



MANATEE COUNTY FAIR 2025 Beef Breeding Stock

FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR: Gene Wingate AREA
SUPERINTENDENT: Stevie John

Failure to complete the on-line registration and Attend Mandatory meeting, will result in disqualification.

SCHEDULE

On-line Registration

October 1–27, 2024, midnight

- Go to [Youth Ag Exhibits \(manateecountyfair.com\)](http://manateecountyfair.com) then click on ShoWorks to complete on-line registration/purchase passes
- Entry Fee \$25.00 per animal due at time of online registration.
- Exhibitor Pass \$30.00 due at time of initial registration. Extra family member passes (limit 4) may be purchased for \$25 each on or before October 27th, midnight.
- Animals must have an official USDA ear tag or Official Registered Breed Identification. As of April 26, 2024, it is required for all exhibition animals to use a scannable USDA 840 RFID ear tag. If your animal does not have a USDA tag, you can contact a FDACS inspector to obtain one. Any animals that have previously (before 4/26/24) been tagged with a form of USDA official ID, such as a bright/metal tag or 840 flap tag, will be accepted. If the USDA tag falls out it must be reinserted. If the USDA ear tag is lost, it is the Exhibitor's responsibility to replace it. If a new USDA ear tag is inserted the replacement number must be emailed to vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com for fair records to be updated prior to fair check in. A calf by the mother side (cow calf pair) under 4 months of age is exempt unless showing separate from mother.
Registered animals may be exempt by breed registration specifications for identification accepted by FDACS/USDA.

Mandatory Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 7:00 PM, Manatee Fairgrounds

- Exhibitor and parent or legal guardian must be present even if the exhibitor is 18
- FFA advisors & 4-H club leaders, with chapter animals, must attend the mandatory meeting.

All exhibitors must turn in or complete the following:

- Proof of ownership (Bill of Sale/Lease agreement)
- Animals entered into registered classes must provide Registration papers listing the exhibitor as the owner at the mandatory meeting.
- Full body profile picture of animal
- Notarized MCF Exhibitor Liability/Photo Release

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCF Code of Conduct form
FFA/4-H Club	Animal Exhibitors must be named/assigned by December 1, 2024, Club/Chapter Declaration form E-mailed to vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com
Beef & Steer Set Up	Saturday, January 11, 2025, 9am, Mosaic Arena
Equipment in	Sunday, January 12, 2025, 9am-12 noon, Mosaic Arena enter gate 1
Fair check-in	Sunday, January 12, 2025, 4-6pm, Mosaic Arena enter gate 1
Beef Show	Monday, January 13, 2025, 6 pm, Mosaic Arena
Showmanship	Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 6pm, Mosaic Arena
Beef Load out	Tuesday, January 14, 2025, not before 10pm
Youth Steer Judging	Saturday, January 18, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Start 8am, Mosaic Arena Breakfast afterwards for participants
FNGLA Horticulture Challenge	Saturday, January 18, 2025, 9:30-11am in front of the Mosaic Arena
Youth Goat & Swine Judging	Saturday, January 25, 2025, Registration 7:30am, Start 8am, Mosaic Arena Breakfast afterwards for participants
Awards Ceremony	Saturday, January 25, 2025, 7:30 PM, Mosaic Arena

