

STARTER CALVES

General Requirements:

1. All animals must be owned and in continuous care of the 4-H member enrolled in this project by March 1st of the current year.
2. All starter calves need to have been born on or after January 1st of the current year.
3. All animals must be castrated, dehorned, and healed by identification day to be shown at the county fair. All starter calves are usually tagged the first Saturday in May.
4. All animals must be identified on 4HOnline at in.4honline.com by the state designated deadlines each year.
5. All animals are subject to the health requirements that are stated in the 4-H Resource Handbook.
6. Animals may be beef steers or heifers or dairy steers. Beef calves will be shown during the Beef Show and Dairy calves during the Dairy Starter Calf Show.
7. All identification papers must be in order and all stated health requirements must be met to be eligible to show.
8. 4-H members may want to keep the calf and bring the animal back to exhibit next year. This is strongly encouraged.
9. Starter calves will be shown in classes according to weights. Classes will be established by the Livestock Committee and/or Project Superintendent.
10. 4-H members are required to submit the completed manual at the required times.
11. Junior, Senior, and Show of Showman Showmanship classes will be held in both Beef and Dairy Starter Calf sections.
12. All calves must be hand fed while at the fair by bucket or bottle. No nursing is allowed.
13. Dairy starter calves must be 100% dairy. If they are not 100% dairy, they will be shown as a beef starter calf.
14. There is a limit of 2 starter calves per 4-H member.
15. Starter calves must not weigh more than 600 pounds to be eligible to exhibit.

Suggested Activities: (complete at least 2 per grade)

Grades 3—5

- Read at least 4 magazine articles or books that relate to your project.
- Learn the parts of your animal. Make a drawing and label the parts.
- Learn the breeds of your animal and their origin.
- Give a talk or demonstration about your project for your club or leader.
- Visit with a local veterinarian about health care for your animal.

Grades 6—8

- Read 6 magazine articles or books that relate to your project.
- Keep a 12 or 24 hour log of your calf's activities. Review log and give a brief report.
- Explore the Internet with your parent/guardian to find at least 2 items related to your project.

- Visit your local supermarket or locker plant and learn about the different products that come from your project. Make a list of the products and the prices.
- Learn the parts of your animal and identify them for your leader.

Grades 9—12

- Read 10 articles or book about your project. Do a synopsis or outline of at least two.
- Explore the Internet and find at least 5 items related to your project. Print and do an outline of it.
- Do a club talk or demonstration on your project.
- Prepare a report on disease prevention for your project and explain what you do.
- Keep a record of daily market prices for your animal for 1 month. Do a graph to show fluctuation and explain possible reasons for changes.