

2. **Goats, poultry, rabbits:** All market livestock will be consigned to the Small Animal Auction unless the Livestock Removal Authorization Form is submitted to the 4-H office by 8:00 p.m. the day of the species' show. Grand and Reserve Grand Champion animals must sell.
3. **Swine, beef, sheep:** All market livestock will be consigned to the Large Animal Auction unless the Livestock Removal Authorization Form is submitted to the 4-H office by 8:00 p.m. the day of the species' show. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion animals must sell.
4. The Champion and Reserve Champion goat, steer, lamb, and hog carcasses will be sold at the livestock auction.
5. **Sale Times and Orders (2026):** Two sale rings will be auctioning livestock at the same time in the Henningsen Show Arena; the small animal sale will be held in the east end and the large animal sale will be held in the west end.
 - **Small Animal Sale:** 10:00 a.m. Rabbits, Goats, Turkeys, Chickens
 - **Large Animal Sale:** 10:30 a.m. Lambs, Market Beef, Dairy Market Steers, "Gallon of Milk", Dairy Feeder Steers, Hogs
6. Exhibitors showing two individual hogs, lambs or goats will sell their higher placing project animal as an individual in the regular Large Animal Sale, unless it is pulled from the sale (see rule #3 above). The second individual animal will be sold as part of a weight group. Both animals may be removed from the sale if neither are Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion. In the event both animals place as Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion, both animals will sell as individuals.
7. **Sale Commission Fee:** A four percent (4%) sale commission (subject to change without notice) will be charged on each lot sold through the sales and all Add-On funds.
8. **Market Livestock Insurance:** The St. Joseph County Grange Fair, Michigan State University or any of their affiliated organizations provides no insurance coverage for livestock animals. It is the animal owners' responsibility to provide insurance at their own expense and the animal owner is fully responsible for any veterinary fees.
9. **After The Sale** all exhibitors must:
 - A. Post a sign above their animal identifying the buyer and purchase price.
 - B. Care for market animals until they are shipped.
 - C. Write a **"thank you" note** to the buyer(s) of each individual, pen of market or weight group of livestock sold by the exhibitor and submit the note to the 4-H Office between barns 43 & 44 by 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2026. **Sale checks will be held until the thank you note is submitted to the MSU Extension office.** Thank you note envelopes must include the buyer's complete address, the exhibitor's return address and the appropriate postage. Buyer names and addresses will be available in the Henningson Show Arena starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, September 25, 2026. **Note:** A separate thank you must be written to a buyer if they purchased different species. (i.e., bought swine, sheep and rabbits = 3 thank you notes.)
10. It is strongly recommended that market livestock not be returned to the farm for animal health reasons.
11. Resale of market livestock to a second party other than through the 4-H market livestock sales will be the total and complete responsibility of the parties involved.

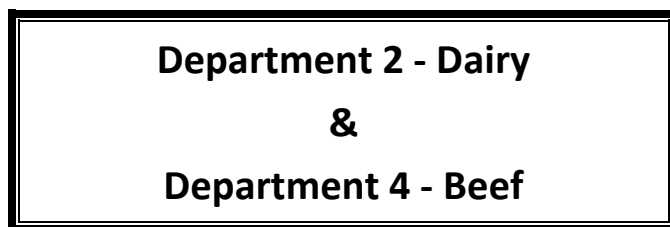
12. Dairy Feeder Steers may **not** go for processing following the livestock auction; they **MUST** go to a farm or feedlot for a minimum of 30 days following the conclusion of the fair.

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Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development - Animal Industry Division

2026 Health Requirements for Livestock Exhibited in Michigan

The requirements for livestock exhibited in Michigan: The complete set of requirements can be obtained by downloading them from the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development website www.michigan.gov/mdard/animals/exhibitions or by contacting the fair/exposition staff or livestock entry office.



