2027 Market Steer Show and Sale
Hillsborough County Fair

UPDATES AND CHANGES FOR 2027 ARE DENOTED IN YELLOW.

The 2027 Fair will be held Nov 4-14, 2027.

Market Steer Show & Sale dates are Nov 4-6,2027.

For questions, please call 813-737-3247 or email our Livestock Director, Serena Stratton at Serena@hillsboroughcountyfair.com , Fair Manager, Suzanne Holcomb at suzanne@hillsboroughcountyfair.com or Steer Committee Chair, Rhonda Burnette at 813-781-0608

American Influence Division

AMERICAN/BRAHMAN INFLUENCED CATTLE CLASSIFICATION

Classification Information

BRAHMAN INFLUENCED CATTLE - Our Brahman Influenced Division steers will be classified by a committee of individuals who have extensive knowledge of Bos Indicus cattle. We understand that the classification of cattle is 100% subjective and that other shows might have varying requirements from ours. However, for the purpose of our show, our Brahman Influenced Classification Committee will have the final call of placement. They will use consistent criteria for all animals. The following criteria will be used for classification and to be classified in our American Division, cattle MUST meet 4 of the 6 criteria listed below:

* 1/2 inch of hair or less
* Dewlap must be prominent- the dewlap is defined as the skin from throat to brisket
* There must be an apparent crest on the neck
* Sheath score of a 2 or better

* Ears are drooping/slightly drooping, opening downwind forward, and be of adequate length
* Almond shaped eyes

<u>These criteria will be printed and posted at the scale at the initial weigh in.</u> <u>PLEASE review definitions, pictures and explanations below.</u>

<u>Glossary</u>

Brahman Influenced *Breeds - Breeds created in the United States by interbreeding existing breeds, including at least one tropically adapted breed (most often American Brahman).*

Bos Indicus *- Subspecies of cattle originating in south Asia; has a prominent hump on top or in front of shoulder.*

Bos Taurus *- Subspecies of cattle; originated in west Asia but is usually called European.*

Registered Cattle - Cattle that are purebred or predominately one breed. Registered cattle have corresponding papers that have been issued from an official breed association.

Sheath Score - Scoring system from1 to 5 based on the length of the sheath (1 = little sheath; 5 = excess sheath).

<u>Summary</u>

In the commercial beef industry, most cattle are sorted by visual characteristics into numerous groups for marketing purposes. Similarly, during livestock shows, animals can be sorted into breed classes based on visual characteristics. Remember, that classifiers are asked to exercise their judgement and their decision is final.

We understand that there are varying opinions on “American Cattle” or “Brahman Influenced Cattle”. Breeders, producers, those in cattle sales, shows, committees, even states have their own ”classification” on what they think these cattle should look like. For our show, we will use the above criteria and want to put a special emphasis on the use of Brahman genetics. We put full faith in the individuals that we have asked to serve on this committee, and encourage you to engage in conversation with them if you would like more information on what expectations we have. Please remember that these criteria are specific to OUR SHOW and therefore will be the expectations of our committee when classifying cattle showing in OUR SHOW.

At the end of the day, ALL CATTLE WILL SHOW-
NO CATTLE will be disqualified from participation.

Just because your steer is classified in a different division than one you had expected, that DOES NOT mean you can’t show and have a successful show!

Figure 1. Examples of sheath scores.

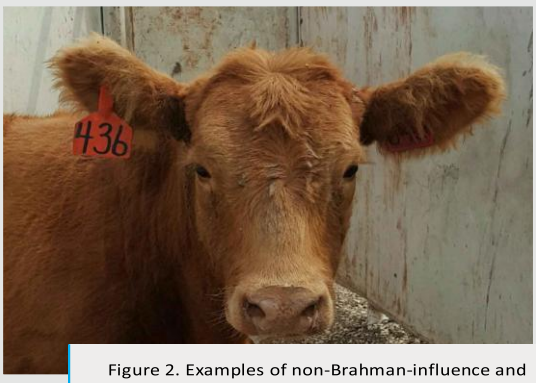

Figure 2. Examples of non-Brahman-influence and Brahman-influenced ears for American breeds cross.

