

MARKET STEER DIVISION

CLASSIFIERS – Billy Best (Riviera, TX)
John Lanier (Somerset, TX)
Eduardo Sanchez (Kingsville, TX)

JUDGE – Parker Henley (Stillwater, OK)

ENTRY DEADLINE – January 15, 2024

ENTRY FEE - \$30 per exhibitor

DELIVERY TO SHOWGROUNDS – 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 11, 2024

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024

SCALES OPEN – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024

SIFTING/CLASSIFYING – 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024

JUDGING – 9:00 a.m., Friday, March 15, 2024

SHOWMANSHIP – Following judging, Friday, March 15, 2024

LOAD OUT – 9:00 a.m., Sunday, March 17, 2024

Grand Champion Market Steer Buckle – Wanda Echols in memory of Larry Echols

Champion Showmanship Buckle Sponsor – Hidalgo County Farm Bureau/ Texas Farm Bureau Insurance

Reserve Champion Showmanship Buckle Sponsor – 4C Cattle Company

SPECIAL RULES FOR MARKET STEERS

1. Each exhibitor must be a bona fide member of a Texas 4-H or FFA Chapter, enrolled in elementary, secondary, or home school and reside in Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, or Willacy counties.
2. Exhibitors must be in the third grade or 9 years old, but under 20 years of age, as of January 1, 2024.
3. All steers must have been validated on or before June 30, 2023, with an ear tag, ear tattoo and completed validation form. Validation tags must be in steers ear prior to arriving on showgrounds. All market steers entering the showing are required to have validation ear tags. **ONLY VALIDATION TAG SHOULD BE PRESENT IN THE EAR. REMOVE ALL OTHER TAGS BEFORE SIFT.** Steers without an official Texas Steer Validation will be ineligible to show. RGVLS will adhere to all state validation guidelines and decisions.
4. An exhibitor may enter only one market steer.
5. All exhibitors participating in showmanship must enter through the online Showworks system by January 15, 2024.
6. Livestock projects must be raised at the physical address of validation record. Prior approval must be granted by the “Species Specific County-Level State Validation Committee” in the event the animal will be outside the direct care of the exhibitor, immediate family/guardian, and/or the supervising County Extension Agent or Agriculture Science Teacher. Failure to gain approval from the supervising Agriculture Science Teacher/County Extension Agent and the Species Specific County- Level State Validation Committee will result in the disqualification of all state validated livestock.
7. Any animal which is found to have entered another show under a different exhibitor’s name, other than the name entered in this Show, will be declared ineligible. Any animal that has been sold in a terminal auction at another show is ineligible for this Show. Market Steers found to have evidence of more than one validation will be

ineligible to show unless the proper Change of Ownership Forms are recorded, reflecting why there is evidence of more than one validation and that the previous validation(s) have been canceled.

8. All sifted steers must be removed from the showgrounds immediately after sifting. All others must be consigned by the exhibitor and or buyer to the processing plant, individual, etc. assigned by the show management. Violation of this rule will result in exhibitors being barred from future shows.
9. Steers must meet the following requirements or be sifted:
 - a. Must weigh at least 1050 pounds. There will be no maximum weight limit.
 - b. Must be creditable from standpoints of types, quality finish and breed characteristics.
 - c. Must be free of grubs or grub damage.
 - d. Must be dehorned and show no secondary horn growth.
 - e. Must be trained to lead and handle properly. Nose leads will be permitted during sifting and judging. No cable halters will be allowed. Any steer that is uncontrollable or requires handling by more than one person may be sifted.
 - f. All steers must be shorn prior to arrival at the showgrounds. Hair must not exceed ¼ inch “on any location of the body excluding the tail switch. A tail switch is defined as no more than 10” above the end of the cartilage of the tail. No trimming on the grounds with corded clippers will be permitted. All steers must be clean at the time of sifting.
10. Steers must remain in their assigned stalls from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except during sifting, judging or being prepared for judging. Stalls will be located in the Steer Barn.
11. Exhibitors must declare the animal weight at the time of sift and classification. The weight listed on the weight card will become that animal’s official declared weight to be used for weigh back and selling purposes. Exhibitors must complete the weight card to include declared weight and state validation tag number.
12. A steer, which in the opinion of the classifiers does not have predominant breed characteristics of the class in which it is entered, may be reclassified. Steers will be moved by the classifiers to the breed which, in their opinion, the animal is eligible to be entered.
13. The act of artificially filling animals internally by stomach pumping is prohibited and will result in disqualification of the animal.
14. Decision of official veterinarian, classifier and/or sifter will be final, and no protests will be considered by the show management.
15. After sifting, steers will be divided by breed and put in classes as equal in number as possible according to the following schedule. All steers of the same weight will be put in the lower weight group.
 - 1 to 10 entries – 1 class
 - 11 to 20 entries – 2 classes
 - 21 to 35 entries – 3 classes
 - 36 to 50 entries – 4 classes
 - 51 entries & over – 5 classes
16. Fitting: Pure water only. If an exhibitor is caught at the gate with foreign substance on a steer, there will be immediate disqualification. Foreign material including (but not limited to) painting, powdering, oiling, artificial coloring, or adhesives is prohibited. No clippers requiring an electrical cord are allowed to be used once the animal has arrived on the showgrounds. Touch up clipping with cordless clippers, scissors, or hand shears will be allowed. Significant clipping/shearing on the body at the showgrounds is not considered touch up clipping, and the steer is subject to disqualification. No change of the major color pattern of a steer by painting or dying will be allowed. Any steer groomed with material that allows color to come off the steer will not be allowed in the Show.
17. No corded blowers will be permitted during the Junior Market Shows.