General Cattle Rules

(Includes Beef, Dairy Beef, and Dairy Cattle)

1. See www.michigan.gov/mdard/animals/exhibitions.
2. Read and follow "General Exhibitor Livestock Rules" starting on Page 7.
3. Exhibitors will not be allowed to enter or exhibit in this species department if exhibited at another county fair during the current year.
4. **All breeding stock** animals must be registered online via FairEntry by August 15.
5. **Watering and Feeding:** No commercial water tanks are allowed. All watering buckets or tanks must be emptied immediately after the animal has finished drinking. All animals must be fed between the hours of 6:00 - 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. All feed buckets or pans must be removed immediately after each feeding.
6. **Ownership:** The exhibitor must own all market cattle or have joint ownership within a family corporation and/or partnerships of 4-H members with one or more parent, sibling and/or legal guardian are acceptable. Dairy Cattle (Department 2) and Breeding Stock Beef (Department 4, Divisions G-P) may also be leased.
7. All fans must be suspended in front or side of cattle, not behind. Placement of fans will be at the discretion of the beef superintendent and/or the MSU Extension staff.
8. Cattle may be loaded out on Saturday, September 26, 2026, from 11:00 p.m. - 12 midnight or Sunday, September 27, 2026, at 5:30 a.m. All stalls must be cleaned after animals are removed from the fairgrounds.
9. At the 4-H Superintendent and/or MSU Extension's discretion, an exhibitor with a market animal forced to leave for veterinary reasons by the fair veterinarian may be allowed to bring their other duly registered animal to replace the disqualified animal. Replacement animals must be exchanged within 12 hours of the disqualified animal's departure, but no later than 9:00 p.m. Monday

night. Replacement animals are subject to normal check-in procedures and vet checks.

Department 2 - Dairy Cattle
Bill Prichard, Superintendent
Tricia Ulsh, Assistant Superintendent

1. Read and follow "General Cattle Rules", see page 10.
2. 2026 Cattle Leasing Rules/Guidelines must be followed. All lease/borrow release forms are due to the MSU Extension Office by August 1 at 4:00 p.m. Guidelines and lease agreement form available online at www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_livestock or at the MSU Extension Office. 4-H members may lease up to two dairy animals as a beginner showman, up to three dairy animals as an intermediate showman, and up to four dairy animals as a senior showman. **Exception:** if animals are progeny of original 4-H lease animals, beginners may take up to four, intermediate may take up to six, and seniors may take up to eight. Milk payouts will not be increased based on progeny count.
3. **Exhibitor Dress Code:** The St. Joseph County 4-H Dairy Cattle Project exhibitor dress code is as follows: white shirt, black slacks/pants, belt and leather shoes.
4. All 4-H dairy cattle must be checked in on Friday, September 18, 2026, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. or Saturday, September 19, 2026, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
5. Exhibitors may show up to two animals per class in Divisions C - H, as applicable.
6. Dairy cattle exhibited in 4-H dairy cattle classes must be purebred stock. No crossbreds. Registration is not required.
7. Dairy cattle must be tied to mangers with rope or leather halters. Ropes or binder twine tied around the neck is not acceptable.
8. All Dairy Cattle born prior to April 1, 2026, must be dehorned and completely healed by fair. Horn re-growth on scurs is at the discretion of the superintendent.
9. **Gallon of Milk Pledges:** Proceeds from the sale of the milk will be divided as follows: after expenses, 2% to Dairy Cattle Project Developmental Fund, 5% (capped at \$500.00) to 1st place Dairy Cattle Senior Showmanship winner, each remaining senior showmanship class participant split 5%, with the balance divided among Dairy Cattle project members based on number of dairy animals shown at the fair. If a 4-H member is leasing their dairy project animals: beginning members receive gallon of milk money not to exceed two animals worth, intermediate members may receive gallon of milk money not to exceed three animals worth, senior members may receive gallon of milk money not to exceed four animals worth. Based on the leasing program.
10. **Dairy Cattle Feeding/Milking schedule:** 5:00-8:00 a.m. or until finished and 5:00-8:00 p.m. or until finished.

Division A - Evaluation
(A, B, C premium table = 2)

1. **Required participation by all exhibitors:** Any exhibitor exhibiting any type of dairy cattle breeding stock must participate in the 4-H Dairy Cattle Project Evaluation. A completed evaluation includes both an interview with a judge and the completion of a project report notebook. Failure to complete an evaluation will result in their dairy cattle project animal(s) disqualification from the show(s)

and require the removal of their cattle from the fairgrounds.

2. **Dairy Cattle Project Interviews will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2026, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.** Interviews will be conducted on an individual basis at the stall where the exhibitor's dairy cattle project animal(s) are housed. Exhibitor must meet all interview requirements to be considered for Best-of-Show.
3. **Project Report:** The exhibitor must turn in the completed project report in a 3-ring binder notebook with the exhibitor's picture (at least 4" x 6") on the cover. It will be reviewed with the member during the interview process.
4. **Evaluation Dress Code:** Long pants (no rips or holes), dress shirt with short or long sleeves (no sleeveless but does NOT have to be collared), leather shoes/boots.

