



Buena Vista County 1st Year Bottle/Bucket Calf Project

Purpose:

- To design a cattle project to fit the physical size and maturity level of younger youth.
- To teach proper health care and nutrition requirements of young cattle.
- To teach basic beef management skills without a large investment.
- To teach basic record keeping skills and communication skills.
- To provide a better understanding of the feeder cattle industry.

Guidelines:

- Calves will be stalled in the livestock barns. Show time will be in conjunction with the Beef Show in the 4-H Show Ring.
- Washing and brushing is the only preparation needed. There will be no clipping and no dressing applied.
- Quality of the calf will not enter into the judging. Judging is based on how well the questions are answered and how the exhibitor handles the calf and how the calf responds.
- Exhibitor Criteria:
 - Must be in grade 4-6 by September of previous year for Junior Division
 - Must be in grade 7-12 by September of previous year for Intermediate or Senior Divisions.
 - Must be enrolled in a 4-H Club.
 - Must be enrolled in beef or dairy project, by May 1 of current year.
 - All bucket calves must be ear tagged with official 4-H tag and identified in 4-H Online by May 15.
- Calves must be born between March 1 and May 15 of current year and be bucket or bottle fed.
- ***Calf cannot be nursing.*** Member must care for orphan calf within two weeks of birth.
- Exhibitor can tag two calves but show only one at the fair.
- Calves must be shown on a halter in the ring and broken to lead and tie.
- Calves must have a beginning weight and will be weighed when brought in the day of the fair. Weigh-in will follow lead calf weight-ins.
- Exhibitors must have interview record completed day of the interview.
- Personal interviews with a committee during the fair at 4-H Auditorium.
- At time of fair, no parents in ring with exhibitor.
- Exhibitor must wear 4-H T-shirt, hard shoes, and jeans or slacks in the ring when showing.
- Exhibitors are encouraged to keep the animals for breeding or market classes the following year.
- All members meeting the above requirements will be awarded ribbons.
- Calves will be released on the last day of the fair.
- Premiums will be awarded.



YOUTH AND 4-H 1ST YEAR BOTTLE/BUCKET CALF RECORD WORKSHEET



Name: _____ Grade: _____

Club: _____ Calf Ear Tag # _____

Date of Birth (Calf): _____ Date Acquired: _____

Actual or Estimated value when acquired: _____

Was calf born on your farm: YES NO

If NO, how did you acquire the calf? _____

Color of calf: _____ Breed (if known): _____

Birth Weight (if known): _____ Weight at fair time: _____

Project Record:

Name two goals you had when you started this project? _____

Describe the facilities where you housed your calf: _____

Describe your feeding program (kinds and amounts of feed per day, etc.): _____

Did your calf have any health problems? (If yes, explain what and how you treated the problem): _____

Did you have a health plan to prevent problems? (If yes, what did you do): _____

What management practices did you follow to help keep your calf healthy and grow? _____

What did you learn through this project? _____

What was the biggest problem you had and how did you solve it? _____

What are your plans (goals) for this project next year? _____
