

February 6, 2018

Dear 4-H Beef Member,

The **4-H Beef Identification Day** will be **Saturday, February 24th from 7:00 am – 10:00 am. CST** at the Starke County Fairgrounds. If it has to be postponed due to inclement weather, it will be Saturday March 3rd. The same times and procedures will apply if it must be postponed and a cancellation will be announced on WKVI and on our Facebook page: Purdue Extension – Starke County.

Wormer will be available. The cost of wormer is \$5.00. All Beef will need to be identified by an RFID 840 tag. This method of identification is required of all beef animals being shown in the state.

For all animals – **if your animal has lice or ringworm**, please notify the Extension Office and **bring them during the latter part of the morning.**

Keep in Mind –

- 1. All steers, crossbred heifers, and any animals that will be sold in the Livestock Auction must be tagged with a county identification tag and an RFID tag.**
- 2. Purebred heifers with registration papers that are not going to be sold in the auction will not receive a county identification tag.** If you are planning to exhibit a purebred heifer, they must have an RFID tag and a tattoo. If you have a purebred heifer that already has an RFID tag that is only going to be exhibited at the county fair in the breeding class, you do not need to bring them on Identification Day.
- 3. Only Indiana State Fair breeds can enroll as a registered heifer.**
- 4. If you are exhibiting a starter calf from last year as a full grown beef animal this year, it will need to come to ID day.**

As stated in the Starke County Resource Handbook, all **Beef and Dairy steers must be castrated, dehorned, and healed** by the ID day. All **Beef heifers must be dehorned** by ID day. If they are not, they will be sent home, not tagged, and ineligible to be exhibited at the fair. This is for the safety of the 4-H members and volunteers assisting with ID day.

The Starke County Animal Location Form will be available at Beef ID day. This form will need to be completed on ID day. If your 4-H animal projects are in one location, you only need to fill out one form for all species. You must complete the form to exhibit your animal at the Fair.

Exhibiting Beef at the Indiana State Fair

NEW for Indiana State Fair 4-H Beef Exhibition: All 4-H members that are considering exhibiting beef cattle at the Indiana State Fair will need to provide Beef Cattle DNA Hair Sample. A DNA hair sample must be submitted for all animals you are considering exhibiting at the Indiana State Fair. Envelopes will be available during Beef ID Day and in the

Extension Office. They will be due to the Extension Office by April 1st. It is extremely important that any 4-H member considering showing their beef at the Indiana State Fair complete this requirement. Failure to do so will disqualify them from State Fair eligibility

Beef Identification

All beef cattle must be identified in the Indiana 4-H Online Animal ID system by **April 1st (market steers) or May 15th (heifers and starter calves)**. The online animal ID website is located at: <https://in.4honline.com> (where you enrolled in 4-H). We will provide you an Indiana 4-H Beef ID Worksheet at the ID day that will include all the information you will need to complete the Identification of your beef cattle on the 4-H Online Animal ID system. **Please bring registration numbers and animal birth dates with you on Saturday, February 24th.**

Starter calves will be identified in May. Starter Calves must be off the cow by the ID day. More information will be provided at a later time. Due to barn space, you may only exhibit a total of two starter calves.

If you know of any new Beef project members, please make sure to share this information about ID day with them. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the 24th!

Sincerely,

Julia K. Miller,
Extension Educator,
CED/4-H Youth Development

Cc: Jay Temple & Andy Tilleraas, Beef project superintendents