Class

- 201 - Dairy Cattle Project Evaluation - exhibitors 8-11 yrs. old.
202 - Best-of-Show in class 201. **(R)**
203 - Dairy Cattle Project Evaluation - exhibitors 12-14 yrs. old.
204 - Best-of-Show in class 203. **(R)**
205 - Dairy Cattle Project Evaluation - exhibitors 15-19 yrs. old.
206 - Best-of-Show in class 205. **(R)**

Division B - Dairy Cattle Fitting & Showmanship
(Placing premium table = 102)

1. All exhibitors are eligible to compete in showmanship classes. Pre-registration is required.
2. If there are too many entries in a class, it may be divided at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.
3. Exhibitors must show their own project animal.
4. Must follow Dairy Cattle Project exhibitor dress code.

Class

- 207 - Dairy Cattle Fitting & Showmanship, 8-11 **(BR, Show Halter)**
208 - Dairy Cattle Fitting & Showmanship, 12-14 **(BR, Show Halter)**
209 - Dairy Cattle Fitting & Showmanship, 15-19 **(Cow Bell Trophy, Special Award, R)**

Division C - Holstein
(Placing premium table = 102)

Class

- 210 - Spring Heifer Calf, born March 1 - July 21, 2026. Heifer calves born after July 21, 2026, that are progeny of original club animals may also be shown.
211 - Winter Heifer Calf, born December 1, 2025 - February 29, 2026
212 - Fall Heifer Calf, born Sept. 1 - Nov. 30, 2025
213 - Summer Yearling Heifer, born June 1 - August 31, 2025
214 - Spring Yearling Heifer, born March 1 - May 31, 2025
215 - Winter Yearling Heifer, born December 1, 2024 - February 28, 2025
216 - Fall Yearling Heifer, born September 1, - November 30, 2024 (Fall Yearling Heifers in production must be shown in class 214)
217 - Junior Champion Female (winners of classes 210-216) **(TR)**

- 218 - Reserve Jr. Champion Female (winners of classes 210-216 except Jr. Champion, plus the second-place animal in the Jr. Champion's age class) **(TR)**
- 219 - Yearling Heifer in Production, born September 1, 2024-February 28, 2025
- 220 - Junior Two-Year-Old Cow, born March 1 - August 31, 2024
- 221 - Senior Two-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2023 - February 28, 2024
- 222 - Three-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023
- 223 - Four-Year-Old Cow, born September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022
- 224 - Aged Cow, five years old and older, born before September 1, 2021
- 225 - Senior Champion Female (winners of classes 219-224) **(TR)**
- 226 - Reserve Senior Champion Female (winners in classes 219-224 except Sr. Champion, plus the second-place animal in the Sr. Champion's age class) **(TR)**
- 227 - Grand Champion Female (winners of classes 217, 218, 225 & 226) **(BR)**
- 228 - Reserve Grand Champion Female (winners of classes 217, 218, 225 & 226, except Grand Champion). **(BR)**
- 229 - Produce of Dam - two daughters, any age, produce of one cow, owned by one exhibitor. One entry per exhibitor.
- 230 - Dam and Daughter, owned by one exhibitor. One entry per exhibitor.

Division D - Ayrshire
Division E - Brown Swiss
Division F - Guernsey
Division G - Jersey

Division H - Any other Breed
 (Same classes and premiums as Division C)

Division I - Dairy Herd
(Placing premium table = 102)

Class

- 231 - Three Best Females - three best females owned or leased by one exhibitor, which have been shown in the regular youth classes. One entry per exhibitor. **(R)**
- 232 - Club Dairy Herd - herd to consist of three animals owned or leased by two or more exhibitors. One entry per 4-H club. Premium payable to club only **(A, B, C premium table = 7a) (R)**

Division J - Bred & Own

Class

- 233 - Animal Bred and Owned by exhibitor **(Banner)**

Division K – Championships

1. All Grand Champion Females in Divisions C-H are entered in this class.

Class

- 234 - Supreme Cow **(Banner)**

Department 4 - Beef Cattle

Steve Trattles, Superintendent
Ralph Gage, Assistant Superintendent
Cole Kelley, Assistant Superintendent
Andrew Littlefield, Assistant Superintendent
Matt Littlefield, Assistant Superintendent
Jim Trattles, Assistant Superintendent

