

DEPARTMENT 100 — Beef Cattle

Junior Fair Beef Committee:

Superintendent: Avalynn Stearns

Asst. Superintendents: Trever Shaffer and Dawson Bushman

Committee: Grace Miller, Owen Foos, Sara Britton, Gordon Ayers, Faith Morgart, Daine Stearns, Jackson Vetter, Jane Balusik and Olivia Rogers

Senior Fair Committee

Chair: Dave Nietz

Committee: Abby Winslow

Assistant: Mallory Kramer

Exhibitors should enter their Feeder Classes in FairEntry prior to ID Day in May.

Exhibitors will enter all other Beef Classes including showmanship and online add on sale using FairEntry – Entry Deadline is June 1 at 11:59 pm.

All Cattle, including Breeding Heifers MUST have an RFID tag in their ear upon arrival at the fairgrounds which matches their entry in Fair Entry

FAIR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Barn Open for Arrival: Saturday August 1st, 2026, at 8:00AM

Mandatory Barn Meeting: Saturday, August 1st at 6:30 PM in the Pavilion Show Ring

Weigh-In: Saturday, August 1st, 7-9 PM in the Sheep Show Arena

** At weigh-ins you must identify where the animal will be going after the Fair. The only options are the MARKET TRUCK, FEEDER SALE or HOME. There will be no changes after weigh-in.

PRE-FAIR ID DAY/WEIGH IN

1. All Feeder Calves **must be identified** at ID Day in May. Exhibitors may identify 3 beef feeders and/or 3 dairy/crossbred dairy feeders but only 2 beef feeders and/or 2 dairy/crossbred dairy feeders may be shown at the fair.
2. Weigh-In of Beef Feeder calves is optional. You will only need to weigh-in if you wish to participate in the Rate of Gain Contest.
3. Dairy Beef Feeders and Crossbred Dairy Beef Feeders must be identified, weighed in, an RFID tag given (if needed) and receive a vaccination. (See rules below for more information on the vaccination.)
4. Beef Feeders needing an RFID tag can be tagged at ID Day if needed.
5. Rate of Gain Contest- all feeder calves weighed at the May ID Day must be **500 lbs. or less** to participate in this contest. The Top 5 animals with the most pounds gained, as determined at the fair weigh-in, will be awarded the plaques.

BEEF SHOW DATES & TIMES:

Wednesday August 5th, 2026, at 8:30 AM-

1. Showmanship - Sr. Prelims, Jr. Prelims, Sr. Finals, Jr. Finals
2. Breeding and Feeder Show
3. Market Show
4. Final Drive

Showmanship Order:

1. Beef Feeders
2. Dairy/Crossbred Dairy Beef Feeders
3. Market Steers/Heifers/Dairy Steers/Breeding Heifers
4. Overall Supreme Sr. and Jr. Showmanship, only the Supreme Sr. Champion will represent the Beef Department in The Buchman Showmanship Sweepstakes.

Breeding and Feeder Show Order:

1. Breeding Heifers
2. Beef Feeders
3. Dairy Beef Feeders and Crossbred Dairy Beef Feeders

Market Show Order:

1. Dairy Steers
2. Dairy Cross Steers
3. Market Heifer
4. County Born and Raised Market Steers
5. Out of County Market Steers
6. Overall Grand Champion Market Animal

Final drive will start 30 minutes after last market class.

RULES FOR MARKET HEIFER, COUNTY BORN & RAISED AND OUT OF COUNTY SHOW

Market Heifers will show first in a division of their own (CBR & OOC together.) Top 5 overall will be placed but only Grand and Reserve Champion will be eligible for the Overall Final Drive. CBR Market Steers will show next and a Top 5 will be selected. Then we will move into the OOC Market Steers show. Top 5 will be selected. Then the top 2 Market Heifers, Top 5 CBR and Top 5 OOC will then show together for the Overall Top 5 Market animal.