18. Only exhibitors and show officials will be allowed in the holding areas, judging arena, or on the arena director's stand during sifting and judging.

19. No drenching, watering/feeding, or grooming is allowed while in the "holding area" at any time.

20. After an animal becomes loose from an exhibitor 3 times, the committee chair, RGVLS Management, and/or RGVLS Director will have the animal removed from the ring and disqualified from showing. Regardless of any disqualifications, any market animal will remain under consignment contract and will be sold at the end of the event.

21. Any steer may be designated for reweigh at any time determined by the Steer Superintendent. Any steer weighing more or less than 5% of its initial official show weight will become ineligible for any award or placing. All Breed Champions and Reserve Breed Champions will be reweighed before Grand Champion judging.

22. First place steers in each breed class will compete for Breed Champion, second place winner in class which produced the Breed Champion will compete with remaining first place steers of the breed for Reserve Breed Champion.

23. The Show may collect a hair and/or blood sample from any steer entered in the Show for the purpose of conducting a DNA analysis. Any steer not having a positive match from the DNA analysis of this hair sample compared to the DNA analysis of the hair sample taken from it at the time of enrollment in the validation program will be disqualified.

24. All market steers will be sold to the person or company submitting the highest bid. Sifted steers must be removed from the showgrounds immediately after sifting.

1. Scholarships will be awarded as follows:

- Scholarships will not be awarded when there are less than 5 head shown in competition in any weight division of the Market Steer Division.
- If there are 5 to 14 entries shown, 50% of the full scholarship will be awarded to the Division Champion of each weight division.
- 15 head and more will result in full scholarship amounts.

MARKET STEER BREEDS

Eligibility for the following breeds will be based solely on visible characteristics as determined by the state Major Livestock Show Advisory Committee and the classifier(s) appointed by the show management. See rule 13.

- SANTA GERTRUDIS
- SIMBRAH
- ABC STEERS – AMERICAN BREEDS AND CROSSES
- CHAROLAIS
- CHIANINA
- MAINE-ANJOU STEERS
- AOB STEERS – ALL OTHER BREEDS