1. Read and follow "General Cattle Rules", see page 10.
2. **Possession:** Each exhibitor must remain in possession of their market animals after tag/weight-in and must be housed at the member's home. Animals may be housed within a 25-mile radius if approved by the Superintendent. If an animal is determined to be in violation, that animal will be disqualified unless special permission is granted by the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension prior to moving the animal elsewhere.
3. Market Heifers must be accompanied by a dated vet slip that confirms the animal is not pregnant within 30 days of fair. All Breeding Stock cattle must be unloaded at weigh-in scales, not to be weighed in, just to be checked in.
4. **Dehorning:** All Dairy Feeders Steers must be dehorned before they will be allowed to be registered and weighed in June. All other cattle born prior to April 1st of the project year must be clean-polled or dehorned with allowance of 1 ½" regrowth at fair weigh-in. **Exception:** Carcass beef animal horn regrowth at the discretion of the Beef Superintendent.
5. All beef/dairy beef animals must be weighed-in on Friday, September 18, 2026, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. or Saturday, September 19, 2026, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
6. **Exhibitor Dress Code:** The St. Joseph County 4-H dress code is as follows: For evaluations and show: long pants (no rips or holes), collared dress shirt with sleeves (NO sleeveless), leather shoes/boots.
7. **Order of Show:** Fitting & Showmanship (oldest to youngest age group including Cloverbuds), Dairy Market Steers, Market Steers (lightest to heaviest classes), Market Heifer, County Bred & Raised, Grand Drive, Beef Feeder Steers, Beef Feeder Grand Drive, Breeding Stock.
8. **Fitting:** All painting of hair must be done outside, and there will be no painting above the flank.
9. All market beef/dairy beef animals must have a destination on file by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 25, 2026, or it will be shipped for resale.
10. All beef animals must be shown by registered exhibitor in both showmanship and market class unless approval by beef superintendent 24 hours prior to show in writing.
11. **Beef Sale "Check-Off" Fees:** In accordance with the 1985 Farm Bill and state law (Act No. 291) a \$1.00/head fee + \$1.00/head or 1% (0.001) of gross sale (whichever is less) on all market cattle sold at fair livestock sales will be collected.
12. **Limitations:** Exhibitors may register all five types of cattle (market heifer, market steer, beef feeder steer, dairy market steer and dairy feeder steer) but may only show and sell **one** type of market cattle at fair and one in the Beef Carcass Contest. All cattle may be cross-tagged between family members living in the **SAME** primary household. **Exception:** Exhibitors may show both a dairy market steer and a dairy feeder steer or a market steer/heifer and a beef feeder steer. The market steer/heifer must be shown for showmanship and market classes, and must sell. Feeder steers will be shown for

market class only and will not sell unless they are Grand or Reserve Grand Champion.

13. No barn set-up in the beef barns on Saturday, September 12, 2026, until all carcass weigh-ins are completed.

Division A - Beef Project Evaluation (A, B, C premium table = 2)

1. **Required participation by all exhibitors:** All exhibitors exhibiting any type of beef cattle project must participate in the 4-H Beef Project Evaluation. A completed evaluation includes an interview with a judge and answering questions from the beef skill-a-thon. Failure to complete an evaluation will result in cattle project animal(s) disqualification from the show(s) and require the removal of their cattle from the fairgrounds.
2. Beef Project Evaluations will be conducted on an individual basis on **Saturday, September 19, 2026, starting at 2:00 p.m.** at the stall where the exhibitor's cattle project animal(s) are housed. Sign up at check-in.

Class

- 401 - Beef Project Evaluation, exhibitor 8-11 years old
- 402 - Best-of-Show in class 401 (R)
- 403 - Beef Project Evaluation, exhibitor 12-14 years old
- 404 - Best-of-Show in class 403 (R)
- 405 - Beef Project Evaluation, exhibitor 15-19 years old
- 406 - Best-of-Show in class 405 (R)

Division B - Market Steers/Heifer & Beef Breeding Stock Fitting & Showmanship (Placing premium table = 102)

1. All exhibitors are required to compete in Fitting & Showmanship classes, showing their own project animal. Pre-registration is required.
2. All beef (market beef steers/heifers, beef feeders, and breeding stock) will be shown in this Division, except Dairy Feeder Steers, which will be shown in Department 4, Division U.
3. Classes will be judged from oldest to youngest age group.
4. Classes may be divided at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.
5. Bull calf under 1-year can be used as showmanship animal only if the calf is the exhibitor's only animal.

