000 lbs.** at time of Fair weigh-in or they will not be eligible for the show or sale. All steers will be weighed **ONE TIME ONLY.**
- d) All clipping and fitting of beef animals entered as projects in the 4-H/FFA show **MUST** be completed by an Erie County 4-H/FFA exhibitor that is a current registered exhibitor in the show until the 4-H/FFA show is completed. Oversight and administration of this rule will be by the 4-H Beef Advisory Committee.
- e) If a member identified a second steer on January 6, 2025, the first steer weighed in will be the market project animal. If the first steer does not make weight the second steer may be weighed and used for the sale.
  - a. Members may not post “for sale” signs on pens of non-sale market steers.
- f) Exhibitors of registered breeding animals **MUST** submit a copy of the registration paper for review at the conclusion of the exhibitor meeting on August 12, 2025.
- g) All exhibitors must be able to lead/control entered beef animals at all times. Each participants **MUST** have submitted either a video demonstrating control on the rope halter and show halter or have had a member of the Erie County Beef Committee or FFA Advisor, sign off that they have seen proper control of the animals on both halters. Members who cannot control their animals may be asked to take uncontrollable animals’ home. This decision will be made by the Extension Educator, FFA Superintendent and 4-H Beef Advisory Committee, to ensure the safety of all exhibitors and the general public.
- h) **Market Steers will be sold on Saturday, August 16, 2025. ALL exhibitors are responsible for maintaining their exhibit until released by the 4-H program on Sunday, August 17, 2025 at 8:00 PM. Failure to do so will result in not being able to participate at The Erie County Fair in the future and forfeit of premium checks.**
- i) No colored mulch may be used for bedding. Only shavings, straw or bark (non colored) is acceptable.
- j) Coaching from the side lines will not be permitted. Spectators or fellow 4-H member found coaching a youth in the show ring will be asked to leave by the show personnel.
- k) Steers that are not shown in the beef show (animals pulled from the show at the owner’s discretion) must leave the fairgrounds and are not permitted on a 4-H hired trailer.

**4-H Specific Requirements** – FFA participants please refer to FFA General Rules

- a. CLOVERBUDS (5-7 years old) are eligible for showmanship and breeding classes, are not eligible to compete in any champion classes and may show only a single entry, Junior Heifer Calf. Older heifers may be shown with prior approval from the 4-H Beef Advisory Committee. Cloverbuds are required to have an adult with them in the show ring.
- b. All exhibitors selling a market animal in the auction, a non-sale steer and or breeding animals are required to complete the following:
  - i. Attend at least 2 Marketing Workshops (held January-March)
  - ii. Attend 2 Erie County 4-H meetings, one being species specific
  - iii. Complete a public presentation prior to May 2025
  - iv. Participate in a livestock interview in July 2025
- c. Youth exhibiting breeding beef or a non-sale steer must be 8 as of January 1, 2025
- d. Youth exhibiting a sale Market Steer must be 9 as of January 1, 2025.

No setting up of exhibitors will be allowed until 6:00am on Tuesday August 12, 2025. No cattle are to arrive until 6:00 am and must remain on the trailer until the NYS Veterinarian has completed the health inspection.

**PROJECT MARKET STEER – NON-SALE MARKET STEER AND SHOWMANSHIP**

Required for all exhibitors of a Prospect Calf or Non-Sale Market Steer

Exhibitors must be 8 years old as of January 1, 2025

Animals shown in the non-sale division are not eligible for the final drive, NYBBR or Master Showmanship.

**Class #1:** Junior Non-Sale Showmanship – 8-13 years old as of 01/01/2025

**Class #2:** Senior Non-Sale Showmanship – 14-18 years old as of 01/01/2025

**Class #3:** Prospect Steer Calf – born 01/01/2025 or after

**Class #4:** Non-Sale Market Steer – born after 01/01/2025

**MARKET STEER SHOWMANSHIP**

**Market Steer Showmanship**

All ages for showmanship are as of January 1 of the current year. All Beef breeds show together. Cloverbuds – see Cloverbud section.

**Awards: Blue \$12.00 Red \$10.00 White \$8.00**

**Class #11 – Senior Market Steer Showmanship** - 16 – 18 years old as of 1/01/2025

**Class #12 – Intermediate Market Steer Showmanship** - 13 – 15 years old as of 1/01/2025

**Class #13 – Jr. Market Steer Showmanship** - 9 – 12 years old as of 1/01/2025

**Class #14 – Novice Market Steer Showmanship** - Open to first year exhibitors, with no prior experience in showing and fitting beef cattle, up to 13 years of age as of 1/1/2025

*\*All first place and second place showmen must return to the show ring for Champion & Reserve Champion Market Steer Showman.*

**Champion Market Steer Showman:**

Previous winners of Champion Showman must compete in the age class in which they would normally compete.

