



# PennState Extension

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## 2023 LEBANON COUNTY 4-H DAIRY BEEF GUIDELINES

Lebanon County 4-H continues to offer the dairy beef program.  
Below are the guidelines that have been established.

### CALVES:

- All calves will be chosen by the 4-H member. If you need assistance in finding a calf, please speak to a 4-H leader.
- All calves must be born between February 1<sup>st</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> of the current year. Members should have the animal in their care by 2 weeks of age.
- The calves' dam must be from one of the 7 U.S. dairy breeds or a cross of those dairy breeds
- (Holstein, R&W Holstein, Brown Swiss, Milking Shorthorn, Jersey, Ayrshire, and Guernsey) and be sired by an Angus bull. Calves need to be black to comply with Certified Angus Standards.
- An ownership form must be completed and signed by the seller of the calf, the 4-H member and the member's parent/guardian. This form will be collected when your leader ear-tags your animal.
- Calves will be ear-tagged by a leader with RFID tags by February 28th or shortly afterwards.
- Members may tag 2 dairy beef calves, but only one may be shown and sold.

**NEW MEMBERS:** If you are new to 4-H, you will need to register online at [4h.zsuite.org](http://4h.zsuite.org)

**RETURNING MEMBERS** - If you are already in Lebanon County 4-H, you will need to update or verify your current information and confirm in which club you are paying. (The program fee is paid per person per year; if you have already paid at another club, you do not need to pay again.)

**MANDATORY:** All 4-H members who carry any type of animal project must complete yearly training in ethics and quality assurance. Members must complete this training before showing or selling their animals. This training will be offered in the spring of the year – it is your responsibility to get to one of these trainings.

### PROJECT BOOKS

- All members must complete the 4-H Livestock record book. Books will be checked prior to the fair/roundup date, and a completed book will be due to leaders by the **September 1<sup>st</sup>**. You must complete a project book by **September 1<sup>st</sup>** to be eligible to show the next year.

### CLUB MEETINGS

- All meetings will start promptly at 7:00 pm. The meeting schedule will be given out as soon as possible. This is a separate project club from your dairy, livestock or other project club.
- Each member must attend 4 meetings to be eligible to show and/or sell your animal. Excused meetings will be for such events as college or leadership events and must be approved by the leadership.
- Meetings will be held in January, February, March, April, and June. If you attend the October Meeting Round-Up, that counts as the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the year. *The Quality Assurance meeting also counts for attendance. Penn Set Up does not count as a meeting*

## **SHOW & SALE**

- Calves will be weighed in upon arrival at the fairgrounds. Calves must meet the minimum weight of 500 lbs. and not exceed the maximum of 700 lbs.
- Type classes will be divided by weight.
- Showmanship – classes will be divided by age groups and will include divisions for 4-H and FFA.

## **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:**

All cattle must have a health certificate, signed by an accredited veterinarian, which includes the statement that the animal has been immunized against Shipping Fever, IBR and PI3.

**A nasal dose of INFORCE 3 is required 15 days prior to check in i.e. 7/7/23.** No animals showing clinical signs of contagious or infectious disease will be admitted to the show and sale.

**No rabies shots are necessary due to the animals being market animals.**

Dairy beef animals must be both dehorned and castrated. These procedures will be covered in our club meetings. Any signs that these have been done recently and are not healed OR improper completion will result in the calves going back home. Please note that this may read differently in the fair catalog, but due to these animals going on to feedlot, these vaccinations are mandatory!

## **FAIR SET UP & HOUSKEEPING:**

- 1) Stalls will be assigned, and you are welcome to bring in your tac the following day. Fans must be mounted; they cannot sit on the floor.  
Setting up in advance will help with getting your cattle settled sooner on Saturday.
- 2) Any animal treatment for illness must done by a veterinarian, per fair rules pages 16-18.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Animal Hospital is on call for our club to do all treatments, if you do not have any account with them, the club will be invoiced and then deducted from your sale check. Contact Duane Nolt with questions.
  - Steers that are treated will be noted to the packer, they reserve the right to refuse these steers and any deduction will be at their discretion. They need to be aware of any meat withholding.
  - Any steer that receives treatment at home before coming to fair and has a meat withhold, you need to notify Duane Nolt at check in.
- 3) Wash Rack: This is not an area for animals to hang out in the sun, get washed and back into the barn. There are many animals that need washed, and you need to be efficient and that will require you as member to work together.
  - a. After weigh-in, you have until 3 pm to have your steer washed.
  - b. Manure needs to be picked often. Animals need feed and water. Many folks walk thru the barn and if things are not neat and tidy, it reflects poorly on all of us.
  - c. In the past, members have lost buyers because of poor appearance at their pen.
  - d. We instituted a warning system – 1<sup>st</sup> warning – you have 1 hour to correct the problem. A 2<sup>nd</sup> warning will result in a \$15 deduction from your check; 3<sup>rd</sup> warning will be a \$25 deduction and probation.
  - e. We do realize that you may have animals elsewhere, but do not forget about these and prepare your help accordingly!

