

2021 Linn County

Bucket/Bottle Calf Project

PURPOSE

1. To teach proper health care, environmental needs and nutritional requirements of young cattle.
2. To teach basic beef/dairy management skills without a large investment.
3. To teach basic record keeping and communication skills.
4. To provide a better understanding of the cattle industry.

PROJECT GUIDELINES:

1. Project open to 4-H and FFA members in Linn County.
2. Member must be enrolled in Bucket/Bottle Calf Project by May 15.
3. Any newborn or orphan calf...steer or heifer...beef or dairy...purebred or crossbred. Must have calved between January 1 and April 30. **NO BULL CALVES** permitted. Bull calves must be castrated by June 1.
4. Member may identify up to three animals but will be allowed to exhibit only 1 animal at Fair. A calf exhibited in the bucket-bottle calf class cannot be shown in any other division.
5. Calves must be identified with herd ear tag or tattoo on bucket/bottle calf in 4-H Online **no later than 11:59 p.m. May 15. NO PAPER COPIES ACCEPTED. Also must register in Fair Entry by 11:59 PM on May 15th.**

PROJECT EVALUATION:

1. The project will be evaluated on four parts:

Written Records	200
Interview	100
General Health/Fitting	100
Showmanship	<u>100</u>
	500 Total Points Possible

2. Judging will be based on:

- A. What member has learned about care and management of raising the calf/calves.
- B. The fitting and showing of the calf (according to beef or dairy guidelines) with emphasis on what the member has learned.
- C. General health, condition and management of the calf and member's knowledge of this area.
- D. Accurate and complete records of the project. (Quality or conformation of the calf will not be the major factor considered in the bucket/bottle calf project.)

3. Project dates:

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| By May 15 | Member should be enrolled in bucket/bottle calf project. Bucket/ Bottle calf/calves must be born between January 1 and April 30. |
| By May 15 | Bucket/bottle calf must be Identification in 4-H Online and registered in FairEntry. |
| By June 15 | Written records due in the Extension Office. If written records are submitted late, points will be deducted. |
| June 23 | 7:00 AM - 12:00 Noon Check in – Cattle Barn |
| June 25 | 8:00 A.M. Conference Interview – Beef Arena.
Show ring evaluation of the calf (2:00 P.M.) – Beef Arena.
General health, fitting and showmanship will be evaluated. |

4. County Fair requirements:

- A. Calves will be shown at halter and fitted according to beef or dairy guidelines. The class will be divided according to grade of exhibitor as of September 15.

Junior	- Grades 4, 5, 6
Intermediate	- Grades 7, 8
Senior	- Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

There will be a Champion and Reserve for each age group.

- B. See health requirements
- C. Members are encouraged to keep their animals and enter them in appropriate beef or dairy classes the following year.

LINN COUNTY BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF PROJECT

WRITTEN RECORD

Complete and turn in to the Extension Office by June 15

Member Name: _____

Club: _____ Grade: _____

	1st Calf	2nd Calf	3rd Calf
Calf Ear Tag/Tattoo Number	_____	_____	_____
Date Project Started	_____	_____	_____
Source of Calf (check one) Purchased	_____	_____	_____
Born on Our Farm	_____	_____	_____
Other (describe)	_____	_____	_____
Calf's Birthdate (if known)	_____	_____	_____
Color of Calf	_____	_____	_____
Breed of Sire (if known)	_____	_____	_____
Dam (if known)	_____	_____	_____
Value at Start (actual or estimate)	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
Weight at Start (actual or estimate)	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.	_____ lbs.

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1. Explain why you chose this project.

2. Describe how you decided where and how to get your calf or calves.

3. Describe facilities where you housed your calf or calves.

4. Describe the feeding program you followed the first 3-4 days that you got your calf. (Type of feeds, amount per day, etc.)

5. Describe the feed program for the next 3 to 4 weeks. (Kinds, amounts per day, etc.)

6. Describe the feeding and management after you had the calf for a month.

7. Did your calf have any health problems? (Describe problems and what you did to treat.)

8. What did you do to prevent health problems? What management practices did you follow to help the calf be healthy and grow?

9. What was the biggest problem you had and what did you do to solve it?

10. What have you learned through this project? What would you do differently? What did you enjoy?

11. Feed and Expense Summary.

Feed	Total for all bucket/bottle calves		
	Pounds	Cost per Pound	Total
Milk Replacement	_____ lbs	\$ _____	\$ _____
Starter	_____ lbs	\$ _____	\$ _____
Hay	_____ lbs	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other Feeds	_____ lbs	\$ _____	\$ _____
Bedding			\$ _____
Medication			\$ _____
Veterinary Charges (explain)			\$ _____
Other Supplies (explain)			\$ _____
Total Cost			\$ _____
Purchase Cost or Value of Calf/Calves at Beginning of Project			\$ _____
Total Investment			\$ _____

Sample Questions the Judge May Ask You

BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF PROJECT INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____

1. Hi _____. How old are you?

2. How long have you been in 4-H?

3. How many years have you had bucket/bottle calf projects? How many bucket calves did you have this year?

4. Why did you decide to have a bucket bottle calf project?

5. When did you get your calf? Why then?

6. What are some of the things that you considered when you started to find and choose your calf?

7. How old was it? What did it weigh? What did it/they cost?

8. What breed or breeds were its parents?

9. Did anyone help you select or obtain your calf? How did they help you?

10. What facilities and equipment did you have to house your calf? Did you need to make any changes to get it ready?

11. How did you take care of and feed your calf during the first two days?

12. How long did you feed milk replacer? How did you start it on grain and how did you decide when to quit the milk replacer?

13. Did your calf nurse a cow after you got it? How often? (deduct 4 to 6 points off final score if calf nursed)

14. How did you take care of the bucket and/or bottles?

15. What did you do to prevent your calf from getting sick?

16. Did your calf show any evidence of getting sick? What did you do about it?

17. Do you know about how much your calf weighs now?

18. Do you feel that it is growing as it should? Why?

19. What kind and how much grain and how much hay does your calf eat each day? or week? Are you feeding a protein supplement or a complete mixed ration? How much per day?

20. What is the biggest problem that you had with your calf this year? What did you do about it?

21. What do you plan to do with your calf after the fair?

22. If you had a chance to start out your project at the beginning again, what would you change or do different? Why?

23. Did anyone else help you with the care and feeding of our calf? Who? When? How often?

24. What was the most interesting, funny or enjoyable experience you had with your bucket calf?

LINN COUNTY

BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF PROJECT SCORESHEET

Name: _____ Age _____ (as of last September 15)

Address: _____ Club: _____

Written Records

200 Possible Points

Interview

100 Possible Points

General Health/Fitting

100 Possible Points

Showmanship

100 Possible Points

TOTAL

500 Possible Points