BRAHMAN TYPE (ABC)

This group is sometimes called American breeds. Physical evidence of Brahman background is important and includes ear length, ear shape, amount of hide, and hump/crest (Figs. 1 and 2).

1. Entry period for 2027 show will run April 1 - May 14, 2026. **Entry paperwork and $75 entry fee (refundable if a drawing is done and exhibitor is not drawn) will be due to the Hillsborough County Fair Office by May 14, 2026. Drawing will occur if more than 50 entries are received.**

2. Hand-delivered is suggested. Please call the fair office to confirm hours, 813-737-3247. Exhibitor must own their steer and steer must be housed at exhibitor's address, land lab, or otherwise approved by the steer committee by March 15, 2027. The steer committee will make visits during the project to check in and answer any questions. Any animals not housed at above premises will be disqualified and unable to show.

3. Initial Tag-In Information

   April 2027 at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds. (Day & Time TBD).

   Suggested steer weight is at least 650 lbs and no more than 999 lbs.

   Flap tags will be administered to all steers. Permanent ID (as defined by Florida Department of Agriculture) will not be provided or put in by the committee; this is the responsibility of the producer and/or the exhibitor. It is mandatory that all steers entered must have Permanent ID tags. All animals MUST have a permanent RFID.

4. Market Steer Clinic- steer clinic will tentatively be held in the Fall of 2027. Information will be sent out as it comes available.

5. Final Weigh-In

   - Weigh in for Market Steers is set for Nov 4, 2027. Time TBD
   - Steers will only be weighed one time.
   - Steers cannot be over 24 months old at final weigh in. Cattle will be mouth checked to verify age. If cattle are found to be over 24 months old, they will be disqualified.
   - To be entered into the show and sale, steers must weigh at least 1000 lbs •

     Record books are to be completed and turned in at final weigh in. If record books are not complete at check in, exhibitors will be given an adequate time to complete them. If the exhibitor chooses not to complete or doesn't complete it in allotted time, they will be moved to the end of the sale.
   - Health papers will be required.
   - Steers will be required to walk and be controlled from the trailer to the scales. This requirement and expectaQon will be enforced throughout the enQre stay of the animals

at the fairgrounds. Please note that the fairgrounds are an open setting and steers will have to be kept under control to and from the wash rack and grooming areas. Help will be available at all times if needed.

- Steers will be classed by the steer committee according to weight.

6. Fitting and grooming of cattle is allowed and encouraged. Parent/guardian/advisor/leader help is allowed, having professional fitters is not allowed. This is a youth livestock program. The exhibitor must be engaged and present for fitting and grooming. Exhibitors must help in the entire process as much as physically possible to better learn the skill of fitting/grooming. Fitting of animals will only be allowed for the show. Products must be washed out acer the show. The sale will be "Blow and Go" only. The committee will enforce the fitting/grooming guidelines.

7. Contests and other opportunities that will be offered during the 2027 Market Steer show and sale: Fitting/Grooming Contest, Showmanship (required of all exhibitors), Record Book (required by all exhibitors), Herdsman, Weight Gain Contest, Carcass Contest, Steer Weight Showdown and Scholarships for graduating seniors. (More information will be given during the clinic.)

General Rules/Guidelines

1. **Please read all General Livestock Rules. All rules will apply.**
2. The IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics is part of the General Livestock Rules and is in effect at all times.
3. Exhibitor must be 8 years old by September 1, 2027. Please see general livestock rules for further eligibility.
4. All entry forms must be signed by the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parent/guardian.
5. NO steers will be permitted with horns.
6. Exhibitor must show their own animal, except with permission of the steer committee. Stand in is not eligible for showmanship and exhibitors must use their own animal.
7. Exhibitor must manage and exhibit their own animal to the satisfaction of the steer committee. All rejected animals must be removed immediately from the grounds and will not be eligible to show or sell. Animals can be rejected at any time by the steer committee.
8. All animals must have a suitable halter and neck rope on while in the bedding areas.
9. Use of tranquilizers/sedatives, filling of cattle with liquid, adding hair to steers, or any other form of tampering is strictly prohibited. Non-compliance will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the fairgrounds.

