



September 5, 2024

To All Kern County Fair Dairy Exhibitors, Leaders, and Advisors,

As many of you may know, the Avian Flu virus has now reached the Central Valley and there are still many unknowns and uncertainties. With the recent news of dairies in Tulare County testing positive we have worked with CDFA to determine our next steps. We had to wait for official guidance from the CDFA before providing any updates to our exhibitors, leaders, and advisors. Our biggest priority is the safety of the dairy cattle and industry, as well as our exhibitors, their families and our fairgoers.

With that being said here is how the Kern County Fair will move forward for the 2024 fair:

- The dairy birthing area has been changed over to a beef cow calf viewing area where a local beef producer will bring in cow calf pairs to be on display for the fair goers.
- The 2024 Dairy Replacement Heifer Show and Sale has been canceled. However, all exhibitors will remain on the fair add on site and will still receive add ons as normal for their heifers and this site will remain open for add ons for exhibitors through Saturday September 28th at 9pm.
- All Dairy cattle entered in Division 202- Registered and Grade Dairy Cattle are eligible to be shown at the 2024 Kern County Fair. This is not mandatory and exhibitors may chose not to attend based on the current concerns with the Avian Flu, please take some time to think this through before making your decision. All exhibitors entered in Division 202 please contact dstornetta@kerncountyfair.com to confirm if you will be attending or not so we can prepare. Those exhibitors attending will arrive on Friday September 20 at 8am and will show on Sunday as scheduled but will be released after the parade of champions on Sunday September 22.
- Those registered/grade entered dairy animals that chose to come to the show will be stalled by location they are coming from so all animals from one location will be stalled together and will be stalled and contained in the back dairy cattle barn away from fair goer traffic. This will be a different setup but will help with biosecurity.



15th DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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- 2025 Springer Futurity Heifers are still eligible, even if they choose not to attend the show this year. Exhibitors just need to complete the 2025 paperwork by the deadline, and they will be eligible.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this situation. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the livestock office (661) 529-6249.

Thank you for your patience and understanding in this situation.

Respectfully,

Michael Olcott
Chief Executive Officer

Dawn Stornetta
Livestock Supervisor