



BEEF PROJECT RECORD BOOK

2023

Name: _____

4-H Club/FFA Chapter/Open: _____

Leader: _____

Age (as of January 1): _____

Years in Project Area: _____

Record Started: / / Record Closed: / /
Month Day Year Month Day Year

Check One

Junior:
8-11 years old

Intermediate:
12-14 years old

Senior:
15-19 years old

Record Book Instructions:

DON'T CHANGE THE PAPER:

Completed record books must be on standard letter sized (8.5"x11") white paper. There are classes in still exhibits for scrapbook so please leave these types of books there. Minor embellishments are allowed, and neatness is encouraged. Books must be fastened with a staple in the upper right-hand corner or secured inside a 3-ring binder or folder.

DON'T BE LATE.... KNOW THE DUE DATE AND TIME:

The date and time to turn in a completed record book will be listed on the Schedule of Events of Exhibitors.

USE THE RIGHT RESOURCES:

A good resource to help complete this record book includes the publication "Your 4-H Market Beef Project" which is available by loan at the Gratiot County MSU Extension Office. Other resources can be found online.

ONLY COMPLETE YOUR AGE DIVISON:

There are no extra credit points for younger age divisions completing the whole record book.

BREEDING STOCK:

Please fill out the record book to the best of your knowledge for your breeding animal. It is still required for you to fill out the All about my beef project, project expenses, and business plan pages.

All about my beef project...

For this section use the animal you will most likely exhibit at the fair. If you are exhibiting both market and breeding stock, focus on one registered animal.

Name or identification of my animal: _____

GCFFY Tag Number: _____ RFID Number: _____ Breed: _____

Color(s): _____ Date of birth: _____ Actual BD ___ Estimated ___

Special Markings: _____

Please check one: ___ Purchased ___ Raised Date of purchase: _____

Please check one: ___ Steer ___ Heifer ___ Cow (breeding stock only)

Purchase price: _____ If you raised your animal, list the estimated market value.

A completed record book should have photos of your animal. At a minimum this book should have a beginning and ending picture. Photo captions are encouraged and up to two extra pages can be included in this record book.

All about my beef project...

You may choose to do the weight record OR the essay. The points scored for whichever choice you make will be the same. The fair recommends all market exhibitors weigh their animals frequently but understands that access to a scale is not always available.

Essay: DO NOT COMPLETE THE WEIGHT RECORD: Write and attach to your completed book an essay from one of these two essay topic choices. Junior exhibitors complete an up to half page essay. Intermediate Exhibitors complete an up to one page essay. Senior Exhibitors complete an up to 2 page essay. **Topic 1:** Describe what judges look for in the show ring of the fair. Discuss steps you can take to present your animal in the best possible way to a judge. **Topic 2:** With animal rights groups such as PETA looking to showcase animal abuse, what steps can you take to ensure your animal is raised comfortably. Essays have the same possible points as the above weight section.

Weight Record:

It is recommended to weigh your market animals at least once a month. Use one chart for up to four animals. These should be the same four market animals registered on the market beef registration on fair entry.

Animal ID					
Date	Method (scale or tape)	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight
Final					
Describe changes made based on information you gathered collecting this weight data.					

My project expenses: List all expenses for this project and record the cost spent under the proper account. If your family/farm is providing feed, please estimate an approximate value. Add additional sheets if necessary.

How many animals are in this project? This can be your project animal and backup animals.					
Date of purchase	Purchase description	Feed Cost	Vet/health Cost	Bedding Cost	Other cost
Total Column Expenses					
Total Project Expenses: (total column expenses)					
Average cost per animals (total project expenses divided by number of animals in project)					

My Business Plan:

The following calculations will help you learn about your ability to earn a profit for your participation in this agricultural project. Often in animal projects the profit margin for commercial feeding facilities has a slim profit margin. Let's see how your project would compare.

Average cost per animal: _____

Purchase cost (primary project animal): _____

Total Expenses (whole project): _____

Number of project animals in this report: _____

Average cost per animal: _____

Finished weight of project animal: _____

Note: finished weight can be taken at home anytime during the week prior to fair or it can be the fair's official market weight.

Break-even price: _____

To calculate the break-even price divide the average cost per animal by finished weight.

What is the current market price of market beef? _____

Would you have been able to make a profit if you would have sold your beef animal at the stock yard at this current market price rather than the fair's livestock sale? Why or why not?