10. All medications and/or injections (subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenously, nasally, or by mouth) given to steers while on the grounds must be administered by/or under the supervision of a veterinarian. This is grounds for immediate dismissal.

11. There will be three divisions throughout the show. All ages are determined by September 1, 2027.

Junior – 8-11 years old

Intermediate – 12-14 years old

Senior – 15-18 years old

12. All exhibitors must turn in a completed record book at final weigh in. You can print the record book from the Hillsborough County Fair website. All record books are to be hand written. Signatures from parent/guardian and/or advisor/leaders are required.

13. Final interpretation and administration of all rules is vested in the Hillsborough County Fair Board of Directors, the Livestock Committees, and Market Steer committee and its decision is final.

14. If any exhibitor violates any of the rules stated in the Market Steer Show and Sale Rules or General Livestock Rules, exhibitor will have consequences that may include, but are not limited to, forfeited premiums, sale proceeds, and banned from the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds and any events associated with the Hillsborough County Fair or Youth Livestock Programs indefinitely.

Sale Rules

1. All market steers will be sold at live auction. Market steers will leave the fairgrounds to be harvested at a designated processor. NO EXCEPTIONS!

2. Animals that do not show, do not sell.

3. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to make contact and secure a buyer for their animal.

4. All exhibitors will be required to write a Thank You letter to their buyer. These are to be turned in at the conclusion of the sale, before the exhibitor is allowed to leave the fairgrounds. More information will be explained at the exhibitor clinic.

This is a TERMINAL sale. No live animals that are purchased in the Youth Market Animal Sale will leave the fair with the buyer or exhibitor. Animals will be transferred from the fair straight to the processor designated by the Hillsborough County Fair. In no instance shall an animal be purchased back from the processor by the exhibitor, exhibitor parents, or anyone associated with the exhibitor. All animals will be slaughtered immediately following the sale. No animal shown/ sold will be shown elsewhere after the sale date of November 6, 2027. The Hillsborough County Fair has an agreement with the processors and no animal will leave the processor facility unless slaughtered.

The Hillsborough County Fair is responsible for selecting processors for resale animals. Exhibitors are prohibited from reaching out to processors to purchase resale animals.

Please note that the committee reserves the right to change, add, or omit guidelines at any time as deemed necessary. Exhibitors, parents/guardians, and advisors/leaders will be notified of any changes.

***** Please be sure to read ALL General Livestock rules as they will apply also.***

2027 Market Steer Show and Sale

Official Entry Form

Check One

_____ European Influence **_____ American Influence**

Date: _____ Grade:(as of 9/1/27):_____

Exhibitor's Name: _____

Exhibitor's DOB: _____ Age (as of 9/1/27): _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

_____

Physical Address (if different): _____

_____

Home Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Number: _____

Current School: _____ FFA/4-H/YLPA (if applicable):

_____

Shirt Size: Circle 1 **Y/A** Circle 1 **XS/S/M/L/XL/XXL**

THIS APPLICATION INDICATES MY INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR MARKET STEER SHOW AND SALE. IT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO FOLLOW THE RULES SET FORTH BY THE COMMITTEE GOVERNING THIS EVENT, AS WELL AS THE IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS) NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS. I AUTHORIZE THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR AND LIVESTOCK COMMITTEES OR THEIR ASSIGNEES TO RECORD AND PHOTOGRAPH MY IMAGE AND/OR VOICE (OR THAT OF MY CHILD IF UNDER 18) FOR USE IN RESEARCH, EDUCATIONAL AND PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS.

