



2026 OPEN CLASS DAIRY CATTLE

Agriculture Office: 716-649-3900 Ext. 6499 or Entries@ecfair.org

Join us in celebrating 2026 4H, FFA, & Youth Livestock Expo Champions at the Breakfast with Champions at 9 a.m., Sunday, August 23 in the Clubhouse - Tickets are \$25 tickets each and can be purchased at www.ecfair.org

SHOW INFORMATION

Superintendent:	Mr. Keltan Tanguay
Early Entry Deadline:	Monday, July 13, 2026 - Entries made on or after August 1 must be placed by calling the Agriculture Office
Entry Fees:	Early Entry \$5 per class/Late Entry \$15 per head (including Group Classes, Open and Junior Classes)
Arrival:	Tack can begin to arrive Sunday, August 9 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Monday, August 10 from 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m. After these hours, Fairgrounds gates will be locked. Animals also can arrive Tuesday, August 11 from noon-8p.m. and Wednesday, August 12, from 6-10 a.m.
Check-in:	Wednesday, August 12, 6-9 a.m. Exhibitors MUST be by their animals, with animal registration papers.
Jr. Showmanship:	Friday, August 14, 3 p.m., Showplex
Heifer Show (All Breeds):	Saturday, August 15, 11:30 a.m., Showplex
Cow Show (All Breeds):	Sunday, August 16, 11:30 a.m., Showplex
Showmanship Judge:	Ms. Crystal Sinn
Heifer/Cow Show Judge #1:	Ms. Tammy Voegeli
Heifer/Cow Show Judge #2:	TBA
Release:	Sunday, August 16, 11p.m.-midnight; Monday, August 17, 6-9 a.m. and Monday, August 17, 7 p.m. All dairy cattle and tack must be removed from the barns by 10 p.m., August 17.
Tack Vendor:	Twist Of Fate (860) 759-9335

EXHIBITORS: PLEASE READ ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS, IAFE NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS, AND ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.

RULES

1. All exhibitors must purchase either a **\$20 Exhibitor wristband** or a **\$100 Erie County Agricultural Society Membership**. If your animals do not arrive to the fair, you will not receive your Exhibitor wristband.
2. One-day passes for additional worker help can be purchased online for \$12 each during Exhibitor sign-up. Quantity may be limited.
3. All New York State Veterinarian decisions are final and supported by Erie County Fair Staff inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated and can result in forfeit of premiums and removal from fair.
4. Rules of the **New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Standards for the Conduct of Agriculture and Markets for Fairs and Summary of Livestock Health Requirements** shall apply.
5. Breeds will be split into two rings based on entry numbers; they will then show in alphabetical order and rotate breeds per class.
6. If showing in The Junior Show, animal MUST be entered in Junior exhibitor's name for both the Open & Junior Show.
7. A Junior Show for EVERY breed will be offered.
 - To be eligible for the Junior Show, animals **MUST** also be entered in the Open Show. When completing entry form online, you **MUST** click the "Junior Show Entry" box in order to be entered. Exhibitors must do this **FOR EACH ANIMAL**.

- Since Junior and Open Shows will run simultaneously, Juniors will be asked to take two steps forward in the Open Show classes to collect placings.
 - We will abide by individual breed association junior ownership rules per breed.
 - No premiums will be paid for the Junior Show.
8. Where a herd is registered in the names of different members of a family, residing on one farm where the herd is a unit, all entries may be considered as a single exhibitor.
 9. Cattle may show in two breeds; two entry fees must be paid.
 10. Any calf under 4 months of age may not be entered in any class for competition.
 11. ***Supplies may be brought in from 10 p.m.–9 a.m. each day. Vehicles must be parked in respective lot after unloading. NO vehicle parking in front of barns after unloading.**
 12. Initial sawdust bedding will be supplied to exhibitors. However, if exhibitors wish to have shavings or straw, they must bring it or buy it from a purveyor on the grounds. The Fair will not be providing straw or shavings, after initial supply.
 13. Changes in barn layouts must be approved by Show Management. Late entries will be accommodated in the best way possible.
 14. Show Management will grant permission only for late arrival or early removal of animals being shown at a competing show that conflicts with times listed in the release section. Early removal must ONLY be done after the show is complete. Unapproved early removal will result in forfeiture of premiums and the privilege of showing at the Erie County Fair in the future unless Fair management has granted permission to release animals and a letter from competing show is on file.
 15. Judges may, at their discretion, require any animal to be milked in the ring.
 16. Exhibitors and workers must wear shirts and shoes while on the Fairgrounds.
 17. A milking parlor with 12 walk-through stalls is available. Milk is measured and weighed by LED weight read out and recorded for each cow before it goes to the storage tank. Exhibitors will be paid current milk price for their milk, after a percentage for parlor operation. Parlor hours will be set by milking parlor operator but will be open three times daily for milking.
 18. **SHOTS MAY NOT BE GIVEN IN THE PARLOR**, which follows strict health requirements for fluid milk. **NO** cow will be milked in the milking parlor **if it is producing colostrum, mastitic, or flaky milk or is being treated with an antibiotic.**
 19. All cows using BST may not put milk into the milking parlor tank. The plant taking our milk requires the milk to be BST free. Those that use BST **must** bring a portable milking machine and may only dump milk in the area approved by the parlor superintendent.

(These guidelines are the only means of assuring a satisfactory market and price for the milk. If any of the aforementioned is detected in a tank, the entire tank of milk must be disposed of and no one is paid for that tank of milk.)

20. No milk checks of less than \$10 will be paid to exhibitors.
21. All milk not collected in the Milking Parlor Tank must be dumped in the Wash rack Gutter only. **Under no circumstances can milk be disposed of into the Fairgrounds sewer system.**
22. All animal waste must be taken to designated manure boxes outside each Livestock Barn and not left on the pavement to mix with run-off or storm water.
23. A production premium will be given in cow classes based on production per day of life from date 24 months. Official DHIC Forms and DHIR individual cow records will be accepted.
24. The Erie County Fair requires Exhibitors to use good judgment when preparing dairy cattle and to ensure that the preparation is natural and appropriate for each individual animal. Judges, exhibitors, and management should report indiscretions to Show Management.
25. To keep uniformity between New York State Shows, the length of the topline hair is **not to exceed 1½"** and all toplines are subject to measurement before entering the show ring. Artificial substances are prohibited in topline, including but not limited to: foreign objects, hair or hair substitutes, cloth, or fiber. If an animal comes to the show ring and this limit is exceeded, the animal **WILL NOT** show.
26. All exhibitors **MUST** have the correct show number corresponding to the correct animal to enter the show ring.
27. Radios kept at a reasonable volume are allowed, if volume is deemed excessive, a fine will be levied and the radio will be confiscated. No radios are allowed in wash rack area.
28. For an animal to show in a Group Class it must be shown in an Individual Class first.
29. Livestock trailers will continue to be parked in the lot on McKinley Parkway. Please see Dairy Cattle Superintendent for clarification.
30. Stalling from year to year will change due to layout changes, so locations may vary from year to year.
31. Pop-up tents are allowed in barns (with tops on).
32. Exhibitors wishing to camp may purchase a spot for desired nights online during Exhibitor sign-up. please note that payment does not guarantee a spot. You will be notified & refunded if camper lot is full.
33. Competition is open to exhibitors from the United States and Canada.

34. Exhibitors must be at least 4 years of age to exhibit livestock.
35. Cattle may be shown on a signed transfer. An official Registration Certificate must be shown on each animal. These will be checked for identification, ownership, and birth date.
36. Youth exhibitors may enter any animal in the Open Class department. Exhibitors must pay all appropriate fees, including Exhibitor wristband fees, entry fees, and late fees.
37. Entry fees do not guarantee tack space or pens. In divisions where entries do not exceed available space, tack pens will be assigned by the Superintendent.