BEEF BREEDING RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must be a *bona fide* member of a Manatee County 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, which is related to your project. No one who has graduated from High School will be eligible to show.
2. Exhibitors must be in good standing with their respective clubs to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. All exhibitors will show in the 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in which they registered their animal at the initial registration.
3. All Exhibitors at the Manatee County Fair must have completed **one class of ethics training** to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. **The exhibitor is responsible for keeping their ethics number.** If the exhibitor loses their number, they will need to retake the class. Exhibitors are not required to take the class in Manatee County, as the training is sponsored by the Florida State Fair. Classes are offered throughout the state. **Manatee County will offer an Ethics Training on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 8:00am.** Exhibitors will be required to sign up for the class at <https://floridastatefairag.com/ethics/> **All ethics numbers must be submitted to vquattlebaum@manateecountyfair.com no later than December 1st to be eligible to show.**
4. All exhibitors must be 8 years of age as of September 1, 2024. Exhibitor age as of September 1, 2024 will determine the showmanship class in which the exhibitor will show. (Juniors ages 8-10, Intermediates ages 11-13, Seniors ages 14 and up.)
5. At final check-in, Exhibitor and animal must be together for animal to be checked in. **A parent or legal guardian must be present to complete all required documentation.** The Manatee River Fair Board encourages parents to be involved in their child's 4-H and FFA Projects.
6. ****Exhibitors are not allowed to change animal exhibits after the initial check-in.**
7. Shared ownership of heifers is not permitted. FFA chapters and 4-H clubs will be permitted to exhibit.
8. **Liability:** Each exhibitor must assume all liability in case of death or injury to his or her animal(s)

9. Exhibitors are encouraged to wear boots when handling hoofed animals or are in animal areas on Fairground's property.
10. FFA members must show in Official Dress and leather boots. 4-H members are required to wear white long sleeve button down dress shirts, black pants (No Denim Blue Jeans!) and leather boots. No hats allowed during the show.
11. No Substitute exhibitors are allowed unless there are extreme reasons and granted permission by the Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee.
12. All Exhibitors participating in their respective showmanship areas must utilize only the animal that they initially registered under their name and was exhibited in the show. The top five will be selected for showmanship.
13. All record books must be up-to-date and checked in to the designated committee at time of final check-in to be eligible to show in the Manatee County Fair. 4-H club and FFA chapters must also submit an up-to-date record book.
14. All livestock must follow Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) State Health Guidelines and be transported to the Manatee County Fair in accordance with those guidelines. Beef Breeding animals will need a current health certificate (OCVI).
15. On-site inspections of any livestock may be made by authorized agents of the Manatee River Fair Association at any time, after registration and until Fair.
16. All animals must be housed in Manatee County from the time of registration until fair. Any exceptions must be approved by the MRFA Livestock Committee prior to registration. Exhibitors must fill out an Animal Housing Appeal Form and submit it to the fair office for the Livestock Committee to review for approval. Once approved, the exhibitor will be notified. Any animal found not to be housed in Manatee County will be disqualified.
17. Animal's that appear lame or injured will be disqualified. Animals must be able to walk naturally on their own around the arena or the animal will not be eligible to show. See rule #21
18. Use of drugs not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to method of use, dosage, time limitations and show regulations is prohibited. **The use of any calming agents on animals during the Fair or the possession of same by a 4-H or FFA member or anyone assisting said member with his or her animal is prohibited.** Violation of this provision shall disqualify the animal from competition and any awards or premiums, including sale price of animal, shall be forfeited. If medical treatment is deemed necessary, the exhibitor or parent must notify the area Livestock Director and/or Barn Superintendent, prior to administering treatment to the animal in any way. See rule #21.
19. Force filling/pumping of heifers with any substance, water included, is prohibited. This includes use of pumps, drenches, tubes, hoses, etc... All heifers must be shown in their natural conformation and structure without alteration by modification except for the grooming and treatment of the hair and the trimming of the hooves. No graphite, hair, cotton twine, etc. may be applied. No alteration of animals natural color or pattern. See rule #21.
20. All animals are subject to being examined and urine or blood tested for any drug usage at any time. Refusal by the Exhibitor (4-H or FFA member) to submit their animal to such examination or test will result in

immediate disqualification and forfeiture of premiums, awards, and add-on's. See rule #21.