General Beef Rules

1. All Market and Feeder Beef Animals MUST have an RFID ear tag prior to arrival at the fairgrounds.
2. ODA Livestock Exhibition Rules and Requirements for all livestock can be found in the Health Regulations and Inspection of Livestock section of the book.
3. All Jr. Fair Beef Animals must be on the fairgrounds and tied with neckties in their properly assigned stall by 6:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the first day of fair.
4. Stall assignments will be made by the Jr. & Sr. Fair Superintendents. You may not change your stall assignment. If there is an issue, contact the Jr. Fair Coordinator as soon as possible.
5. No straw or bedding allowed in the barn; mulch will be provided. Exhibitors may be charged a fee if donations are not secured to cover costs.
6. All barn rules will be observed daily. Important announcements will be posted on the department bulletin board.
7. All cattle must be dry when weighed.
8. Exhibitors may only win 1 rate of gain plaque per beef project (Ex: 1 market beef, 1 dairy/crossbred dairy beef & 1 beef feeder) and only qualify for rate of gain, if they weighed in at the weigh in/ID Day.

9. A mandatory barn meeting will be held prior to the fair weigh-in. All exhibitors must be present.
10. Exhibitors must complete the online DUNF form for each market beef and feeder calf brought to the fair. They need to be filled out the Friday before the fair starts.
11. Exhibitors will be required to designate all beef projects in FairEntry such as: Going Home, Market Truck or Feeder Sale. Changes can be made during Saturday's weigh-in but there will be **no changes** after that.
12. Breed papers for the Breeding Heifers will be required and must be brought with the animal to the scales immediately following weigh-in to be verified by the beef committee. If an exhibitor is unable to provide the proper registration papers, the animal will be put into a crossbred class.
13. Showmanship classes will be limited to one animal per exhibitor. Exhibitors with entries in breeding, feeder, or market steer/heifer, must choose the one animal to enter in showmanship. This designation must be made in FairEntry by June 1, but you may switch classes at fair weigh-in. No changes will be made after that. Exhibitors must show their own animal. Any animal born after Jan. 1 must be shown with feeder classes. Animals born prior to Jan 1 must be shown with market animals.
14. No market heifer may be shown in the breeding classes. No breeding heifer may be shown in market classes. Animals can only be shown in one Class.
15. All Beef Cattle must be halter broken and shown with halters.
16. The limit on the number of times an exhibitor's animal can get loose in the show ring is two. If it gets loose a third time, the exhibitor will be excused from competition.
17. Showmanship Contests for all divisions will expect cattle to be clean and dried.
18. Only the exhibitor and the animal they are showing shall be permitted in the staging area.
19. Grand/Reserve Champion and 3rd-5th place will be picked for each Division: market beef, beef feeders, dairy market steers, dairy beef feeders, crossbred dairy market steers, crossbred dairy feeders and beef breeding.
20. When placing the top 5 in each division, if the exhibitor is called to the ring and doesn't show, he/she will be skipped and next in line will move up.
21. Paint or any other type of color enhancements will not be permissible for grooming, including hooves. Animals can be disqualified if added color is found.
22. Any animal will be disqualified if the body or appendages are altered in any way. *The Wood Co. Agricultural Society shall have the right to require any animal (specifically the Champion & Reserve Champion of all Beef classes & showmanship classes) be subject to examination or tests to determine if a substance has been administered to the animal to change the conformation or temperament of the animal.
23. If an exhibitor decides to remove their animal(s) from the fairgrounds for any reason, they will not be permitted to return to the fairgrounds. This means no sale or premium! Exemption to participate in Wood County add on sale if the exhibitor is participating in an official Ohio State Fair Jr Fair show.
24. If no beef project is shown at the fair the exhibitor may not participate in the add on sale.
25. The only fans allowed in the beef barns will be hanging. All floor fans must be approved by the Sr. Fair Beef Committee.
26. No couches or furniture of any kind will be allowed in the building.
27. The Jr. & Sr. Fair Beef Superintendents will make final decisions on any rules not covered.

Rules for Market Steers/Heifers & Dairy Steers

1. Each 4-H and FFA Member may show a maximum of 2 steers/heifers at the Wood County Junior Fair.
2. An exhibitor may weigh up to 3 market steers/heifers prior to the fair but may only bring 2 to the fair.
3. All 4-H and FFA market steers/heifers must be identified, on feed, and in the members immediate possession and daily care by the December weigh in. All cattle must be dehorned and properly healed by show. (Smooth healed)
4. Dairy steers, Crossbred Dairy Steers, Market Steers and Market Heifers will be divided into show classes by weight at the discretion of the Jr. & Sr. Fair Board. There will be an option for 1 reweigh immediately following the first weigh. The second weight taken will be the published sale weight.
5. The Overall Grand/Reserve Champions must go on the market truck and be slaughtered by the packer determined by the fair board.
6. Dairy Steers must be of a dairy breed or a cross of dairy breeds. (Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, and milking shorthorn)

