

# Local Bred Market Beef Contest

## 2025 Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair

This contest is sponsored by the Russell Criss Family - a family dedicated to beef promotion and education. The Criss Family will coordinate with the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair to hold the event in conjunction with the annual Fair in Tulelake.

**Mission Statement:** The Local Bred Market Beef Contest is an educational contest that cumulates a market beef youth project with real-world relevance to the demands of today's commercial beef cattle industry.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this contest is to showcase locally bred and raised beef calves and provide life-skills and education to exhibitors in learning more about the operations and economics of beef production; including animal feed performance and total costs involved.

**Eligibility:** This contest will be open to all Junior-aged\* market beef exhibitors at the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair (TLBVF) that meet the following eligibility requirements.

\*Exhibitor age as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year.

**Requirements:** To be eligible to participate, the project animals and exhibitors must meet and/or complete the following criteria:

1. Only calves locally bred, born, and raised in Siskiyou or Modoc counties are eligible for this contest. Artificial insemination and live cover taking place in Modoc and Siskiyou County are acceptable breeding methods, as both are common and appropriate for cattle production in Modoc and Siskiyou County. The breeder will have to sign a Breeder Affidavit Certificate to verify the ranch of origin, the full color description and age of the animal, and that they have been in possession of that calf in that location since birth. This will be in addition to the normal brand inspection and bill of sale requirements. The Breeder Affidavit Certificate is **MANDATORY** and will be subject to review and verification by a qualified livestock or fair board official prior to the showing of the animals. Animal(s) without a verifiable Breeder's Affidavit will not be eligible to participate in the contest.
2. All calves eligible must also be entered in the appropriate market beef and showmanship classes at the TLBV fair, have an official 120-day ownership pre-weight, and indicate entry into the Local Bred Market Beef Contest on the official fair entry to qualify for participation in this contest. Complete Breeder Affidavits are due with the fair entry forms at the Official Weigh-in time and date at the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair along with record book. Exhibitors may enter multiple animals at the pre-weigh in date, but only one animal per exhibitor can be shown in the Local Bred Market Steer class each year. This contest is only open the exhibitors eligible to participate in the beef showmanship and market classes at the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair.

3. Exhibitors participating in this contest must complete a Project Record Book that includes a Project Expense Record, Feed Record, Labor Record, and Animal Care & Veterinary Record. There will also be a 250 word-minimum essay describing the exhibitors project and experience raising the steer calf. Record books and essays will be due at the Official Weigh-in time and date at the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair after the animals are officially weighed in at the Fair to allow time for calculation based on the final animal weight. The average daily rate of gain for each animal will be calculated by a qualified livestock or fair board official. Rate of gain will be included in the scoring of the animal.

**Evaluation & Placing:** This contest scoring will be based as follows:

**Live Animal Judging –**

60% of the score will be on the live animal judging by a panel of 3 qualified cattlemen/women. All eligible animals will be shown together in one class, regardless of weight. All steers showing in this class **may or may not be fitted**. Judges will be provided the average daily rate of gain and final fair weight of animal to use in their selection process. Each judge will have an individual score card to be turned into a qualified livestock or fair board official for calculation/placing of the steers in the class. Animals **WILL NOT** be placed in the show ring. One of the panel of 3 qualified judges may or may not give a brief discussion/evaluation of the eligible animals in the class.

The live animal judging will take place at the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair at the time determined by the Livestock Manager. The contest date and time will be communicated when the official Fair schedule is determined.

30% of the score will be based on the record book and essay.

10% of the score will be based on average daily rate of gain placing. Rate of gain will be calculated to two (2) decimal places.

The record books and essay will be judged by a panel of at least two qualified people that are knowledgeable in the beef cattle industry. This portion of the contest will be judged prior to the live animal class so that the scores will be ready to immediately compile with the live animal placings and average daily rate of gain placing.

The combined scores of from the live animal judging and record book/essay/average daily rate of gain portions will determine 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners of the contest. In the case of tie, the first tie breaker will be determined by the highest average daily rate of gain. The second tie breaker will be the highest score on their record book and essay.

Exhibitors are asked to wear white shirts with a collar and either black or dark blue jeans to show in the live animal class – full official 4-H or FFA uniforms are not required.

**Awards:**

**~ 1<sup>st</sup> Place ~** will be named Local Bred Champion Market Steer and receive \$600 cash prize and buckle and ribbon

**~ 2<sup>nd</sup> Place ~** will be named Local Bred Reserve Champion Market Steer and receive \$400 cash prize and buckle and ribbon

**~ Best Record Book ~** will receive a \$100 cash prize

**~~ All other participants ~~** will receive a participation gift and ribbon or banner

**~~~ Breeder Awards ~~~** The breeder of the top placing steer will also receive a recognition award.

The awards will be distributed at the conclusion of the contest. The Local Bred Champion Market Steer and Local Bred Reserve Champion Market Steer will also be recognized at the awards ceremony during the Fair.