21. Upon disqualification, pursuant to Paragraphs 17, 18, 19, and 20 the affected animal shall immediately be removed from the Fairgrounds. Disqualification will result in forfeiture of premiums, awards and add-on's.
22. Any banners or displays in your assigned area need to be limited to a maximum of 3'x4' any larger will be removed.
23. Any graphics or wording in the barn or displayed on the panels deemed inappropriate by the Livestock Committee will be removed.
24. No minors will be allowed in any barn after 10:00 PM without Parent or Guardian supervision.
25. Barns will be closed to the public during feeding and handling periods specified by the Barn Superintendent.
26. Equipment may not leave the barn areas prior to animal release time. **A \$200. fine for seniors removing ★ equipment early and all other exhibitors will be fined \$100 and ineligible to show the following year.**
27. The Manatee River Fair Association will only handle add-on's totaling \$25.00 or more. Add-On forms can be printed from Manatee County Fair's website (manateecountyfair.com) under Livestock Records. Add-on's must be received by February 15, 2025. All proceeds will have six percent (6%) of each exhibitor's add-ons deducted by the Fair Association to help defray expenses. Add-on checks will be mailed after April 1, 2025.
28. Fair premium money must be picked up within 90 days of the end of the fair or it will be forfeited.
29. Food and Drink are not allowed in the animal areas including wash rack and grooming area.
30. **All protests must be in writing and accompanied by \$100.00.** Monies to be refunded if protest is ★ decided in petitioner's favor. Only violations of rules by participants in the Fair will be considered as a protest. Protest to be decided upon by the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee.
31. Violation of any of these rules may result in expulsion, suspension, or loss of premium money.
32. All deviations from any livestock rule must be requested in writing to the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee as soon as possible, but at least two weeks before first check-in. Each request will be handled on an individual basis.
33. ***Final Interpretation and intent of these rules will be vested in the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, violating the code of conduct and all previous rules. The Manatee River Fair Association has the right to "No Trespass" and disqualify any individual or exhibitor.***

Beef Breeding Qualifications

1. Registered, Non-Registered and Brahman Influence heifers will be accepted at registration and will compete in their respective classes. **A Classifying committee will be in place to determine characteristics and place in classes accordingly. All cattle determined not to be considered of Braham influence will be moved to a commercial class.** There will be a Grand and Reserve Champion in the following classes: Brahman Influence, Non-Registered Heifers, Registered Heifers, Registered Cow Calf pairs and Non-Registered Cow Calf pairs.

2. No Class changes can be made by the exhibitor after Mandatory Meeting.
3. Each exhibitor may check-in 3 animals; however, the Fair Livestock Committee reserves the right to limit the number per exhibitor providing space availability.
4. All registered animals will be shown by age. All commercial animals will be weighed at time of unloading. The minimum weight for Beef Heifers is 500 lbs.
5. Heifers shall be weaned to 30 months of age and have not calved.
6. Cow-calf pairs will be accepted provided that the calf at side is the natural calf, not over 205 days old and the cow is not to be over 48 months of age. Exhibitor walking the calf of cow- calf pair must be exhibiting in the Beef Breeding show.
7. No ownership changes or exchanges will be permitted after registration on (October 27, 2024).
8. All cattle for exhibition in Florida must be covered by official health certificates issued by an accredited veterinarian. All health certificates must show detailed records of tests for each animal, giving breed, date of test, name and registry number, tattoo or ear tag number, brand letters or numbers and, if from a tuberculosis accredited herd or brucellosis certified herd, number.
9. Beef Breeding animals with horns longer than 2 inches will be rejected by the Fair Livestock Committee at final check-in. Animals that have been dehorned must be completely healed prior to the final check-in. "Completely healed" will be determined by either the FDACS Inspector on site or Manatee County Fair Livestock Director assigned to that area. Any small scurs or horns must be filed smooth. No sharp tips will be allowed. No open wounds will be allowed.
10. No Beef Breeding animals may be exhibited in competition that cannot be properly managed and led at check-in time. Heifers that are unmanageable during the show will be dismissed and placed at the bottom of the class. Heifers that are unmanageable during showmanship will be dismissed from the class.
11. Only halters approved by Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee will be allowed. Which include rope, cloth (cotton/Nylon) chain halters and leather show halters. Use of nose tongs, cable type halters and training halters are prohibited.
12. All animals shall be cross-tied with at least 1/2" neck and lead rope and halters of good quality.
13. One chute spot per Exhibitor will be issued, same families with multiple exhibitors may be limited by Barn Superintendent due to space. No grooming chutes will be allowed in barn prior to 9am on Sunday, January 12th Equipment load in is from 9am to 12 noon and after beef breeding check-in. No equipment may be unloaded during check in.
14. No equipment may leave barns and specific areas before release time on day of release. **A \$200. fine for seniors removing equipment early and all other exhibitors will be fined \$100 and ineligible to show the following year.**
15. 4-H and FFA exhibitors will compete together in classes. Selection of the top 5 animals shall be made from first place blue ribbon winners from each class. The second-place blue ribbon to the Champion will qualify to compete for Reserve Champion. This pattern will remain to select the next 3 winning