Class

- 407 - Market Steers/Heifer & Beef Breeding Stock Fitting & Showmanship, 15-19 (BR)
- 408 - Market Steers/Heifer & Beef Breeding Stock Fitting & Showmanship, 12-14 (BR)
- 409 - Market Steers/Heifer & Beef Breeding Stock Fitting & Showmanship, 8-11 (BR)

Division C - Market Steers/Heifers (Placing premium table = 102)

1. **Registration and Ear-tagging:** All market steers/heifers must be ear-tagged and registered at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension countywide weigh-in/registration on March 21, 2026, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Market beef animals that are not registered on this date are not eligible to be shown at the fair. Exhibitors may ear-tag and register two market steers/heifers, but may show and sell only one at the fair and one in the Beef Carcass

Contest. All animals may be cross-tagged between family members living in the **SAME** primary household.

2. Market steer/heifer must weigh a minimum of 1,000 lbs. to compete in this Division.
3. "County Bred and Raised Steer Certification Form" must be filed in the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office **date-stamped** by April 15, for a steer/heifer to be eligible for Classes 1026 and 1027.
4. Beef Market Steers will be divided into classes at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.
5. All market steers/heifers will be consigned to the Large Animal Auction unless the Livestock Removal Authorization Form is submitted to the 4-H office by **Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 8:00 p.m. Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market beef must sell.**

Class

- 410 - Beef Market Steer
- 411 - Champion Lightweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 412 - Res. Champion Lightweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 413 - Champion Mediumweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 414 - Res. Champion Mediumweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 415 - Champion Heavyweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 416 - Res. Champion Heavyweight Beef Steer (TR)
- 417 - Beef Market Heifer
- 418 - Champion Beef Market Heifer (TR)
- 419 - Reserve Champion Beef Heifer (TR)
- 420 - County Bred and Raised Market Beef
- 421 - Champion County Bred and Raised Market Beef (TR)
- 422 - Res. Champion County Bred and Raise Market Beef (TR)
- 423 - Grand Champion Beef Animal (BR)
- 424 - Reserve Grand Champion Beef Animal (BR)

Division D - Carcass Beef Contest (Placing premium table = 105a)

1. Due to the limited number of beef that can be handled for slaughter entries in this Division are limited to 10 participants. If more than 10 participants submit entry forms, selection of the 10 participants will be based on a combined factor of exhibitor's age plus number of years in project.
2. Completed entry forms must be received in the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office by June 10 to be considered. Applicants will be notified by letter regarding the status of their entry.
3. Animals must be weighed at the fairgrounds on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Beef project leaders will coordinate trucking of carcass contest entries to processor.
4. The Carcass Beef Evaluation will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Bontrager's Custom Meat Processing in Leonidas.
5. Exhibitors participating in this contest are required to attend the Carcass Beef Evaluation to receive a premium and any associated awards. College students will be exempt from the Carcass Beef Evaluation if approved by MSU Extension 4-H Program Coordinator by August 15. Any member who fails to meet this requirement will have his/her animal disqualified from the contest.
6. Carcass beef animals (steer or heifer) must weigh a minimum of 1,000 lbs. for market beef and 1,100 lbs. for dairy market beef at weigh-in at the fairgrounds on Saturday, September 12, 2026, to be eligible to compete.
7. All beef carcass animals MUST be broken to lead.

8. If a carcass animal is disqualified at the live evaluation, the member can request that the animal be shipped with the rest of the carcass animals for butchering, however, the member will be responsible for all processing expenses, and the animal will **not** be entered into the carcass contest. Exhibitor will still be required to attend hanging evaluation for educational purposes.
9. Additional information is available at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office and will be mailed to those enrolled in this class.

Class

- 425 - Carcass Beef
- 426 - Champion Beef Carcass (**Special T & R**)
- 427 - Reserve Champion Beef Carcass (**Special T & R**)

Division E - Market Beef Rate-of-Gain (Placing premium table = 105a)

1. Animals exhibited in a market beef class are eligible.
2. Each properly registered market beef for which complete information is on file will automatically be entered in the rate-of-gain class.
3. First place is awarded to the individual market beef with the highest average daily rate-of-gain.