PROTEST RULE

1. The judge’s decision will be final in all cases, except where error, mistake, fraud, misrepresentation, or collusion, not discovered at the time of the award, is proven. In such cases, the decision of Show Management or an appointed referee will be final.
2. All New York State Veterinarian decisions are final and supported by Erie County Fair Staff.
3. Protests regarding any livestock competitions and events held by the Erie County Agricultural Society during the Erie County Fair (Youth Livestock Expo & Open Class Livestock Shows) must be made in writing using a form found in the Livestock Office. Submit the form and a \$300 cash deposit to the Erie County Agricultural Society CEO. Deposit is refundable **only** if the protest is upheld; otherwise, it will be donated to the Erie County Agricultural Society Scholarship Fund.
4. **Classification and the judge’s opinion are not eligible for protest.**
5. Protests against the exhibition of animals must be filed at least three hours before the start of the show in question.
6. The CEO of the Erie County Agricultural Society may hold a meeting regarding the protest, at which time the protesting party may present evidence or argument in support of the protest. A written decision will be issued within five days and will be served via certified mail.
7. Exhibitors must always demonstrate honesty, sportsmanship, and professionalism. This code applies to both Junior and Open Class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition in all livestock events.

Release Schedule:

To ensure everyone’s safety and reduce congestion, each exhibitor will receive a 30-minute loading time slot, beginning at 9 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, during which their truck and trailer may enter the Fairgrounds. Exhibitors traveling the farthest will receive the earliest time slots. Multiple trips also will be considered. Exhibitors are encouraged to assist one another with loading. **Arrangements must be made with the show management prior to show day. Early release form must be given to Superintendent at the Exhibitors meeting.**

Special Awards

Endowment Fund Award: Presented to a Holstein, Color Breed, or Beef Exhibitor that best promotes the industry, through educational displays and communication with the public. The Endowment Fund Award will be judged by an anonymous person chosen by Show Management.

Please note: This Award is separate from the Herdsman Award.

Champion Udder Contest Banner: Awarded to one cow in each breed for the best udder and will be chosen from the winners of the Best Udder Award in Classes 11–34.

Premier Breeder Banner (Senior and Junior Show separately): Awarded to the breeder of animals credited with the most points on not to exceed five (5) animals in the Open Classes, exhibited by herself/himself and/or other Exhibitors. When determining the Premier Breeder, the breeder of the animal shall be the name of the person, farm, or partnership as it appears on the registry certificate. Exhibitors will tally their own points on forms provided by Show Management, who will verify results.

Premier Exhibitor Banner (Senior and Junior Show separately) awarded to the Exhibitor credited with the most points on not to exceed five (5) animals owned and exhibited in the Open Individual Classes. In the case of multiple ownership, all points awarded for Premier Exhibitor will be credited to the individual, partnership, or syndicate exhibiting the animal. Exhibitors will tally their own points on forms provided by Show Management, who will verify results.

****NOTE:*** Points sheets will be due at the conclusion of the Show. Premier Breeder and Exhibitor will be awarded by 8 p.m. on the Show Day.

	1 st place	2 nd place	3 rd place	4 th place	5 th place
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Cows	20	18	16	14	12
Heifers	10	8	6	4	2

