

2020 Benton County Carcass Contest Participants

Exhibitors,

Great news!! We were just informed that Tyson Fresh Meats is willing to allow our beef carcass contests to be evaluated at their Joslin, IL plant (at least as of today). However, we need to make a few modifications to help this year's event happen. The following is an overview of how we need to implement the 2020 Benton County Carcass Contest.

1. This year we will be doing pre-entries only (NO EXCEPTIONS). Entries are due June 11 to the Extension office for ALL 4-H, FFA and Open class exhibits. We MUST have an accurate count of all animals so please be sure you deliver the exact number of calves you enter. The Open Class entry fee is \$10 and will be deducted from your cattle check.
2. Tyson requires the Market Beef Affidavit and Prohibited Feed/Antibiotics form be completed and returned when the calves are delivered to the fairgrounds. Please confirm that exhibitors are YQCA certified, and if parents are BQA certified. We will need the BQA number of all open class exhibitors on this form or the entry form. Include both the 4-H or home tag and EID tags on the forms, as applicable. Complete the back with any medical treatments, implants, feed additives given, dates, etc. If you have not given any vaccinations or implants, please include that note rather than just leave it all blank. Please have this form completed prior to arrival to minimize time and contact at delivery. Open class, please have a home tag on this form and in the calves to minimize people congregating at weigh in.
3. Cattle will be delivered to the Benton County Fairgrounds on June 25 between 6:30 and 7:30 am. The show will begin about 8:00 am. We are currently planning to hold the live show, but MUST limit attendance to exhibitors and immediate family only, no general public may attend. We also need to follow suggested health guidelines including face cover and physical distancing between families.
4. An electronic ID tag will be used in all cattle to collect the carcass data.
5. At the fairgrounds, calves will be tagged, weighed, judged and loaded to ship to Tyson Fresh Meats at Joslin where they will be harvested the next morning.
6. In the event that the live judging component is cancelled (due to COVID-19), the exhibits will still be delivered to Tyson Fresh Meats so the carcass judging component can be conducted.
7. Calves will be harvested, carcasses will be measured for ribeye area & back fat, quality graded, and the data will be sent to me for calculations.
8. There will be a \$4 charge for the electronic tags but no fee for the carcass data, and \$2 per head Beef Checkoff deduction. There will also be a fee for the Dark Cutter Program (\$0.45/cwt live so a 1400 pound steer would be \$6.30), which helps reimburse exhibitors whose animal grades as a dark cutter. There is also a \$10 entry fee for open class cattle.

If you have any questions, please contact Emily Damro, Ben Olson or Denise Schwab, Extension beef specialist.

Benton County Beef Carcass Entry Form 2020

Return by **June 11** to Benton County Extension

501 1st Avenue

Vinton, Iowa 52349

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

4-H cattle _____

Open Class Cattle _____

BQA Certificate # for Open Class _____

Complete the following and bring with the cattle on June 25:

- Market Beef Affidavit and Prohibited Feed/Antibiotics form