Class

- 428 - Beef Market Beef Rate-of-Gain (**1st T, 2nd T**)

Division F - Beef Feeder Steers (Placing premium table = 102)

1. Read and follow "Beef Cattle" rules, see page 12.
2. **Registration and Ear-tagging:** All beef feeder steers must be ear-tagged and registered at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension countywide weigh-in/registration on June 2 or June 4, 2026, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Beef feeder steers that are not registered on either of these dates are not eligible to be shown at the fair. Exhibitors may ear-tag and register two beef feeder steers, but may show and sell only one at the fair if all eligibility requirements are met. All animals may be cross-tagged between family members living in the **SAME** primary household.
3. Beef feeder steers must be castrated and dehorned by the countywide weigh-in at the fairgrounds.
4. Beef feeder steers must receive one vaccination at the June weigh-in to help protect them against Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD), Para-Influenza (PI3) and Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV). A booster vaccination must be administered 2-4 weeks following the first vaccination. Naselgen to be administered August 24 - September 7, 2026, in order to be exhibited at fair. Contact the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office for specific vaccination requirements. The club Beef Project leader will help club members ensure that the required vaccinations are administered in accordance with the vaccination timetable. Active, duly registered St. Joseph County 4-H Beef Project leaders or veterinarians may only administer vaccinations.
5. Beef feeder steers must weigh 175 - 400 lbs. at initial weigh-in at the countywide weigh/tag registration days on June 2 or June 4. Calves that weigh less than 175 lbs. or more than 400 lbs. will not be registered as beef feeder steers.
6. Calves must be weaned at least two weeks prior to fair check-in in September.

7. **Beef Feeder Steers must gain at least 1.75#/day.** There is no maximum weight at fair.
8. **Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion beef feeder steers must be sold in the 4-H Large Animal Sale.** All other beef feeder steers will be sold in the sale or, upon completion of the Animal Removal Authorization form by the exhibitor and one parent/guardian by **8:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 22, 2026**, will take the animal home when animals are released from the fair. **Exception:** if showing a market steer/heifer, market animal must be sold and beef feeder steer will not be.
9. Beef feeder steers will be divided into classes at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.

Class

- 429 - Beef Feeder Steer
- 430 - Champion Lightweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 431 - Res. Champion Lightweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 432 - Champion Mediumweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 433- Res. Champion Mediumweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 434 - Champion Heavyweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 435 - Res. Champion Heavyweight Beef Feeder Steer (**TR**)
- 436 - Grand Champion Beef Feeder Steer (**BR**)
- 437 - Res. Grand Champion Beef Feeder Steer (**BR**)

Division G – Beef Feeder Steer Rate-of-Gain (Placing premium table = 105a)

1. Each properly registered beef feeder steer for which complete information is on file will automatically be entered in the rate-of-gain class.
2. First place is awarded to the individual beef feeder steer, with the highest average daily rate-of-gain.

Class

- 438 - Beef Feeder Steer Rate-of-Gain (**1st T**), (**2nd T**)

Division H - Q Breeding Stock Rules (Placing premium table = 102)

1. Exhibitors may exhibit more than one breed of beef cattle breeding stock, with Divisions H - Q each representing a different breed for purposes of this rule. Exhibitors with dual-registered animals may only show in one breed class.
2. **Ownership and Registration:** All breeding stock animals must either meet 4-H ownership criteria and be registered in their name, or a Cattle Leasing Form must be submitted to the office by August 1 of the current year.
3. 2026 Cattle Leasing Rules/Guidelines must be followed. All lease/borrow release forms are due to the MSU Extension Office by August 1 at 4:00 p.m. Guidelines and lease agreement form available online at www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_livestock or at the MSU Extension Office. 4-H members may lease up to two breeding stock animals as a beginner showman, up to three breeding stock animals as an intermediate showman, and up to four breeding stock animals as a senior showman. A senior member may exceed project animal if animals are progeny of original 4-H lease animals.
4. All breeding stock animals must meet breed standards under which they are entered for competition. **Exception:** Division O, Commercial Females.
5. All bulls must be confined to 4-H Beef Cattle Barn unless being led for judging.

Division H - Angus

Class

- 439 - Junior Bull Calf, born May 1, 2026, and after
- 440 - Intermediate Bull Calf, born January 1 - April 30, 2026
- 441 - Senior Bull Calf, born September 1 - December 31, 2025
- 442 - Grand Champion Bull (R)
- 443 - Reserve Grand Champion Bull (R)
- 444 - Junior Heifer Calf, born May 1, 2026, and after.
- 445 - Intermediate Heifer Calf, born January 1 - April 30, 2026
- 446 - Senior Heifer Calf, born September 1 - December 31, 2025
- 447 - Summer Yearling Heifer, born May 1 - August 31, 2025
- 448 - Junior Yearling Heifer, born January 1 - April 30, 2025
- 449 - Junior Champion Female (R)
- 450 - Reserve Junior Champion Female (R)
- 451 - Senior Yearling Heifer, born September 1 - December 31, 2024
- 452 - 2-Year-Old Cow with calf at side, calf born in 2026
- 453 - 3-Year-Old Cow or older with calf at side, calf born 2026
- 454 - Senior Champion Female (R)
- 455 - Reserve Senior Champion Female (R)
- 456 - Champion Female (classes 449 & 454) (R)
- 457 - Reserve Champion Female (classes 450 & 455) (R)