Anyone participating in this contest by way of entry, hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, internet, etc. that the Hillsborough County Fair may desire. I have read the rules and regulations of the 2027 Hillsborough County Fair Livestock Shows and Market Steer Show and Sale, and hereby agree to abide by these rules. I understand that if I violate any of the rules, I may be subjected to the appropriate penalties, including but not limited to, immediate disqualification and/or dismissal from the fairgrounds, including future fairs and shows.

Exhibitor Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Signed Rules must be returned By May 14, 2026 with entry fee of $75

Mailed: Hillsborough County Fair PO Box 100 Sydney, FL 33587

Emailed: Serena@hillsboroughcountyfair.com

Or Hand Delivered to: Hillsborough County Fair Office 215 Sydney Washer Road Dover, FL 33527

(Please call for office hours: 813-737-3247)

Greater Hillsborough County Fair

Exhibitor and Parent Code of Conduct and Expectations

One purpose of the Hillsborough County Fair is to provide Agricultural Producers, and especially Youth, the opportunity to showcase the results of their efforts. In addition, we hope to provide a pleasant and safe experience for visitors and guests at the Fair. With these purposes in mind, all Fair Exhibitors, and parties associated with the exhibitor, are expected to conduct themselves according to the rules set forth by the Fair Board and more directly the Livestock Committee.

Youth are expected to be sincere, honest, and act in sportsmanlike ways at all times. Youth represent the entire program and their behavior reflects on their parents, leaders, club, and the entire youth program. All adults involved with the youth program, leaders/advisors as well as parents/guardians, are expected to set positive examples and serve as positive role models by what they say and do. Any youth, advisor/leader or parent/guardian who breaks the code of ethics or allows another person (adult or peer) to talk them into violating the code of ethics agrees to forfeit all prizes, awards, and premiums. The youth, parents or guardians may also be prohibited from exhibiting/attending at this and future exhibitions.

The following guidelines should be followed, as any violation will be handled at the discretion of the Livestock Committee.

Livestock Exhibitors will:

- Keep alleyways and stalls clean and neat and orderly
- Maintain and care for their animals during the Fair
- Respect the rights of others
- Observe the rules in respect to those listed in the GENERAL LIVESTOCK RULES in regard to vehicles on the grounds including the new parking guidelines for livestock parking
- Obey all local, State and Federal laws
- Ensure that your animals are properly restrained while on the fairgrounds
- Be respectful to the general public

Livestock Exhibitors will not:

- Be allowed to show an animal that is unruly/dangerous, or not in show condition
- Use inappropriate or offensive language
- Behave in a manner which is a detriment to their, or the Fair's reputation
- Destroy or damage property belonging to others
- Drugs, Underage Drinking, Fighting, and Immoral Behavior will not be tolerated.

The Hillsborough County Fair and Youth Livestock Committee consists of volunteers that donate their time and wisdom to put on an educational and rewarding experience for the exhibitors. The Hillsborough County Fair staff and volunteers shall be treated with the upmost respect and "entitled" behavior will not be tolerated.

By entering the youth livestock shows at the 2027 Hillsborough County Fair, I acknowledge that I have read the above rules and agree to abide by them or will accept dismissal from the Hillsborough County Fair and forfeiture of all premiums and the rights to participate in the Livestock Show and Sale. Moreover, I acknowledge that my actions may result in not being allowed to participate in future fairs. As an exhibitor, I give consent to have my entry fully inspected. I agree to abide by the decision of the Hillsborough County Fair and agree not to take legal action against the Hillsborough County Fair Association. As an exhibitor, I will abide by the decision of the Animal Care/Ethics Committee and IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics.

Signed: _____Owner/Exhibitor Signed

_____Owner/Exhibitor Printed Name

_____Parent or Guardian Signature of Exhibitor

_____Parent or Guardian Printed of Exhibitor

_____ Date Signed

***THIS FORM SHALL BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BY ARRIVAL & CHECK IN TO THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR