



LARIMER COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

1525 Blue Spruce Drive
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524-2004
(970) 498-6000
FAX: (970) 498-6025
www.larimer.org/ext

January 23, 2024

2024 Market/Breeding Beef Project Letter

From: Bailey Schilling, 4-H Youth Development/Livestock Agent
To: 4-H Market Beef Members, Leaders and Superintendents

This letter contains the highlights of the 2024 Beef Cattle Project guidelines. Once the Fair Book & schedule are posted online, each member and leader is responsible for reading, understanding and abiding by all rules and regulations. [4-H and Open Class | The Ranch, Larimer County Fairgrounds & Events Complex \(treventscomplex.com\)](#).

Key Leaders: Ty Duke, Don Brehm, & Biz Bopp

4-H Project Completion Requirements

To complete the Beef project, members must meet these minimum requirements. Please be aware that some clubs may have additional requirements.

- Participate in a 4-H related (subject matter or audience) demonstration or other speech presentation.
- Participate in a 4-H sponsored community service activity.
- Complete county level requirements such as a record book, Club meeting attendance, etc.

Premises ID

Same as 2023: All livestock animals are REQUIRED to have a valid Premises ID prior to the fair entry date of July 8th, in order to show at the 2024 Larimer County Fair. This does apply to breeding animals. In the instance that a family needs to move an animal from the premise ID that is on file to an alternative premise, the Extension Office must be notified immediately and the new premise ID needs to be recorded. Members who house there animals at the same location will share a premise ID. If you have a lease animal please check with the land owner, stable, dairy, etc to see if a Premise ID or Federal Identification has been established.



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

Did you show an animal at the 2023 Larimer County Fair? This means that you already have a Premises ID number and do not need to reapply for one unless you are housing your animal at a different location. If you don't remember your number, you can call the number below and they can provide it to you or you can contact the Extension Office for your number. If you did not show an animal last year, you will need to obtain a Premises ID. It's easy (and free) to obtain a Premises ID. Your fair entries will not be approved until your Premise ID is uploaded to 4-Honline. You may need to call the Extension Office for assistance if you have already completed your enrollment. You can register by calling 303-869-9130 or go to:

<https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>

Animal Care and Housing Form

This form is intended for any members participating in the Livestock or Horse Projects that keep an animal at a location other than the address documented on 4-Honline. This includes any location where the animal may reside for an extended period of time. This form needs to be uploaded under "other documents" to 4-Honline and a hardcopy must be turned into the Extension Office. [Microsoft Word - AnimalCareForm.doc \(colostate.edu\)](#)

Ownership

You must have your market beef animals (steers and heifers) purchased by February 20, 2024 to be eligible to participate in the Larimer County Fair. Brand Papers must be in the exhibitor's name.

Market Beef Tag Day (Mandatory)

Tentative Schedule

Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Where: Mac Equipment Arena, The Ranch
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

In an attempt to shorten wait time, please follow these guidelines: Last names beginning with the letters A - L, come between 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Last names beginning with the letters M - Z, come between 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. *Animals will be accepted anytime between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.*

Weigh Day Snow Plan: (In case of bad weather.)

1. A decision to cancel or hold the Weigh Day will be made before 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 20.
2. Weigh Day will be rescheduled for another date.

Tag-in Procedure

- 1) Each 4-H member **may tag and weigh up to 5 market animals**, but are limited to **showing 3** at the County Fair. Animals that aren't weighed and identified will not show.
- 2) There is a \$5.00 per head fee charged for the cost of ear tags. Changes of ownership will not be allowed after February 20. **Family members must decide who owns the animal on or before Tag-in Day.**
- 3) Showing at State Fair: Animals wanting to nominate for State Fair will be able to collect nomination forms at the time of tag in. Exhibitors are responsible for contacting Robyn Toft at the State Fair Office to order DNA kits. Animals going to the State Fair must submit DNA directly to the State Fair Office, not the Extension Office.



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

- 4) **Brand Inspection** -- Following is a note from Brand Inspectors explaining how the inspections will be handled:
 - a) Brand Papers must be in the member's name.
 - b) All 4-H members must have their cattle brand inspected for any changes of ownership prior to tag-in. Appointments with the Brand Inspector should be made to do this at the individual's home.
 - c) Handwritten Bills of Sale or brand papers not in the 4-H member's name will not be accepted at Tag-in Day.
 - d) The Brand Inspector will work the ring area, collecting prior inspections and inspecting cattle solely for tag-in. No Brand Certificates will be written that day. The certificates will be made later.
 - e) If you have any questions or the need to schedule change of ownership inspections, please contact the Brand Office at 970-490-1764.
- 5) Do not feed or water your calf after you arrive. Feed and water your calves that morning like you normally do. The superintendents have the right to adjust the weight of calves which appear to have been shrunk. The weights will serve as your beginning weight for the Rate-of-Gain Contest. The final weight will be taken at the County Fair.
- 6) After your calf has been weighed and brand inspected, please go to the designated area to pick up your weight ticket(s) and pay the \$5.00 fee per each head weighed. **Please tell the committee if you are nominating your market beef for the State Fair.** They will have you complete a State Fair Nomination Form at Weigh Day.
- 7) **Larimer County will be retinal imaging all market beef at Tag-in Day for internal use.**
- 8) **All bulls must be castrated** and all **animals dehorned** before arrival. Bulls/bullocks will not be weighed.
- 9) **All animals must be led off the trailer by halters on Tag-in Day.** This will make it easier on the committee and yourself. The animals are much easier to halter break now when they are small. The agent/key leaders/superintendents have the right to refuse and/or not weigh an unruly animal. Youth and/or their parents are responsible for unloading and loading their own animals.
- 10) If you have trouble getting to Weigh Day (breakdown of equipment, flat tire, etc.) call 970-672-6449 and report in so that the Weigh Day team will wait for you.
- 11) Neither Larimer County Extension Office nor The Ranch staff nor the volunteers/ 4-H youth helping process animals can be held responsible for any injuries to people or the livestock.