General Rules:

Beef steers at the Gratiot County Fair for Youth can have a minimum weight of _____ lbs.

All cattle shown at GCFFY should not have any horn longer than _____ inch(es).

Beef cattle must have a _____ tag and a _____ to show at the fair.

What time must all fair animals be fed and watered and have their pens cleaned by? _____.

If proper care is not given to your animal the superintendent will place a _____ tag on your pen and the exhibitor must

If there is a second offense, a _____ tag will be placed on your pen and the exhibitor must

Keeping my beef project healthy:

Listed below are common health problems in cattle. List the cause of these health problems (virus, bacteria, deficiency, etc.); how an animal can contract the disease and provide the symptoms and the treatment for the disease (if no treatment state the next steps for the animal).

Johne's Disease:

Foot Rot:

White Muscle Disease:

Pink Eye:

List steps you can take to keep cattle healthy:

Animal Care and Management

Junior, Intermediate, Senior Division Complete the following:

Describe the pen/pasture you have for your beef animal: _____

What do you feed your animal? (check all that apply)

Hay Pellets Grain Supplements

Other _____

Please attach your feed tag here....

What is the crude protein level in this feed? _____

What is the main ingredient in this feed? (if it is not clear, it is probably the first ingredient listed)

Is this a medicated feed?

Your project takes regular care and management. List the things necessary to take care of your project animal(s).

Feeding and watering practices, grooming (clipping, trimming, foot care, etc), health practices and medicines, general management (cleaning living area and feed pans, halter breaking, training etc.)