Dairy Cattle Premium Schedule

For classes #1–10

# of Entries in Class	Placings														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	\$37.50														
2	\$40.00	32.50													
3	\$42.50	35.00	27.50												
4	\$43.75	36.25	31.25	21.25											
5	\$48.75	41.25	33.75	26.25	18.75										
6	\$53.75	46.25	38.75	31.25	23.75	16.25									
7	\$58.75	51.25	43.75	36.25	28.75	21.25	13.75								
8	\$63.75	56.25	48.75	41.25	33.75	26.25	18.75	11.25							
9	\$68.75	61.25	53.75	46.25	38.75	31.25	23.75	16.25	11.25						
10	\$71.25	63.75	56.25	48.75	41.25	33.75	26.25	18.75	13.75	11.25					
11	\$73.75	66.25	58.75	51.25	43.75	36.25	28.75	18.75	16.25	13.75	11.25				
12	\$76.25	68.75	61.25	53.75	46.25	38.75	31.25	23.75	18.75	15.00	13.75	11.25			
13	\$78.75	71.25	63.75	56.25	48.75	41.25	33.75	26.25	18.75	16.25	15.00	13.75	11.25		
14	\$80.00	73.75	65.00	57.50	50.00	42.50	35.00	27.50	20.00	18.25	16.25	15.00	13.75	11.25	
15	\$81.25	73.75	66.25	61.25	53.75	46.25	38.75	31.25	23.75	18.25	16.25	15.00	13.75	12.50	11.25

Dairy Cattle Premium Schedule

For classes #11–46

# of Entries in Class	Placings														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	\$58.75														
2	\$61.25	53.75													
3	\$63.75	56.25	48.75												
4	\$65.00	57.50	50.00	40.00											
5	\$69.50	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00										
6	\$75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50									
7	\$80.00	72.50	65.00	57.50	50.00	40.00	35.00								
8	\$85.00	77.50	69.50	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00	32.50							
9	\$90.00	82.50	76.25	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	37.50	32.50						
10	\$92.50	85.00	77.50	69.50	63.75	55.00	47.50	40.00	35.00	32.50					
11	\$95.00	87.50	80.00	72.50	65.00	57.50	50.00	40.00	37.50	35.00	32.50				
12	\$97.50	90.00	82.50	75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	40.00	36.25	35.00	32.50			
13	\$100.00	92.50	85.00	77.50	69.50	62.50	55.00	47.50	40.00	37.50	36.25	35.00	32.50		
14	\$101.25	93.75	86.25	78.75	71.25	65.00	56.25	48.75	41.25	40.00	37.50	36.25	35.00	32.50	
15	\$102.50	95.00	87.50	81.25	75.00	67.50	60.00	52.50	45.00	40.00	37.50	36.25	35.00	33.75	32.50

SHOWMANSHIP

A Grand Champion and Reserve Champion will be chosen and awarded during the Fair's Showmanship Show at 3 p.m. on Friday, August 8 in the Showplex. There is no entry fee; sign-up will take place at the Exhibitor meeting. There will be no entry fee charged or premiums paid.

Classes (shown in order):

- **Little Britches:** ages 4-8 (this class will not be placed; it is just for participation)
- **Novice Showman:** first-time showman (ages 4-21)
- **Pee Wee Showman:** ages 4-8
- **Junior Showman:** ages 9-12
- **Intermediate Showman:** ages 13-16

Erie County Fair Dates: August 12-23, 2026

- **Senior Showman:** ages 17-21
- **Adult Showman:** ages 22 and older

DAIRY CATTLE DIVISIONS:

AYRSHIRE
 BROWN SWISS
 GUERNSEY
 HOLSTEIN
 JERSEY
 LINEBACK
 MILKING SHORTHORN
 RED & WHITE
 OTHER DAIRY BREEDS

Heifer Classes will take place at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, August 15 In The Showplex

***Two rings and two judges**

1. **Spring Calf** – born after 3/1/2026 and over 4 months of age
2. **Winter Calf** – born between 12/1/25 and 2/28/206
3. **Fall Calf** – born between 9/1/25 and 11/30/25
4. **Summer Yearling** – born between 6/1/25 and 8/31/25
5. **Spring Yearling** (not in milk) – born between 3/1/25 and 5/31/25
6. **Winter Yearling** (not in milk) – born between 12/1/24 and 2/28/25
7. **Fall Yearling** (not in milk) – born between 9/1/24 and 11/30/24
Champion and Reserve Champion Junior Female
10. **Junior Best 3 Females** – all bred and 1 owned by exhibitor (entries must have been exhibited in classes 1 – 7)