animals to recognize the top 5 animals in the barn.

16. Overall Supreme Beef Breeding Champion will be selected from all Grand Champions. The Reserve to the overall Supreme winner, will qualify to compete for Supreme Reserve Champion.
17. Bedding will be supplied by Fair Association. No bedding hay allowed.
18. Feed and water pails must be provided by the exhibitor.
19. All exhibitors of beef breeding animals are required to keep the Heifer/Cow space clean and removal of litter and filth at least twice daily.
20. All exhibitors found not properly feeding and caring for his/her animal may be disqualified from show at any time during Fair week.
21. ***Final Interpretation and intent of these rules will be vested in the Manatee River Fair Board Livestock Committee. This includes, but is not limited to, violating the code of conduct and all previous rules. The Manatee River Fair Association has the right to "No Tresspass" and disqualify any individual or exhibitor.***

Exhibitor and Parent Security Passes

Exhibitors will be required to make a one-time purchase of a \$30 Exhibitor Security Entrance Pass that will give unlimited access for the ten days of the fair. Families will be allowed to purchase (4) additional Security Entrance Passes at \$25 each which also gives unlimited access to the fair.

Only one gate 8 parking pass per family will be issued for the time their animals are on exhibit, NO EXCEPTIONS. Parking is on a first come basis.

Passes can be purchased when you register your animal on-line through ShoWorks
If not purchased by October 27, 2024, additional family member passes will be \$30 each with same limits as above at the Livestock Office starting on Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 9:00am.

****THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS ON PASSES****

Animal Pick-up/Drop-off & Parking

Fair check-in: Sunday, January 12, 2025, from 4-6pm, enter the fairgrounds at Gate 1 on the corner of 17th St. and 14th Ave. and line up for the check-in. Areas around the Mosaic Arena and Stewart Bldg. are for drop-off and pick-up only. No equipment may be dropped during fair check-in. Equipment will be unloaded after all animals have been checked in.

Any Vehicle without proper parking pass or in an unauthorized area will be towed at owners' expense

1. Vehicles blocking Gate 1 or 9 will be towed at the owner's expense.
2. Exhibitors may use Gate 9 in the morning before 9am when coming to feed and water animals.
3. There will be no parking along the west end of the Mosaic Arena at any time!
4. Essentials may be dropped off and then vehicles will proceed to the livestock parking area. Areas around the Mosaic Arena are for drop-off and pick-up only.

Manatee County Fair Website

Rule books and record books are posted and may be printed from (manateecountyfair.com)
Please check the web page periodically to see if there are any updates that pertain to your livestock area.
Registration paperwork for all animal areas is located on the Fair website.

QUESTIONS

If you have a question about your entry into the Manatee County Fair, please follow the chain-of-command as listed below:

1st - Contact your **ADVISOR/CLUB LEADER**; if they are unable to answer your question, then

2nd - Contact your **AREA SUPERINTENDENT - Beef Breeding, Stevie John, 941-737-2823**

3rd - Contact the **FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR - Beef Breeding, Gene Wingate, 941-915-8974**