Tentative Beef Workshops & Opportunities

- ❖ January 18th through 20th- Open Prospect Cattle check-in/Show (Refer to the National Western Stock Show home page for more information.)
- ❖ February 24th 9:00 - 4:00 pm: Livestock Field Day & MQA
 - 10 am-11 am: Growing & Evaluating your Beef Project
- ❖ April 5th through 7th- Larimer County Beef Camp-New Livestock and Equine Pavilion- Registration for this event must be made through the Extension Office. Cap space for 20 participants.
- ❖ May 17th 6:30 – 8:00 pm: Understanding the Beef Industry (New Community Youth Building)
- ❖ May 17th 4:00 - 7:00 pm: MQA
- ❖ June 22nd 9:00 – 1:00 pm: Hoof Trimming & Showmanship (New Community Youth Building)



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

❖ July 10th 4pm to 7pm- Round Robin Clinic- New Livestock and Equine Pavilion

Round Robin Clinic

This year there will not be a Round Robin Clinic during the county fair but rather a social for the members that have qualified for the Round Robin. This is an opportunity to get information from fellow showmen about the animal they qualified with. A Round Robin Clinic will be hosted on July 10th in the New Community building from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. This will be an opportunity for all members to gain hands-on experience and learn more about each of the species.

Meat Quality Assurance Program

- 1) **Meat Quality Assurance Program (MQA)** - All 4-H members must have completed the Meat Quality Assurance Program requirements to exhibit at the 2024 County Fair and participate in the Jr. Livestock Sale. For information on MQA requirements and trainings in the area, visit the web: <https://larimer.extension.colostate.edu/programs/4-h/>
- 2) **Wholesome Meat Animal Assurance Program** - All market beef animals consigned to the Junior Livestock Sale may be screened for illegal use of drugs or chemicals. Anyone found guilty of illegal drug or chemical use will be barred from future Larimer County Fairs. All 4-H members with meat animals are required, along with a parent/guardian and 4-H leader to sign a "Certificate and Statement of Disclosure" assuring the animals have not received illegal drugs or chemicals. The statements must be turned in at the County Fair weigh in. (purple sheet)

We encourage you to keep your animals as free as possible of any and all drugs. If you use any drugs or feed containing antibiotics be sure to follow the correct withdrawal times, exhibitors should consult their local veterinarian for any questions regarding this. If your animal becomes sick prior to the Fair and you must use antibiotics, please notify the Sale Committee or the Extension Office. Be sure to put this information on the "Certificate and Statement of Disclosure" form. Also, be sure to list all vaccines, antibiotics, insecticides, and feed additives given to your project animal and date administered.

County Fair & Jr. Livestock Sale Information

Record Books

For all Livestock projects, record book checks will take place during species designated "set up" time. A member can come to any of the set up times to get their record book checked. Exhibitors must have completed a record book check **before** they check in their project animal. If you wish to enter your project record book in the Record Book Contest, books must be turned in to the Extension Office by September 23, 2024. Individual Clubs may have an earlier deadline.

Livestock Sale Pictures

Animals that are nominated for the sale must have an official photograph taken with their animal. Members who do not have pictures taken will not be allowed to sell an animal. Pictures will be taken following the market classes.



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

Nomination Cards

Members must turn in a nomination card following that species market livestock show if they plan on selling in the Junior Livestock Sale . If a member chooses to replace an animal that has previously been nominated, they will need to submit a new nomination card and replace it with the previous card that had been submitted. For example, John has a market lamb, pig and steer. If he submitted a nomination card for the lamb but decided he would rather sell the steer, he will need to submit a new nomination card and ask for the previously submitted lamb nomination card to be returned to him. If Susan has a market goat and market lamb, and submits a nomination card following the goat show, then decides after the market lamb show she wants to keep her goat nominated for the sale she **doesn't** submit anything for her lambs. The Overall Champion and Overall Reserve Champion market animals are required to sell in the Junior Livestock Sale. **All animals nominated for the Larimer County Junior Livestock Sale must remain on grounds.**

Animal Release

Members who want to take their animals home following the show will be able to do so. **Animals that are nominated for the Larimer County Junior Livestock Sale must remain on grounds.** There will be a time period for animals to be released (refer to the Fair schedule when it comes out for these times). Species are not required to leave following their show, they can be released at any of the designated release times by superintendents. For example, John shows goats and hogs. He keeps his goats on the grounds until his hogs show, both species can be released during the release time following the hog show. In order for livestock to be released, they will need to go to the species superintendents. The Agent or a member of the show committee will be in the office if a superintendent can't be found.

