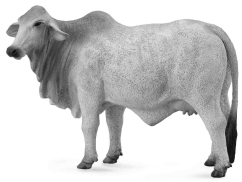
2027 PUTNAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL FAIR

AMERICAN BEEF HEIFER SHOW



LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE: Scott Brauman, Co-Chairman
Jackson Tilton, Co-Chairman

BEEF HEIFER DIRECTOR: Jamie Mullins (386-972-4089)

ENTRY DEADLINE: **Friday, January 8, 2027, by 5:00 pm**

FAIR ARRIVAL: Saturday, **March 20, 2027**, 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Tilton Arena, Putnam County Fairgrounds
Use main entrance at 118 Fairgrounds Road.

RECORD BOOKS: DUE Saturday, **March 20, 2027**, 5:30-6pm
*__see rules 10 & 30__ for more important info
~ Due prior to Informational Meeting

CATTLE INFORMATIONAL MEETING: **Saturday, March 20, 2027** (weigh-in day) @ 6:00 pm

BEEF HEIFER SHOW: Sunday, **March 21, 2027**, 6:00 pm

ENTRY FEE: $20.00 Entry Fee per animal (Non-refundable)

BEEF HEIFER RULES & GUIDELINES

Eligibility: Open to all qualified Putnam County 4-H and FFA member (age 8, as of **September 1, 2026**, through high school senior). They must show as 4-H or FFA member, but not in both divisions. If showing 4-H you must be a registered 4-H member by **October 31, 2026**. Additionally, each 4-H club or FFA chapter may enter group owned animals. All entry forms must be signed and approved by either Ag teacher or 4-H Agent. LIMIT: ONE HEIFER PER EXHIBITOR PER CLASS. **Divisions by age:** Junior = 8-10, Intermediate = 11-13, Senior = 14-high school senior as of **September 1, 2026**.

All Heifers MUST be treated for LICE 10 days prior to Fair Arrival & Weigh-In on March 20, 2027

1. Beef heifers must be in the care of exhibitors and entry form(s), entry fee(s), notarized hold harmless form, and if Homegrown, the Homegrown Verification form, must be turned in by 5:00 pm, **Friday, January 8, 2027**. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!** If your animal is Home Grown a new Home Grown form must be submitted annually. One of the livestock committee members may come to inspect that heifers are in the care of the exhibitor, sometime between entry deadline and Fair arrival. **ALL tags must have a legible numerical code. No Exceptions!** If no tag is in heifer at check-in one will be provided at a $5.00 fee.

2. All exhibitors are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will contribute to the best interest of the Putnam County Livestock Shows & Sale. This includes your conduct at school, not just 4-H, and FFA functions. The fair authority reserves the right to disqualify any exhibitor who has 3 or more referrals in the current school year or any exhibitor who has been arrested.

3. **Eligibility:** Open to all qualified Putnam & St Johns County** 4-H and FFA members (age 8, as of September 1, 2026 through high school senior). They must show as 4-H or FFA members, but not in both divisions. If showing 4-H you must be a registered 4-H member by October 31, 2026. Additionally, each 4-H club or FFA chapter may enter group owned animals. All entry forms must be signed and approved by either a Vo-Ag teacher or 4-H Agent. **Age Divisions:** Junior=8-10, Intermediate=11-13, Senior=14-high school senior as of September 1, 2026. ****St Johns County participants are limited to the 1st 10 entrants on a 1st come, 1st served basis.**

4. **BRAHMAN INFLUENCE IS A MUST** - Heifer must have 2 of 4 Brahman traits: ears, hump, leather or navel. Only females may be shown. Two photos (one side and one head profile) must be turned in with registration forms. The photos must be 4x6 and clear quality.

5. The livestock committee or show directors reserve the right to refuse the entry of any heifer which appears to show signs of deformities, defects, disease, sickness, infested with mites, lice or fleas, or which is not of credible show quality.

6. If the heifer the exhibitor registers does not qualify for the American show, and the heifer is not eligible to show in the Continental show due to a class conflict with another heifer the exhibitor is showing, the exhibitor's entry fee will be refunded. This is the ONLY EXCEPTION to the no refund rule.

7. Beef heifers must have a BCS score of 5 the day of fair check-in to be eligible for exhibit and show at the fair. If your beef heifer does not meet this criteria you will be asked to remove your animal from the premises

8. Animals must be in acceptable condition, trained to be handled and led, and must be dehorned.

9. All heifers must have been born prior to **October 31, 2026**. The maximum age of heifers exhibited will be 39 months. Heifers 24 months of age and older must be certified bred by a veterinarian or have calf by their side at the fair. Any heifer 24 months of age that is in question of being bred when she arrives at the Fair could be subjected to a veterinarian check at the Fair.

10. Animals will be placed in classes based upon age and will be judged on the Modified Danish system.

11. Beef Cattle, regardless of age and including the calf by side, must have a **health certificate and premise ID** or state ID and **numerical tag to enter the fairgrounds**.