Supreme Champion Heifer of the Junior Show: Banner

Reserve Supreme Champion Heifer of the Junior Show: Banner

Supreme Champion Heifer: \$90 & Banner

Reserve Supreme Champion Heifer: Banner

**To be selected immediately following the conclusion on the Heifer Classes*

Cow Classes will take place Sunday, August 16th at 11:30am

***Two rings and two judges**

11. **Fall Yearling** (in milk)- born between 9/1/24 and 11/30/24
13. **Junior 2 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 3/1/24 and 8/31/24
15. **Senior 2 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 9/1/23 and 2/28/24
17. **Junior 3 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 3/1/23 and 8/31/23
20. **Senior 3 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 9/1/22 and 2/28/23
23. **4 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 9/1/21 and 8/31/22
26. **5 Year Old** (in milk) – born between 9/1/20 and 8/31/21
29. **Aged Cow** – born 8/31/19 or before
32. **125,000 Holsteins (100,000 for the Color Breeds) Pound Cow**-proof and/or 3,500-Pound Protein Cow. Proof of actual production must be presented on show day. (Cow may be shown in only 1 individual class.)
Best Udder Awards will be awarded in classes listed 11 – 34. The Premiums are \$30 and \$23.75
A Production Award will be awarded in classes listed 17 – 34. The Premium is \$23.75.
Champion and Reserve Champion Senior Female
Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Female
Champion Udder
40. **Senior Best 3 Females** – all bred and 1 owned by exhibitor (entries must have been exhibited in classes 11-33)
41. **Breeder's Herd of 5 Females** – all bred and owned, consists of 2 females over 2 years of age that have calved, 2 females under 2 years of age and one of any age.
42. **Dairy Herd** – all owned by exhibitor, consists of 4 cows that have calved at least once.

43. **Produce of Dam** – 2 animals any age, progeny of one dam.
44. **Dam and Daughter**- Cannot use one animal for multiple groups.

Supreme Champion Cow of the Junior Show – Banner
Reserve Supreme Champion Cow of the Junior Show- Banner

Supreme Champion Dairy Cow – \$175.00 & Banner
Reserve Supreme Champion Dairy Cow- Banner

**To be selected immediately following the conclusion on the cow classes*

HERDSMANSHIP AWARDS

Three Herdsmanship Awards will be presented to Dairy Cattle Exhibitors. Exhibitors will be judged daily by Show Management and awards will be announced at the end of the Dairy Cattle Exhibitors stay.

1st place: \$62.50 & Banner
2nd place: \$37.50
3rd place: \$18.75

Judging Criteria:

1. Stall decorations tied to the 2026 theme: **“Stars, Stripes and Summer Nights.”**
2. Cleanliness and neatness of aisles, pens, bedding, and animals.
3. Promptness in getting animals into the show ring and competence in show ring.
4. Courtesy to fellow breeders, spectators, and others.
5. Personal appearance, cleanliness, and neatness in and out of the ring.
6. Organized and tidy feed, bedding, tack, and equipment.

ECAS Dairy Cattle Committee:

Larry Hill, 3879 Dry Brook Road, Falconer, NY 14733
John Richmond, 10705 Jennings Road, N. Collins, NY 14111
Mark Hansen, 8662 Route 240, Machias, NY 14101
Rich Hill, 11144 Mosher Hollow Road, Cattaraugus, NY 14719
Josh Folts, 1037 Mile Block Road, North Collins, NY 14111
Nate Bennet, PO Box 916, Arcade, NY 14009

PLEASE CONTACT SHOW MANAGEMENT WITH QUESTIONS.