Division I - Maine Anjou

Division J - Chianina

Division K - Hereford

Division L - Shorthorn

1. Registered Appendix Shorthorn cattle may not show against purebred registered Shorthorns per National Shorthorn Association policy.

Division M - Simmental

Division N - Other Breeds

Division O - Commercial Females

(Same Classes and Premiums as Division H, no bull classes)

Division P - Championships

Class

- 458 - Supreme Champion Female in Divisions H - O (BR)
- 459 - Reserve Supreme Champion Female (BR)
- 460 - Supreme Champion Bull in Divisions H - N (BR)

Division Q - Club Herd

(A, B, C premium table = 7a)

Class

- 461 - Club Beef Herd - three animals owned by one or more members of the same 4-H club or FFA chapter. If the club has two or more members exhibiting breeding stock at the fair, the exhibit must include animals shown by at least two different exhibitors. Limited to one entry per 4-H club or FFA chapter. Premium payable to club or chapter only.

Dairy Beef

1. Read and follow "Beef Cattle" rules, see page 12.

Division R - Dairy Beef Project Evaluation (A, B, C premium table = 2)

1. **Required participation by all exhibitors:** All exhibitors exhibiting any type of dairy beef cattle project must participate in the 4-H Dairy Beef Project Evaluation. A completed evaluation includes an interview with a judge and answering questions from the dairy beef skill-a-thon. Failure to complete an evaluation will result in cattle project animal(s) disqualification from the show(s) and require the removal of their cattle from the fairgrounds.
2. Dairy Beef Project Evaluations will be conducted on an individual basis on **Saturday, September 19, 2026, starting at 2:00 p.m.** at the stall where the exhibitor's cattle project animal(s) are housed. Sign up at check-in.

Class

- 462 - Dairy Beef Evaluation - exhibitors 8-11 years old
- 463 - Best-of-Show in class 462 (R)
- 464 - Dairy Beef Evaluation - exhibitors 12-14 years old
- 465 - Best-of-Show in class 464 (R)
- 466 - Dairy Beef Evaluation - exhibitors 15-19 years old
- 467 - Best-of-Show in class 466 (R)

Division S - Dairy Feeder Fitting & Showmanship (Placing premium table = 102)

1. All exhibitors are required to compete in Fitting & Showmanship classes showing their own project animal. Pre-registration is required.
2. Only Dairy Feeder Steers may be shown in this Division. Dairy Beef Market Steers will be shown in Division B.
3. Classes will be judged from oldest to youngest age group.
4. Classes may be divided at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.

Class

- 468 - Dairy Feeder Steer Fitting & Showmanship, 15-19 (BR)
- 469 - Dairy Feeder Steer Fitting & Showmanship, 12-14 (BR)
- 470 - Dairy Feeder Steer Fitting & Showmanship, 8-11 (BR)

Division T - Dairy Feeder Steers (Placing premium table = 102)

10. Read and follow "Beef Cattle" rules, see page 12.
11. **Registration and Ear-tagging:** All dairy feeder steers must be ear-tagged and registered at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension countywide weigh-in/registration on June 2 or June 4, 2026, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Dairy feeder steers that are not registered on either of these dates are not eligible to be shown at the fair. Exhibitors may ear-tag and register two dairy feeder steers, but may show and sell only one at the fair if all eligibility requirements are met. All animals may be cross-tagged between family members living in the **SAME** primary household.
12. Dairy feeder steers must be castrated and dehorned by the countywide weigh-in at the fairgrounds.
13. Dairy feeder steers must receive one vaccination at the June weigh-in to help protect them against Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD), Para-Influenza (PI3) and Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRV). A booster vaccination must be

administered 2-4 weeks following the first vaccination. Naselgen to be administered August 24 - September 7, 2026, in order to be exhibited at fair. Contact the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office for specific vaccination requirements. The club Dairy Beef Project leader will help club members ensure that the required vaccinations are administered in accordance with the vaccination timetable. Active, duly registered St. Joseph County 4-H Dairy Beef Project leaders or veterinarians may only administer vaccinations.