Rules for Dairy Beef Feeders, Crossbred Dairy Beef Feeders and Beef Feeders

1. All Feeder Calves must be identified, on feed, and in the member's immediate possession and daily care by the May ID Day.
 1. May ID Day is MANDATORY for all Dairy, Crossbred Dairy and Beef Feeders. ALL FEEDERS must come in and have RFID tags verified.
 2. May Weigh-In is OPTIONAL for any feeders wishing to participate in the Rate of Gain contest.
2. All dairy and crossbred dairy feeders will be evaluated at the May ID/Weigh in. If determined to be a crossbred dairy feeder and the exhibitor disagrees, they do reserve the right to submit a DNA test to determine the calf to be a purebred dairy feeder at their own expense. DNA tests must be submitted by the Saturday before the first day of fair. All exhibitors of dairy and crossbred dairy beef feeders will be charged up to \$10 for a treatment to ensure healthy calves upon leaving the fairgrounds. This shot will be given at the May ID Day. Vet fees for these shots must be paid at the May ID Day. Cash or check will be accepted.
3. Exhibitors may show a maximum of two dairy beef feeders or crossbred dairy beef feeders and/or two beef feeders in the Wood County Junior Fair. Exhibitors may initially weigh-in 3 dairy beef feeders or crossbred dairy beef feeders and/or 3 beef feeders in case of calamity.
4. Only male dairy animals may be used for dairy/crossbred dairy beef feeder projects. Calves must be castrated by May ID Day. Any feeders showing evidence of testicular tissue as determined by the beef department superintendent and fair veterinarian will be removed from the fairgrounds and are therefore ineligible for awards. Beef Feeder Calves may be of any beef breed or cross between any beef breeds.
5. Dairy Beef Feeder Calves must be of any dairy breed or cross between dairy breeds (Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey, and milking shorthorn). Beef Feeders must be purebred or a mix of beef breeds.
6. All feeder calves must be dehorned by May ID Day. Exhibitors will be notified if their animal is ineligible.

7. Dairy Beef Feeder and Crossbred Dairy Beef Feeder Calves will be shown at the fair in weight classes of approximately ten calves each. Weight divisions will be based upon weigh-in weight of the Saturday before the first day of fair. There will be an option for 1 reweigh immediately following the first weight. The second weight taken will be the published sale weight.
8. A Champion and Reserve Champion Dairy, Crossbred Dairy and Beef Feeder will be selected at the fair. Awards will also be given for 3rd-5th place overall.
9. Exhibitors will have the opportunity to sell their feeder calves at the Jr. Fair Feeder Sale, or they may take the feeders home.
- 10. All dairy beef feeders and crossbred dairy beef feeders must be males, no females.**

Rules for Beef Breeding

1. Each Exhibitor may enter a maximum of 2 entries in each of the breeding classes listed in the Wood County Junior Fair.
2. All beef breeding projects must be identified, have an RFID in their ear and be in the member's immediate possession and daily care by May 1.
3. Beef breeding animals should be entered in the proper division according to breed and in the proper class according to age classifications.

Beef Breeding Divisions:

Angus, Charolais, Hereford, Maine Anjou, Mini Breeds, Red Angus, Shorthorn, Simmental, All Other Breeds, and Crossbred

An Overall Champion and Reserve Champion and places 3-5 County Born Female will be selected.

Beef Breeding Classes

1. Junior Heifer Calf (Born January 1, 2026, to April 1, 2026).
2. Senior Heifer Calf (Born between September 1, and December 31, 2025)
3. Summer Yearling (Born between May 1, 2025, and August 31, 2025)
4. Junior Yearling (Born between January 1, 2025, and April 30, 2025)
5. Senior Yearling (Born between September 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024)
6. Two-Year-Old Heifers
7. Cows
8. Cow Calf Class (Calves born between April 1, 2025 and Wood County Fair).

NEW Cattle Loadout Procedure:

1. Last Sunday of the fair at 6pm
2. Animals going on the Market Truck - If available, please help load your market animal onto the market truck.
3. Enter off Haskins Rd and follow the traffic patterns provided. It will be discussed further at barn meetings and posted in the barns prior to loadout.