



2025 Feeder Calf Project Guide

Noble County



4-H Project Book: #117BF Beef Feeder or #117DF Dairy Beef Feeder or paper copy Livestock Record Book (required) *First year members should use project book. **FFA – AET Records**

Resource Guide: #117R Beef Resource Handbook

Project Animal Requirements:

Beef Feeder - Steers and/or Heifers - Must be Beef breeds

Dairy Beef Feeder – Steers only. Dairy breeds of Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Ayrshire, or dairy crosses of these breeds only.

*Born between Dec. 1, 2024 to April 1, 2025

*Steers must be *Castrated* and ALL must be *Dehorned*

*Possession: By June 13, 2025

*Fair weight limits: Minimum - 300# Maximum - 700#

Pre-Fair Tag-In: * ID Cards and Photos of each feeder calf must be turned in by 4:30 PM on **June 13th to Extension Office.**

* Can tag-in maximum of 3 Feeder Calves but eligible to show and sell 2; exhibitors may only enter, show and sell a total of TWO feeder calves from the following three classifications: Beef Feeder Calf Steer, Beef Feeder Calf Heifer and Dairy Beef Feeder Calf.

* **FAMILY ANIMAL RULE** – To ease the burden for families to buy an extra animal for each child. **A maximum of three animals** may be tagged per member per species (ie. Can tag 3 feeder calves) with two eligible to show and sell at the fair. **Up to One animal per exhibitor** may be tagged/weighed in the “Family” name. Each member must identify at least one or two animals as theirs at the tag-in/weigh-in if they have a “Family” animal. (One family animal can be shared by all members of the family – just put FAMILY on the ID Weigh slip). If a member tags in three animals, they can not have a family animal, because they already have an extra/spare/alternate animal. Anyone in the family can claim a “Family” animal at the fair weigh-in.

Quality Assurance: Exhibitor and one parent/guardian **must** attend one of the sessions offered in Noble County or any other Ohio County **OR** youth must be tested out or completed the YQCA On-Line certification.

*See 4-H Newsletter available at the Extension Office or online at <http://noble.osu.edu> for dates, times and locations.

Fair Stall Reservations Due: Exhibitor must let your club advisor know how many feeder calves you will bring to the fair. A maximum of 2 feeder calves only can be brought to the fair. Stall assignments are due **by August 7th** to your club advisor.

Showmanship Sign-up: If you plan to show in showmanship, a sign-up sheet will be included as part of the Stall Assignment sheets. Sign-up prior to fair with your club advisor; due **by August 7th** to your club advisor. *You will also be able to sign up for showmanship at the fair. Sign up sheets will be located on the bulletin boards on the porch of the Jr. Fair Office.

Pictures – Taken by exhibitor prior to fair. Exhibitor must provide a 4X6 color photo for the Buyer Thank You Cards handed out during the Jr. Fair Livestock Sale. Make sure you and your animal are in the photo and both of you are clean! Drop these off to the Extension Office by Friday before the fair or to the Jr. Fair Office by Tuesday of Fair Week. Put Name and Tag # on back of photo.

What happens at the Fair?

Time to be on Fairgrounds – Beef cattle can be brought to fairgrounds from **Sunday, August 24th @ NOON til Tuesday, August 26th @ 6:30 AM – Must be on grounds by Tuesday, August 26th @ 7:00 AM.** *Tack and bedding **only** can be brought in starting Thursday, August 21st and Friday, August 22nd. Grooming Chutes/Tents/Tack only can be brought in after 9:00 AM on Saturday and all day Sunday and Monday – **No cattle until after NOON on Sunday, Aug. 24th.**

Buyer Thank you posters – make a Thank You poster to thank previous year’s buyer. Hang it in the barn above your pen/stall.