14. All dairy feeder steers must be a purebred or crossbred dairy animal of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Dutch Belt, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, and Lineback.
15. Dairy feeder steers must weigh 175 - 325 lbs. at initial weigh-in at the countywide weigh/tag registration days on June 2 or June 4. Calves that weigh less than 175 lbs. or more than 325 lbs. will not be registered as dairy feeder steers.
16. **Dairy Feeder Steers must gain at least 1.75#/day.** There is no maximum weight at fair.
17. **Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion dairy feeder steers must be sold in the 4-H Large Animal Sale.** All other dairy feeder steers will be sold in the sale or, upon completion of the Animal Removal Authorization form by the exhibitor and one parent/guardian by **8:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 22**, will take the animal home when animals are released from the fair. **Exception:** if showing a dairy market steer, the dairy market steer must be sold and the dairy feeder steer will not be.
18. Dairy feeder steers will be divided into classes at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.

Class

- 471 - Dairy Feeder Steer
- 472 - Champion Lightweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 473 - Res. Champion Lightweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 474 - Champion Mediumweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 475 - Res. Champion Mediumweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 476 - Champion Heavyweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 477 - Res. Champion Heavyweight Dairy Feeder Steer (TR)
- 478 - Grand Champion Dairy Feeder Steer (BR)
- 479 - Res. Grand Champion Dairy Feeder Steer (BR)

Division U - Dairy Feeder Steer Rate-of-Gain (Placing premium table = 105a)

1. Each properly registered dairy feeder steer for which complete information is on file will automatically be entered in the rate-of-gain class.
2. First place is awarded to the individual dairy feeder steer, with the highest average daily rate-of-gain.

Class

- 480 - Dairy Feeder Steer Rate-of-Gain (1st T), (2nd T)

Division V - Dairy Market Steers (Placing premium table = 102)

1. Read and follow "Beef Cattle" rules, see page 12.
2. All dairy market steers must be ear-tagged and registered at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension countywide weigh-in/registration on March 21, 2026, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Exhibitors may ear-tag and register two market steers, but may show and sell only one at the fair and one in the Beef Carcass Contest. All animals may be cross-

tagged between family members living in the **SAME** primary household.

3. All dairy market steers must be a purebred or crossbred dairy animal of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Dutch Belt, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, and Lineback.
4. Dairy market steer must weigh a minimum of 1,100 lbs. to compete in this Division.
5. **Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion dairy market steers must sell.** All other dairy market steers will be sold in the sale or, upon completion of the Animal Removal Authorization form by the exhibitor and one parent/guardian by **8:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 22**, will take the animal home when animals are released from the fair.
6. Dairy market steers will be divided into classes at the discretion of the Superintendent and/or MSU Extension.

Class

- 481 - Dairy Market Steer
- 482 - Grand Champion Dairy Market Steer (BR)
- 483 - Res. Grand Champion Dairy Market Steer (BR)

Division W - Dairy Market Steer Rate-of-Gain (Placing premium table = 105a)

1. Each properly registered dairy market steer for which complete information is on file will automatically be entered in the rate-of-gain class.
2. First place is awarded to the individual dairy market steer with the highest average daily rate-of-gain.

Class

- 484 - Dairy Market Steer Rate-of-Gain (1st T, 2nd T)

Department 6 - Sheep

Ryan Waltke, Superintendent
Bill Kelley, Assistant Superintendent
Keegan New, Assistant Superintendent
Grace Sturgill, Assistant Superintendent

1. See www.michigan.gov/mdard/animals/exhibitions.
2. Read and follow "General Exhibitor Livestock Rules" starting on Page 7.
3. Exhibitors will not be allowed to enter or exhibit in this species department if exhibited at another county fair during the current year.
4. All Sheep intended for exhibition at the fair must have a USDA scrapie ear tag in order to be unloaded, weighed in June and housed at the fair. All farm tags excluding scrapie tags must be removed prior to June weigh in. Call MDA to register and receive a premises identification number at 888-565-8626 then call USDA to order official tags at 517-324-5290.
5. **Ownership:** The exhibitor must own all sheep or have joint ownership within a family corporation and/or partnerships of 4-H members with one or more parent, sibling and/or legal guardian. Exhibitors may tag up to four (4) lambs. All sheep may be cross-tagged between family members living in the SAME primary household. **No leasing of lambs is allowed.**
6. **Possession:** Each 4-H member must remain in possession of their animals after tag/weigh-in and must be housed at the