Tentative 2024 County Fair Information

Market Steers must weigh between 1100 (minimum) - 1550 (maximum) pounds to show in the Larimer County Fair market classes. Market Heifers must weigh between 1075 (minimum) – 1450 (maximum) pounds to show in the Larimer County Fair market classes. The County Fair is not offering classes for under and overweight market animals. All Beef must be under 24 months of age at the county fair.

- **Live Placing** - All market beef entered at the Larimer County Fair will be classified by weight. There will be a separate division for market heifers. There will be no special class at the Larimer County Fair for National Western Stock Show Catch-It-Calves or Aksarben catch-It-Calves. Those animals will not be allowed to show in the market divisions. They may be shown in showmanship classes. Ribbons for the top ten in each class will be given. An Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef will be selected among the Champion and Reserve Champion Steers and Heifers.
- **Rate of Gain Contest** - An average rate of gain will be computed for all market steers and heifers showing at Fair. The final weight will be taken at Fair weigh in. Under- and overweight animals are not eligible for the Rate of Gain contest. Animals will automatically be enrolled in this contest.
- **Beef will check in on Saturday, August 3.**
- The Breeding Beef Show will be on Sunday, August 4, in the Mac Equipment Indoor Arena. The Market Beef Show will be held on Monday, August 5 in the Mac Equipment Indoor Arena, **followed by Beef Showmanship.**



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

Round Robin

Qualifiers must show the animal they qualified with or another qualified animal under the same participant's name that was exhibited at the fair. For example, a member has 3 beef animals, and they take their best 2 home because they are entered in the State Fair. They can show the beef that is nominated for the sale because it was shown at the fair.

Carcass Contest

We will once again have a carcass contest at the 2024 Larimer County Fair. Plans are to collect actual carcass data on Market Beef. Larimer County will use CSU to collect carcass data. To simplify the entry process, each beef member going through the Junior Livestock Sale will be assessed a \$10 fee for the collection of their carcass data (no need to pre-register). Only those Market Beef that go through the Jr. Livestock Sale will be eligible to enter the carcass contest.

Tentative County Fair Beef Schedule

Friday, August 2, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Beef Set-up & **Record Book Check**

Saturday, August 3, 7:00-9:00 a.m.

Market & Breeding Beef Check in/Weigh in

Sunday, August 4, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Breeding Beef Show

Monday, August 5, 9:00 a.m. – 1:30

p.m.

Market Beef Show followed by Showmanship

Additional Information for Fair This Year

All members are required to create an Animal ID through 4honline for all of your 4-H project animals like previous years.

Breeding Heifer exhibitors will be required to turn in Brand paperwork or Registration papers to the Extension Office by April 1, 2024. You can turn in a copy of your Brand Paper or Registration Paper or you can email a copy to the Extension Office.

- **Supreme Beef – Interviews will be held on Thursday Aug 1, 2024**

The Supreme Beef contest will be awarded based on a combination score of Class placing, Carcass Contest placing and Interview score. Members will be interviewed on current industry topics, as well as general knowledge of the Beef project; the judges will score based on knowledge. Interviews will take place during the county fair.

Supreme Beef will be awarded at the Carcass Contest Awards Night.

- **Premier Exhibitor Contest – Test & ID will be held on Thursday Aug 1, 2024**

1. Exhibitors may have breeding or market projects or both. All ages will compete together within each specie. Exhibitors are allowed to enter the Premier Exhibitor Contest in as many species as they are enrolled in. One winner per age group will be awarded (Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors).

2. Exhibitors must pre-enter this contest along with their regular fair entries.

3. More information will follow regarding the scoring of this contest. Please refer to the fairbook for more information.



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.

Awards Winners will be announced after the Round Robin Awards presentation.

For 2024 Breeding Heifer Show

All Breeding Beef Cattle must turn in a copy of proof of ownership to the Extension Office by April 1, 2024. Acceptable forms of proof of ownership may include original registration papers, brand inspection, or a bill of sale or proof of ownership document (Bill of Sale & Proof Of Ownership Document are attached to this email). A scanned copy of the acceptable proof of ownership will be retained by the superintendent for records. Heifers that are registered with an official breed association, may be required to check tattoos or bands against the original registration papers.

Animal information will also need to be uploaded in the Animal ID section of the enrollment system by May 1, 2024.



Colorado State University Extension is an equal opportunity provider. | Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of disability and is committed to providing reasonable accommodations. | CSU's Office of Engagement and Extension ensures meaningful access and equal opportunities to participate to individuals whose first language is not English.

Colorado State University Extension es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. | Colorado State University no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad y se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables. | Office of Engagement and Extension de CSU garantiza acceso significativo e igualdad de oportunidades para participar a las personas quienes su primer idioma no es el inglés.