Entries for this class are limited to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place showman in classes 11-14.

**BEEF BREEDING CATTLE SHOWMANSHIP**

**Beef Breeding Cattle Showmanship**

Awards: Blue \$12.00 Red \$10.00 White \$8.00

a) Mandatory for all beef breeding cattle exhibitors.

b) Any member exhibiting a cow/calf pair may have another 4-H member lead the calf by the cow's side during this class.

c) Exhibitors must be 5 years old as of January 1, 2025.

**Class #17 – Sr. Beef Breeding Cattle Showmanship** - 14 – 18 years old as of 1/1/2025

**Class #18 – Jr. Beef Breeding Cattle Showmanship** - 8 – 13 years of age as of 1/1/2025

**Champion Beef Breeding Showman:**

Previous winners of Champion showman must compete in the age class in which they would normally compete.

Entries for this class are limited to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place showman in classes 17-18.

## CHAMPION BEEF CATTLE SHOWMAN

To consist of the 2025 Champion Market Steer Showman and the 2025 Beef Heifer Showman.

## MASTER SHOWMAN

Entries limited to previous Erie County Fair Master Beef Showmen and 2025 Champion Beef Showman.

**Class # 13- Past Master Beef Showman** – if you have **received** a Master Showman title, please register for this showmanship class.

## CLOVERBUDS

Cloverbud participants (5-7 years old as of 1/1/2025) must meet all the breeding animal requirements listed above. Cloverbuds are limited to showing a Junior Beef Heifer calf and must have an adult at their side while in the show ring and when working with their calves at the fair. Our Cloverbud show will be held right after the selection of our Master Showman. Cloverbuds are not eligible for champion classes.

**Class #24:** Beef Cloverbud Showmanship

**Class #25:** Beef Cloverbud Junior Heifer calf born between 1/1/2025 and 5/1/2025

**Class #26:** Beef Cloverbud heifer born prior to 12/31/2024 (may be shown only if approved by the Beef Advisory Committee)

## BEEF BREEDING PROJECT ANIMALS

### *Beef Breeding Project Animals*

**Awards: Blue \$14.00 Red \$12.00 White \$10.00**

- a) All breeding projects must be owned or leased and cared for by the exhibitor by June 1, 2025.
- b) All commercial beef breeding projects and leased projects must have an animal registration form on file in the 4-H office by June 2, 2025 to be eligible to compete at the fair.
- c) Exhibitors must meet all the 4-H program requirements

### **Section A – Registered Heifer**

### **Section B – Commercial Heifer**

#### **Class #**

**27. Jr. Heifer Calf** – born between 1/1/2025 and 5/1/2025

**28. Sr. Heifer Calf** – born between 9/1/24 and 12/31/24

**29. Summer Yearling Heifer** – born between 5/1/24 and 8/31/24

**30. Jr. Yearling Heifer** – born between 1/1/24 and 4/30/24

**31. Sr. Yearling Heifer** – born between 8/1/23 and 12/31/23

**32. Cow & Calf Pair** – calves born in 2025

All first-place females will need to return to be chosen for champion.

## PROJECT MARKET STEER

**Awards: Blue \$14.00 Red \$12.00 White \$10.00**

All steers entered in this class will be sold on Saturday, August 16, 2025.

One sale animal per member is permitted.

**Class #38 - Project Market Steer (Sale Steer Class)**

## OTHER BEEF COMPETITIONS

**Class #43 – Beef Educational Poster** – Participants shall construct an educational poster to educate the general public about an aspect of the beef industry. Exhibitors may use any suitable materials or photographs on their posters with accurate information. Posters will be evaluated on content, illustration, organization, clarity, visual appeal and readability.

**Beef Herdsman Contest** (no registration required)

A \$20.00 premium, donated by the Fair, will be awarded to exhibitors selected as the outstanding herdsman in the Jr. Beef Cattle Show.

**New York Bred, Born, and Raised Market Steers (sale animal only)**

**Class #35**

This class is for 4-H and FFA members that have purchased a market animal from a producer within New York State. Only market steers being sold in the auction are eligible for NYBBR. Exhibitors must list name and address of NY producer and name of sire on the beef identification card due in the 4-H office on January 6, 2025. Animals participating in the NYBBR contest will be identified with a sticker on the 4-H members show number. These animals will be recognized during our market steer show and placed accordingly. The selection of our Grand and Reserve Champion NYBBR Market Steers will take place prior to the selection of the top 4 overall market steers.

Project Champion Award Plaque donated by: 4-H Beef Advisory Committee, in memory of Mr. Philip Taylor & Mr. Chet Kruszka

Project Champion Belt Buckle donated by: Erie County 4-H Alumni Association

Master Showman Belt Buckle donated by: Erie County 4-H Alumni Association