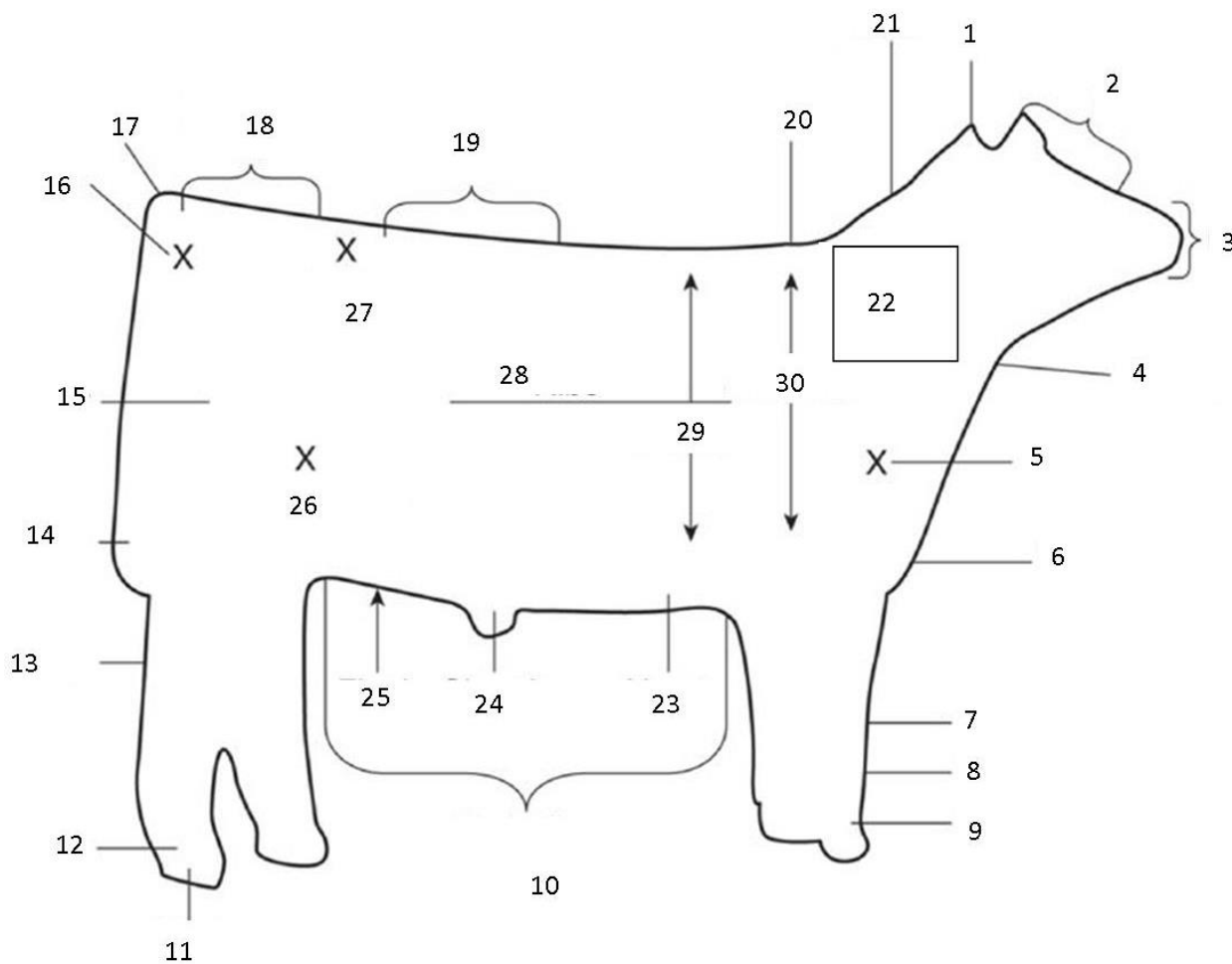
Daily Responsibilities - _____

Weekly Responsibilities - _____

Monthly Responsibilities - _____

Yearly Responsibilities - _____

My General Beef Knowledge: Intermediate & Senior Division Complete:



Identify all numbered parts (1-30) on the beef animal by using the table on the next page.

1	
2	
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My General Beef Knowledge cont.

Senior Division Complete:

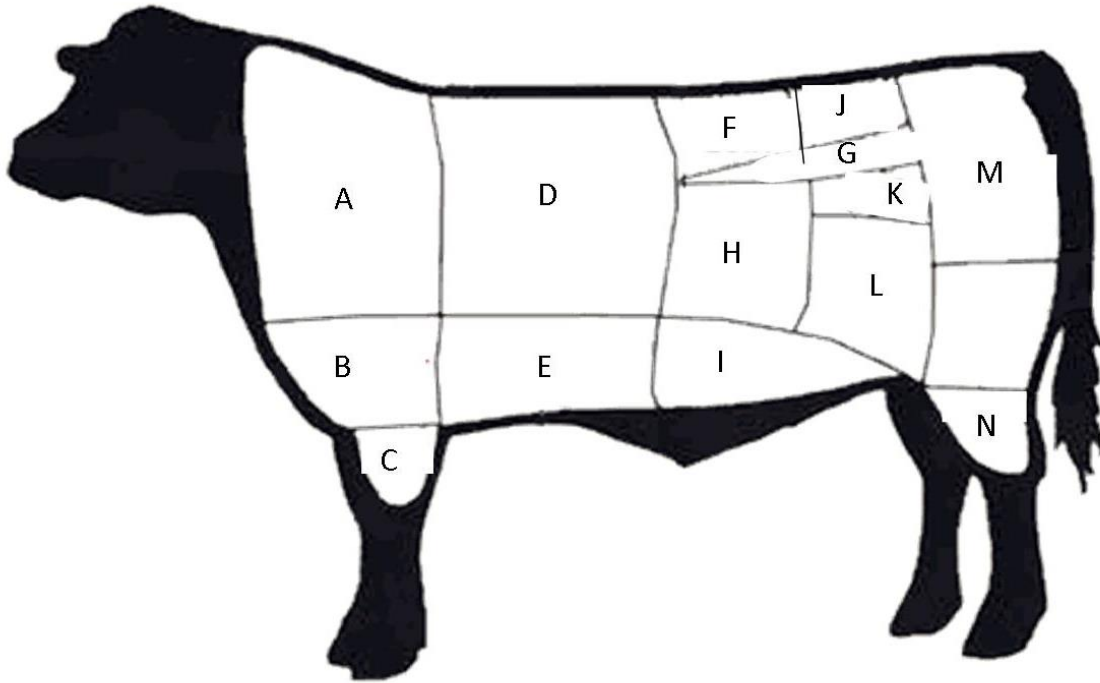
1. What is Beef Quality Assurance?

2. Name Four (4) Beef Cattle breeds and include 1 trait of each.

3. What are five (5) common retail cuts of beef?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Identify the cuts of beef according to each letter on the display below.



A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

F. _____

G. _____

H. _____

I. _____

J. _____

K. _____

L. _____

M. _____

N. _____