Texas Show Steer Breed Classification

American Breeds Cross (ABC)	Charolais	Chianina
<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any color (or color pattern) Progression of importance to include Bos indicus-influenced head (longer from eye-to-nose than from eye-to-poll), eye (e.g., almond shaped), ear of adequate length (slightly drooping, slightly tapering at the end, and opening down and forward), showing Bos indicus-influenced sheath. Crest (or evidence of hump). With adequate Bos indicus head, eye, and ear characteristics (sheath score is of less importance). <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bos taurus head Bos taurus short ear Bos taurus eye Sheath score of 1 Slick neck (lack of crest or evidence of hump) <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A combination of a Bos taurus head, eye, and ear 	<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS - Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a 50% purebred Charolais</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> White, yellow, gray, or silver Expression of diluter gene Minimal painting or spotting (less than 20%) Skunk tail, line back, or baldy <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Painting or spotting (more than 20%) Double muscling Frail bone work and frail general appearance Light red color or orange Short, stubby head Overly refined, narrow head Moderate black pigmentation (e.g., skin around eyes, nose, ears, or anus.) Moderate dappling <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black, red, or dark smuts Showing no diluter gene (unless solid white) Excessive painting or spotting Brindles/brindling, roans Excessive dappling Excessive black pigmentation (e.g., skin around eyes, nose, ears, or anus) 	<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must exhibit Chianina influence in head (ear, eye, and nose) and skeleton Any shade of black, red, gray, or yellow Brindles, baldies, blaze faces, and motleys Head tends to be narrow thru the center part of the skull and exhibits a longer muzzle Muscle conformation tends to be smooth, not coarse or excessively round Skeleton tends to be lighter and smoother jointed <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coarse joins or skeleton Excessive spotting above the underline <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears to be a purebred of any other breed

Information provided can be found at <https://agrilife.org/bellcttyouthfair/files/2022/11/2024-2028-texas-show-steer-breed-classification-guidelines.pdf>

Texas Show Steer Breed Classification

Maine Anjou	Santa Gertrudis	Simbrah
<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid red • Solid black • Red and white • Black and white • Heavy skeletal structure • Cattle may have black hair on the tail, muzzle, face, neck and legs <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slight brindling on topline and down toward the loin edge • Signs of feathering on the neck <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brindle (down past the topline, extending onto the rib and down) • Roans • Diluter color pattern (e.g., yellow, orange, gray) • Appears to be more than 50% of any other breed 	<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS - Must physically exhibit breed characteristics of a 50% purebred Santa Gertrudis with adequate Bos indicus head, eye, and ear characteristics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any color pattern of black, red, yellow, or orange • Moderate crest (no definite hump) • Moderate dewlap development • Moderate length of ear (slightly drooping) and opening forward • Sheath score of 2 to 5 <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight, pendulous sheath • Sheath score of 1 • Brindle coloring • Excessive white <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of any visible Santa Gertrudis characteristics • Absence of Bos indicus - influenced head, eye, ear, or sheath • Smokes, silvers, grays 	<p>ACCEPTABLE BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sheath score of 2 or greater • With Bos indicus head, eye, and ear characteristics (sheath score is less important) • Stocking legs • Bald, blaze, or streak-face or mottled-face • Solid black, solid red, or solid dun/tan combination with white (or any of the previously listed colors) • Brindle color pattern with white markings <p>DISCRIMINATORY BREED CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sheath score of 1 • A Bos taurus head • A Bos taurus ear • A Bos taurus eye • Brindle color pattern with no white <p>ABSOLUTE DISQUALIFICATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A combination of a Bos taurus head, ear, eye, and sheath • Roans • Grays • Smut • Silver • Solid yellow

Information provided can be found at <https://agrilife.org/bellcttyouthfair/files/2022/11/2024-2028-texas-show-steer-breed-classification-guidelines.pdf>

AWARDS

Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Reserve Grand Champion – Buckle & Banner

Breed Champions – \$500 Scholarship, Buckle, Banner & Rosette

Reserve Breed Champions – Banner & Rosette

The Breed Champions will compete for the Grand Champion Award. The Reserve Breed Champion in the division that produced the Grand Champion will compete with the remaining Champions for the Reserve Grand Champion Award. The Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Breed Champions and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placing projects will be eligible to participate in the Sale of Champions on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. This is a premium auction only; the actual projects will not be sold to the buyers.

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUM AWARDS

- 4th place - \$42
- 5th place - \$41
- 6th place - \$40

STEER DIVISION SHOWMANSHIP

All exhibitors of steers are eligible to compete. Exhibitors must show their own steer for showmanship and an exhibitor number is required. Exhibitors will be divided into three groups based on their grade as of the day of the show.

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS

- Junior – Grades 3rd -5th
- Intermediate – Grades 6th – 8th
- Seniors – Grades 9th – 12th

SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS

Awards will be made on the basis of showmanship, neatness of exhibitor, show condition and behavior of animal. Prizes will be awarded in each group as follows:

- Champion - \$100 & Buckle
- Reserve Champion - \$75 & Buckle
- 3rd place - \$50 & Ribbon