

4-H & FFA DAIRY CATTLE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- July 1, 9, 18, 31** Livestock Interviews, Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove St., East Aurora
- Tuesday, August 5**
By 8 PM 4-H Dairy Cattle in place, Health Inspection – ADC Building
- Wednesday, August 6**
10:00 AM Dairy Exhibitor Meeting – Showplex
- Friday, August 8**
11:30 AM 4-H Dairy Cattle Showmanship, Breed Classes and Dairy Feeder Steer Show – Livestock Arena
- Sunday, August 10**
10:00 AM Dairy Exhibitor Meeting – Showplex
- Monday, August 11**
11:30 AM 4-H/FFA Dairy Dressing Contest – Showplex
7:00 PM 4-H Dairy Cattle Released – all exhibitors will receive a release with specific release time.

DAIRY RULES 4-H and FFA

- a) All animals exhibited must have been owned OR leased through the Erie County 4-H Dairy Lease program, registered, or certified as an identified grade, in the name of and cared for by the exhibitor since June 1, 2025. All leased and grade animals are required to have an animal id card on file in the 4-H office with a photo by June 14, 2025. Dairy animals must have an RFID ear tag and/or tattoo number. This number is to be used as identification on the health papers and dairy entry form required to enter all animals.

GRADE CATTLE EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

- b) Participants must complete a Grade Dairy Animal Certificate and submit it to the 4-H office along with a photo by June 14, 2025.
- c) Grade cattle will be shown along with registered cattle.
- d) No bulls or bull calves will be shown in Jr. Department.
- e) All animals must be **dehorned** to be exhibited at the Fair. This rule has been established for reasons including, but not limited to, concern for the safety of the exhibitors and the public.
- f) All animals must meet the health requirements as set by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, including, but not limited to, being free of ring worm and warts.
a. All animals must have been tested and had a negative result for BVD (Bovine Viral Diarrhea).
- g) The exhibitor is required to bring registration papers to the Fair for the animals he/she exhibits. The exhibitor **must** keep the registration papers in his/her possession until after the show day. Registration papers will be checked at the conclusion of the exhibitor meeting.
- h) Absolutely NO milk is to be dumped into the Fairgrounds storm sewer system. All bad milk (milk treated with antibiotics or milk not worthy of being processed for consumption) must be dumped into the milking parlor gutter. This is the **ONLY** place bad milk can be dumped. All animal waste must be taken to the manure boxes and not left on the pavement to mix with run-off or storm water.
- i) **ABSOLUTELY NO MEDICATIONS/ VACCINATIONS ARE TO BE GIVEN IN THE MILKING PARLOR!!!**
- j) Project Champion Regulations: Please see your handbook for complete rules and regulations for the Project Champion Program. Project animal must be designated at the Exhibitor meeting on August 7th.
- k) Participants must be 5-18 years old as of January 1, 2025.
- l) All participants must have given a public presentation prior to May 2025.
- m) All participants must have participated in a livestock interview in July.
- n) The use of “Phantom” show halters is strongly discouraged.
- o) Cloverbuds age 5-7 years old as of 1/1/2025 are eligible to show a Junior calf, all breeds will show together. Cloverbud Showmanship will also be together in 1 class and are not eligible for champion classes. All Cloverbuds must have an adult walk by their side while working with the calves and also in the showing.

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

Project Champion Regulations: Please see your handbook for complete rules and regulations for the Project Champion program. Project animal must be designated at the Exhibitor meeting on August 7th.

- a) Participants must be 5-18 years old as of January 1, 2025.
- b) All participants must have given a public presentation prior to May 2025.
- c) All participants must have participated in a livestock interview in July.

DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

Showmanship:

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

The Dairy Cattle Showmanship classes will be: (Age as of 01/01/2025 will determine class). Show order will be Senior, Intermediate, Junior, and Novice.

Class

1. **Senior Showmanship:** 16-18 years of age as of 01/01/2025
2. **Intermediate Showmanship:** 13 - 15 years of age as of 01/01/2025
3. **Jr. Showmanship:** 8 - 12 years of age as of 01/01/2025
4. **Novice Showmanship:** Open to 1st year exhibitors, with no prior experience in fitting or showing Dairy Cattle up to 13 years of age as of 01/01/2025

Champion Dairy Cattle 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 1st & 2nd place showmen in classes 31 – 34.