12. **Record books** (see #33) are required and must be turned in on time on check-in day no later than the time listed prior to the show rules. Record books MUST BE in the student's own handwriting – NO TYPING. *All portions of the record book designated to be turned in for credit MUST be done, excluding final weights in the weight record and the project summary.* Record books not meeting the minimum requirements described in the record book will be eliminated from the record book contest and shall be considered incomplete. ALL prize money will be forfeited and the exhibitor will be ineligible to participate in the youth livestock show or sale in the Fair the following year.

13. **Exhibitors showing multiple species (Swine, Steer & Heifer) are only required to complete ONE record book.** Exhibitors can choose which species for which they will complete a record book. If you are entering multiple heifers, only one heifer record book is required. * Keep in mind that choosing NOT to complete a record book could hurt your chances of winning the overall award.
Cattle exhibitors choosing to turn in a swine record book and not their beef book MUST bring it on Saturday to be able to get gate passes.

14. **SHOES! ALL livestock exhibitors must wear leather boots while on Putnam County Fairgrounds property**.

15. Exhibitors will be required to ONLY wear appropriate 4-H or FFA attire while exhibiting animal. The following is the dress code for the show. Exhibitors that do not wear required attire are NOT eligible for the Showmanship Award.

4H	**FFA**
a. Blank pants/jeans	a. Black pants/jeans
b. White dress shirt or blouse with collar	b. White dress shirt or blouse with collar
c. Tie or 4-H patch	c. Tie (FFA colors)
d. 4-H jacket optional	d. FFA jacket
e. Closed toe boots	e. Closed toe boots

Pants must be worn on the outside of your boots.

No hats, gum, or tobacco products.

16. For **public safety** concerns, animals must be tied in the barn from Fair opening time until 10:30 p.m. daily except for show and sale preparation purposes on Sunday night. Heifer must also be in barn on Wednesday morning by 10:00 a.m. for Senior Citizen Day. All beef are to remain in the barn on Wed night tied to assigned space for livestock judging on Thursday morning. All signs and decorations are to remain up until 5:00pm on Saturday. Failure to follow these rules will subject exhibitor to forfeit premium and/or day money. **ALL BEEF animals must have a neck tie.**

17. Each exhibitor is required to maintain clean and attractive quarters at all times. A Herdsman award will be presented to the exhibitor keeping the cleanest and most attractive exhibit. See Herdsman Award section.

18. Each exhibitor will furnish feed and care for his/her animal(s). They must be cared for from the time of arrival until they are removed. **A red-tag system will be used as follows**: upon checking stalls, if barn supervisor determines housekeeping is below standards a red tag will be issued. Upon receipt of the third red tag, a $25 fine will be assessed and deducted from exhibitors sale check. Exhibitors, or those caring for the animal, MUST sign in each morning signifying the animal has been cared for by 9:00 AM and before fair closes, daily. Animals will not be released before 5:00 p.m., on Saturday, the closing day of the fair. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED AN EXCUSED ABSENCE BY LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE.

19. The Putnam County Fair Authority assumes no liability for animals or exhibitors. The Putnam County Fair Authority will not assume liability in case of injury or death.

20. Use the official Putnam County Fair record book. Do not deface, change the page sequence, remove any pages, or cut/paste sections of the book. Additional pages to expand on sections are NOT acceptable.

21. The exhibitor of any animal determined to have used unethical treatment or administered illegal drugs to achieve better appearance or performance in the showing forfeit rights to the prize money associated with the animal. The exhibitor also exonerates the Putnam County Fair Authority from any liability associated with unethical or unlawful practices. Participation in future livestock events may be denied.

22. There will be a $5.00 replacement cost for record books payable to the Putnam County Fair.

23. HOMEGROWN HEIFER AWARD will be presented to the exhibitor of the highest placing heifer born and raised in Putnam County, Florida. The Grand and Reserve Champion Beef Heifer are NOT eligible for this award unless there are no other homegrown heifers in the show. The highest placing homegrown heifer of each class will come back to compete for the homegrown award, unless the division or reserve division champion are homegrown, in this case this heifer is the only one that will come back for homegrown in that division.

24. Livestock committee reserves the right to split any class with excessive entries or if the need arises to combine classes with too few entries.

25. The project animal is eligible to be shown in ONE show only. The animal is not allowed to be shown in both the American and Continental show.

26. Exhibitor will receive $140.00 for each heifer. The heifer must be shown in the heifer show and be on exhibit for the duration of the fair to be eligible for this day money.

27. Maximum age for a calf at side is 7 months (age of the calf)

28. **Exhibitors are required to attend any ONE of the THREE mandatory meetings** to be eligible to show at the Fair. Exhibitor failing to attend any ONE of the THREE mandatory meetings will be ineligible to show at the Fair. *See FIRST page in your RECORD BOOK for meeting dates.

29. Exhibitors are required to participate in the **Beef & Swine Field Day**. Failure to attend will result in a $100 fine and will be deducted from exhibitor's sale check and will not be eligible for the Best Overall Award.* See the FIRST page in your record book for date and details.

30. Livestock committee reserves the right to limit the number of entries per exhibitor.

31. Any and all rules, regulations and/or requirements are subject to change due to any federal, state and local government mandates. If such changes occur, a notification (or notifications) will be issued to agents, instructors, advisors and registered participants via the official registered contact information on file.