Fair Weigh-In – Tuesday, August 26th starting at 10 AM at King Hall scales. Will weigh by rows in the barn. Barn closed during weigh-in to anyone other than exhibitor and parent. Feeder calves will be weighed **ONLY ONCE – NO EXCEPTIONS**. Feeder calves will also be checked by veterinarian for castration and dehorning. Feeder calves that still have testicular tissue in the scrotum will be rejected. Open (knife) castration at least 4 weeks prior to the Noble County Fair is strongly suggested. **Clamping is prohibited**. Feeder calves must be dehorned with a maximum of 1 inch re-growth allowed or they can have scurs that are a maximum of 1 inch in length. Feeder calves must be completely healed from either castration or dehorning. **Disqualified feeder calves are ineligible for show and sale. *They may be used for showmanship.**

Drug Use Notification Form (completed DUNF must be completed on-line by Friday, August 22nd.). Instructions for completing DUNF forms will be given to you by your advisor prior to the fair. All feeders calves and dairy beef feeders must be **DRUG FREE by 7:00 AM on Thurs. Aug 28th** regardless of if they are selling or not. **Must be drug free to show.**

Shows –Showmanship - Thursday, August 28th @ 8:30 AM – (determined by age - Senior Division first)
Feeder Calf Classes – Thursday, August 28th at 12:00 Noon - (determined by weight – DBF, FCH, FCS)
*Underweight & Overweight animals may show, but will not place in class or sell in Jr. Fair Sale.

- ✓ **DISQUALIFICATIONS:** *Using any substance to enhance or change the color of the livestock, including the livestock's hide or hooves. Adding any substances externally to build up, change or alter the shape or conformation of the livestock, including by way of example but not limited to rope, false hair, graphite, hemp and powders; liquids or gas to change shape or degree of firmness; use of ice water enemas or ice packs; adding artificial tailheads, switches, polls, hair and heels. Using pigmented grooming aids or materials such paints, dye, powder, non- clear adhesive & foam or shoe polish. Transparent grooming products only may be used. Additionally, the member should be present while the animal is being groomed.*

Dress Code Guidelines for Beef Exhibitors:

- Full-length pants, belts are strongly encouraged. No shorts. Dark jeans with back pocket or holster to carry a scotch comb.
- Hard soled shoes or boot are suggested. No clogs, slides, sandals, or athletic shoes.
- Shirts should have collars, long sleeves, and be tucked in. No halter-tops, tank tops, or bare midriff.
- Equipment: Show stick; Show halter; Scotch comb.

Sale – Saturday, August 30, 2025. Each Jr. Fair member exhibitor may sell a maximum of two animals in the Jr. Fair Livestock Sale. Jr. Fair participants must designate 2 hours after the last show on Thursday of fair week which animals they are not taking through the sale ring or forfeit their right to pull their animal(s) from the sale. **If a Jr. Fair participant has three or more market animals** and does not designate 2 hours after the last show on Thursday of fair week which animals they will sell, then their first two animals in the sale order will sell.

What is the Premier Exhibitor Award?

High scoring exhibitor from skillathon/interview (project book required), showmanship and breeding & market class placing. Special awards, cash awards, etc.

Skillathon: *Skillathon is **OPTIONAL** for 4-H & FFA members.* Skillathon will be held August 4th at the Fairgrounds. Sign-up Genius will be used to schedule a time – more information to be shared.

What happens after the Sale?

Thank/contact buyers – thank buyers by note, call, or in person. Some members present tokens of appreciation to their buyers on sale day; not required.

Sale Checks – checks are mailed directly to the exhibitors by the Noble Co. Livestock Sale Committee after payment from buyers has been made. **** Payment will be at least 30 days after the Fair.** If you have questions about your check, contact the Extension Office. ****3%** of the selling price of all livestock marketed through the junior fair sale will be deducted to cover the expenses of the sale and promotional costs.

Premium money – exhibitors are paid \$8.00/project (not animal) for completed project shown at the Fair; up to a total of 4 projects. This money will be given to you by your club advisor.