CLOVERBUD CLASSES

Cloverbuds age 5-7 years old as of 01/01/2025 are eligible to show a Junior calf, all breeds will show together. Cloverbud Showmanship will also be together in 1 class and are not eligible for champion classes. All Cloverbuds must have an adult walk by their side while working with the calves and in the showing.

Class #7: Cloverbud Showmanship – 5-7 years of age as of 01/01/2025

Class #8: Cloverbud Junior Heifer Calf - born on or after 03/01/2025 (not eligible for Champion classes)

DAIRY BREED CLASSES

Awards:

Classes 1 through 8, 17, 22, 23

Blue \$14.00 Red \$12.00 White \$10.00

Classes 13 through 16, 21

Blue \$20.00 Red \$17.00 White \$14.00

Section A – Ayrshire

Section B – Brown Swiss

Section C – Holstein

Section D – Jersey

Section F – Other Dairy Breeds

*There MUST be at least 3 animals of each breed present at the Fair to be shown in individual breed classes. Any breeds with less than three (3) will be shown in the Other Dairy Breeds Section. Please sign animals up in their correct breed classes on your entry form.

Class

1. **Spring Calf** – born on or after 3/1/2025 (must be at least 4 months old at time of show)
2. **Winter Calf** – born between 12/1/2024 and 2/28/2025
3. **Fall Calf** – born between 9/1/2024 and 11/30/2024
4. **Summer Yearling** – born between 6/1/2024 and 8/31/2024
5. **Spring Yearling** – (not in milk) born between 3/1/2024 and 5/31/2024
6. **Winter Yearling** – (not in milk) born between 12/1/2024 and 2/28/2024
7. **Fall Yearling** – (not in milk) born between 9/1/2023 and 11/30/2023
 - Junior Champion Female*
 - Reserve Junior Champion Female*
 - Best Jr. Animal Bred and Owned by Exhibitor*
 - Supreme Champion Heifer (Banner & Trophy)*
13. **Fall Yearling** – (in milk) born between 9/1/2023 and 11/30/2023
14. **Junior 2 Year Old** – born between 3/1/2023 and 8/31/2023 (Sr. yearlings in milk will show with Jr. 2 yr. olds)
15. **Senior 2 Year Old** – born between 9/1/2022 and 2/28/2023
16. **3 & 4 Year Old Cows** – born between 9/1/2020 and 8/31/2021
17. **5 Year old & Over** – born on or before 8/31/2020
18. **Dry Cows** – 3 yrs. & over. Cows in this class may not show in the milking classes
 - Senior Champion Female*
 - Reserve Senior Champion Female*
 - Best Sr. Animal Bred and Owned by Exhibitor*
22. **Production-** DHI Production Paper showing pounds per day of live from 2 years. Papers are due at the time of check-in.

Erie County Fair Dates: August 6-17 2025

23. **Produce of Dam:** 2 animals any age, progeny of one dam

24. **Dam & Daughter**
Supreme Champion- Banner & Trophy

NOTE: Produce of Dam, Dam & Daughter, Best Jr. Bred & Owned, Best Sr. Bred & Owner will be held at the end of the show. Exhibitors are asked to select your best single entry for each class. All breeds will show together.

Class 10. *Best Jr. Animal Bred and Owned by Exhibitor. Class to consist of all animals, of any breed, two years of age and under, bred and owned by the exhibitor. Animals shown in this class should be led by a 4-H member.

Class 21. *Best Senior Animal Bred and Owned by Exhibitor. Class to consist of all animals, of any breed, two years of age and older, bred and owned by the exhibitor. Animals shown in this class should be led by a 4-H member.

29. Queens of the Milky Weigh- Exhibitors with cows in milk at the fair are eligible for this contest. Milk weights will be recorded at the Erie County Fair milking parlor from Wednesday (8/7) AM milking until Sunday (8/11) AM milking. The cows will be placed according to their production during this time, top 3 producers will receive special prizes. Exhibitors may enter two (2) owned/leased animals per breed, however, only one award per member will be given.