32. **Cattle Screening** – All cattle will be screened Saturday as they come in. Exhibitor will be required to bring the steer/heifer into the show ring for the screening. Cattle will be screened for the required body condition, clipping and disposition. Exhibitor must show they can lead and handle their animal to the satisfaction of the screening committee. A reasonable length of time will be given to the exhibitor of any animal deemed unruly to demonstrate that the animal can be calmed and safely exhibited. Any steer or heifer that is disqualified must be immediately removed from the fairgrounds. The screening committee will consist of 5 people the livestock committee has chosen.

33. **Cattle Exhibitor Weigh-in Day Informational Meeting** – Saturday (of weigh-in), 6:00pm in the Tilton arena. Record books are to be turned in and passes will be given out starting at 5:30 just before the meeting. Exhibitor will be required to attend this short rule meeting. A $140.00 fine will be deducted from Fair check for any exhibitor that doesn't attend.

34. **Club/Chapter and Personal* Animal** – Exhibitor and Backup Exhibitor MUST both be assigned to show this animal by REGISTRATION. Both exhibitors' information (name/age) must be listed on the Registration Form. **Both the exhibitor and the backup MUST attend Mandatory Meeting.**

35. IF you are showing a Chapter animal and a personal animal, a Record Book must be kept for each animal.

36. Cattle Exhibitors with multiple entries that need someone to help lead one of their animals – The helper must be a current Putnam County 4-H or FFA member in official dress who has a completed hold harmless form on file.

37. Exhibitor must wear the Fair issued armband with the assigned number to the animal being exhibited. **No harnesses may be worn**. Any exhibitor wearing a harness will be disqualified.

38. No portable fans/AC units permitted in the barns or camping areas.

CLASSES

CLASS 1 July 1 – October 31, 2025

CLASS 2 April 1 – June 30, 2025

CLASS 3 January 1 – March 31, 2025

Division 1 Champion and Reserve

CLASS 4 October 1 – December 31, 2025

CLASS 5 July 1 – September 30, 2025

CLASS 6 April 1 – June 30, 2025

Division 2 Champion and Reserve

CLASS 7 January 1 – March 31, 2025

CLASS 8 July 1 – December 31, 2024

CLASS 9 January 1 – June 30, 2024

Division 3 Champion and Reserve

Grand Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

Homegrown Champion

HEIFER PREMIUM AWARDS

DIVISION AWARDS

1st place	Champion	$30.00 and Custom Award
2nd place	Reserve Champion	$20.00 and Custom Award

GRAND CHAMPION AWARD - Award, Rosette, and $100.00

RESERVE CHAMPION AWARD - Award, Rosette, and $75.00

HOMEGROWN AWARD

(The Grand & Reserve Champion Heifer is NOT eligible for the Homegrown Award.)

HG Champion - $75.00 and award

HERDSMAN AWARD

The Herdsman awards are given to exhibitors with the purpose of encouraging exhibitors to present more attractive displays. The livestock committee reserves the right to withhold any or all Herdsman Awards if they are not merited. All livestock exhibitors are eligible to compete for these awards. To be awarded in each age division: Junior = 8-10, Intermediate = 11-13, Senior = 14 and over. Exhibits will be judged daily by the Livestock committee on the following basis:

1. Orderliness and cleanliness of service areas, stalls, pens, animals, and public walkways
2. Promptness in preparation of exhibit and exhibit areas by opening time and maintained until 9 pm daily.
3. Appearance of exhibitor.
4. Cooperation with show officials.
5. Availability to furnish information about their exhibits.
6. General conduct of the exhibitor.

1st place $75.00 and award

2nd place $50.00 and rosette

3rd place $25.00 and rosette

RECORD BOOK AWARDS Completed record books are required for premium money to be paid; to be awarded in each age division: Junior = 8-10, Intermediate = 11-13, Senior = 14 and over

1st place	$25.00 and award
2nd place	$20.00 and rosette
3rd place	$15.00 and rosette

FIELD DAY AWARDS

To be awarded to the top scores in Beef & Swine categories by age division (Jr., Int. and Sr.). Misc. other awards / prizes may be given along with the premium listed below.

1st place	$30.00
2nd place	$25.00
3rd place	$20.00

SHOWMANSHIP AWARD

Heifers must be properly managed and led into the show ring. Both exhibitor and animal will be judged. To be awarded in each age division: Junior 8-10, Intermediate 11-13, and Senior 14 and over.

1st place $25.00 and Belt Buckle

2nd place $20.00 and rosette

3rd place $15.00 and rosette

DANISH SYSTEM AWARD

Blue Award	$25.00
Red Award	$20.00
White Award	$15.00

BEST PROJECT AWARD The participant who receives the largest sum of premium money will receive a belt buckle from the Putnam County Fair Authority, Inc. In case of a tie, the tied participant with the best Record Book will be the winner. *Exhibitors who received fines, did not participate in Field Day, did not submit an essay or did not submit a completed Record Book will not be eligible for the Best Project Award.*