
DAIRY CATTLE

Superintendent – Carol Boesche Judged Saturday, August 1, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

A 4-H member must be the owner of the animals exhibited at the fair. Professional fitters **will not be allowed** to assist in the 4-H Show. 4-H'ers may be assisted with the fitting of the animal by a family member (mother, father, siblings, grandparents or legal guardian) or by another 4-H member of DeKalb County.

Appropriate attire is expected in the show ring and sale ring. Safety should be the issue for the attire. Suggested attire: hard shoes, long pants and a collared shirt. (No shorts, open toed shoes, or hats.)

All youth showing a dairy project are required to be certified in Youth for the Quality Care of Animals during the current year.

Decisions made by the superintendents will be final.

Illinois Health Requirements for Cattle:

- Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) means a legible record, made on an official form from the state of origin, containing an accurate description or identification of the animal including age, sex, breed, health status, and vaccination information. The CVI must be signed, dated, and issued by a licensed and accredited veterinarian in that state.
- Submitted CVIs must be as originally issued by the veterinarian; no CVIs with alterations, edits, or changes, will be accepted. The CVI must show that the animal meets all health requirements for the State of Illinois, CVI must show the name and address of the animal's owner or exhibitor.
- CVI must include the animal's Animal Identification Number.
- If one CVI is used for multiple animals, each animal identification must be made on a separate line.
- Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to obtain electronic CVIs whenever possible; IDOA is moving toward only accepting electronic CVIs. Exhibitors shall make CVIs available to Department of Agriculture and County Fair staff on request. If an official electronic CVI is utilized, the exhibitor should be able to log on and show County Fair staff or Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare Personnel the completed CVI.
- If animals are from tuberculosis accredited, brucellosis certified, pseudorabies qualified, or brucellosis validated herds, the identifying herd number(s) along with the date of the last herd test(s) shall appear on the CVI.
- CVIs for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance.
- CVIs for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance.

Identification

Individual identification of each animal shall be by a USDA official animal identification number ear tag, ("840" tag). **The tag must be able to be read both visually and electronically.**

Illinois Cattle:

- Illinois is a Bovine Brucellosis Class-Free State and an Accredited Tuberculosis-Free State. Brucellosis and Tuberculin testing are not required for Illinois cattle.
- Illinois calves under 6 months of age are not required to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

ALL Dairy Cattle (In-State and Out-of-State): A rRT-PCR test for Influenza A virus (IAV) on milk from lactating dairy cattle shall be conducted prior to livestock arriving on the fairgrounds. The animals must be sampled no more than seven (7) days prior to the date of arrival, and a negative test record must be presented to Department staff.

4H'ers leaving the fairgrounds before the completion of the livestock auction will forfeit auction premiums above floor/market price. All youth and animals are expected and required to remain on the fairgrounds until the completion of the auction.

RULES

1. Entries are not limited to one in each age class. (Maximum of 6 animals may be shown)
2. Dairy cattle may be purebred or grade. Purebred classes will require registration papers in the name of exhibitor. Grade classes will handle unregistered animals & those without acceptable registration papers. Registration papers on dam & sire (breeding certificate if A1) will be accepted on calves born after January 1, present year.
3. Ownership deadline: Dairy cow, since Jan. 1, present year; Dairy heifers, May 1, present year; Dairy calf, since May 1, present year.
4. Top animals in all classes (including Grade) will compete for Grand & Reserve Championship.
5. 4-H Premiums paid will be using an X factor. Premium values will be:
Blue: 7X, Red: 6X, and White: 5X
6. The exhibitor selected as the Grand Champion Over All Breeds and Junior Champion Over All breeds will be eligible to participate in the Blue Ribbon Auction and will retain ownership of their animals.

DAIRY CLASS DIVISIONS

- A. **Spring Heifer Calf:** calved after March 1, 2026
- B. **Winter Heifer Calf:** calved between Dec. 1, 2025 & Feb. 28, 2026.
- C. **Fall Heifer Calf:** calved between Sept. 1, 2025 & Nov. 30, 2025.
- D. **Summer Yearling Heifer:** calved between June 1, 2025 & Aug. 31, 2025.
- E. **Spring Yearling Heifer:** calved between March 1, 2025 & May 31, 2025.
- F. **Winter Yearling Heifer:** calved between Dec. 1, 2024 & Feb. 28, 2025.
- G. **Fall Yearling Heifer:** calved between Sept. 1, 2024 & Nov. 30, 2024.
- H. **Two Year Old Cow:** calved between Sept. 1, 2023 & Aug. 31, 2024.
- I. **Three Year Old Cow:** calved between Sept. 1, 2022 & August 31, 2023.
- J. **Aged Cow (4 yr. & older):** calved before Sept. 1, 2022.

4-H - DAIRY CLASSES

- 40 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Spring Heifer Calf
- 41 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Spring Heifer Calf
- 42 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Spring Heifer Calf
- 43 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Winter Heifer Calf
- 44 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Winter Heifer Calf
- 45 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Winter Heifer Calf
- 46 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Fall Heifer Calf
- 47 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Fall Heifer Calf
- 48 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Fall Heifer Calf
- 49 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Summer Yearling Heifer
- 50 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Summer Yearling Heifer
- 51 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Summer Yearling Heifer
- 52 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Spring Yearling Heifer
- 53 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Spring Yearling Heifer
- 54 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Spring Yearling Heifer
- 55 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Winter Yearling Heifer
- 56 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Winter Yearling Heifer
- 57 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Winter Yearling Heifer

- 58 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Fall Yearling Heifer
- 59 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Fall Yearling Heifer
- 60 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Fall Yearling Heifer
- 61 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Two-Year-Old Cow
- 62 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Two-Year-Old Cow
- 63 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Two-Year-Old Cow
- 64 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Three-Year-Old Cow
- 65 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Three-Year-Old Cow
- 66 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Three-Year-Old Cow
- 67 PUREBRED HOLSTEIN - Aged Cow
- 68 ALL OTHER BREEDS - Aged Cow
- 69 GRADE (ALL BREEDS) - Aged Cow

DAIRY CHAMPIONS

Junior Champion Female	<u>4-H</u> Rosette
Res. Junior Champion Female	Rosette
Senior Champion Female	Rosette
Reserve Senior Champion Female	Rosette
Grand Champion Overall Breeds	Award <i>sponsored in memory of Bill Fewell</i>
Res. Grand Champion Overall Breeds	Rosette
Grand Champion Overall Breeds and Junior Champion Over All Breeds will participate in the Blue Ribbon Auction.	

DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

1. Showmanship Judging will be based on Appearance of Animals - 40%, Appearance of Exhibitor - 10%; and Showing Animals in Ring - 50%. The showmanship class will take place at the end of the dairy show.
2. There will be three divisions: Junior Division (members 11 years and under as of Sept. 1, 2025); Intermediate Division (members 12-14 years as of Sept. 1, 2025); Senior Division (members 15 years and over as of Sept. 1, 2025)
3. Participants will always compete in their age-appropriate division, and there is no limit to the number of times they may win their age division.
4. Classes are open to all who are interested that are enrolled and exhibiting a dairy project.
5. An exhibitor entering showmanship competition is required to show his own animal fitted by herself/himself.

DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

Senior Showmanship: 15 years & over	<u>4-H</u> Award
Reserve Senior Showmanship	Rosette
Intermediate Showmanship: 12-14 years	Award
Reserve Intermediate Showmanship	Rosette
Junior Showmanship: 11 years & under	Award
Reserve Junior Showmanship	Rosette

The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premiums amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book.