OTHER DAIRY COMPETITIONS

Premiums: Blue \$3.00 Red \$2.00 White \$1.00

Class #9 – Dairy Cattle Educational Poster – Participants shall construct an educational poster to educate the public about an aspect of the dairy 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.

Dairy Herdsman Contest

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

Dairy Project Champion Belt Buckle sponsored by Erie County 4-H Alumni Association

CLASS #43

The Erie County Fair Dairy Dressing Contest

Monday, August 11, 2025 at 11:30 AM

Judging to take place in the Showplex

Open to all 4-H & FFA Exhibitors in the Fair

Prizes will be awarded to the best-costumed animal

Fair Theme: Sights, Sounds, Tastes and Feels of the Fair

Exhibitors 13 years old & younger

1st place - \$20.00

2nd place - \$15.00

3rd place - \$10.00

4th place - \$5.00

Exhibitors 14 years old & older

1st place - \$20.00

2nd place - \$15.00

3rd place - \$10.00

4th place - \$5.00

Cloverbuds may participate – they will receive a special award and a rosette.

DAIRY STEER

DAIRY STEER RULES

1. Only steers (castrated males) are eligible. Heifers (females) and bulls are not eligible.
2. Dairy Steers must be 100% dairy bred. Dairy/Beef breed crosses are not eligible. Traditional breeds are: Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Ayrshire and Milking Shorthorn. All cattle must be from a recognized dairy breed registry. Youth will need to supply the sire name and number upon registering it as a 4-H project.
3. Steers should be born by March 1, 2025. Dairy steers are not to exceed 19-20 months of age at final weigh in, August 2026.
4. Sale steers must have shown as calves Year #1 and sold as a finished animal Year #2.
5. All male market calves must be castrated and completely dehorned before submitting animal registration form due by June 1, 2025 along with a copy of the BVD certificate and photo of one side of the animal with the most distinctive markings and a photo of the RFID tag.
6. All dairy steers must have a negative BVD test prior to submitting the animal registration paperwork to the 4-H office.
7. Members may register up to two (2) steers, but may show and sell only one (1).
8. Animals must be tagged with an RFID tag supplied from the 4-H office. If identification becomes lost, it is the members responsibility to contact the 4-H office as soon as possible.
9. Weigh-in Year #1 animals will be Wednesday, August 6 after the exhibitor meeting and Year #2 animals will be weighed on Tuesday, August 12 at 10:00 AM – Barn 5 with the beef steers.
10. Dairy Steers must weigh between 1000 lbs. to 1600 lbs. at final weigh-in August 2026 -Year #2. Ideal target weight is 1200-1400 lbs.
11. Dairy steer participants are required to also show a dairy heifer or cow.
12. Implants are not permitted.
13. All dairy steers must have a shipping fever and rabies vaccination and must meet the withholding period of 21 days before arrival to the fair. A NY State Health certificate will also be required.
14. Participants must have given a public presentation prior to May of the current year.
15. Ground beef and stew meat from the steers will be sold through the Farm to School program. A Steak and Smoking package will be sold at the 4-H auction that will include the brisket, steaks, and 20 lbs. of hamburger.
16. Animals will be trucked to Burly Brothers Butchery, Attica for processing.
17. Exhibitors must be 8 as of January 1, 2025, to begin a steer calf project, and 9 as of January 1, 2026 to be eligible to show and sell.

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

Class # 50: Dairy Feeder Calf- year 1 of dairy steer project, born prior to March 1, 2025.

Class # 51: Dairy Steer- year 2 of dairy steer project, calf from proceeding year.

DAIRY STEER SHOWMANSHIP

Showmanship:

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

Class # 53. Senior Showmanship: 15-18 years of age as of January 1, 2025

Class # 54. Junior Showmanship: 8-14 years of age as of January 1, 2025

Championship & Reserve Dairy Steer Showman: Entries for this class are limited to the 1st and 2nd place showman in classes 53&54.

DAIRY STEER

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

Class #50: Dairy Feeder Calf – yar 1 of dairy steer project, born prior to March 1, 2025.

Class #51: Dairy Steer – year 2 of dairy steer project, calf from proceeding year.