



**Linn County 4-H & FFA Beef
Project Informer
Reminder: Less than 75 Days till Fair Time
Carefully Watch Withdrawal Times**

You are receiving this letter now as a reminder to check the withdrawal time on any feed you are feeding, any shots, or injections you may need to give your calf, this includes pour-ons, and implants. The "Iowa 4-H Animal Care and Management Disclosure Statement" will be due when you weigh in your market beef project at the scale at the Linn County Fair. This is for the **MARKET BEEF** project and not required for the breeding heifer project. Many antibiotics have a 30 day withdrawal and some are a 60 day withdrawal. Watch the use of penicillin: long acting has a withdrawal time of 30 days while short term has only a five day withdrawal time. Make sure no shots are given in the hindquarter. Shots need to be given in the neck ahead of the front shoulder, using a clean needle every time. If your calf does become sick and a veterinarian needs to treat your animal be sure to remind him that your calf will be going to auction July 1st. On the back of the management disclosure form you need to show any treatment your calf was given since the December weigh in. Your YQCA, (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) training, should help you to more fully understand the importance of a safe meat product and importance of accurate withdrawal times. Again, assume nothing; be sure to double check feed ingredients and withdrawal times.

Be sure to notify the Extension Office if you have a market animal with a missing ear tag. This notification needs to happen as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made for the retag. Please do not wait till days before the fair to notify someone. Extension will get in touch with someone from the Beef Committee to replace the tag. If your market project comes to fair without a tag it cannot be shown.

- Remember that **May 15th** is the deadline to enter all your breeding heifers, cow-calf pairs and your bucket bottle projects for the county fair as well as the state fair on 4-H on line. Purebred breeding heifers **ARE** required to have **original registration papers** for the county fair. **Faxed copies will not be accepted.** Some animals are eligible to be registered through two breed associations, the way you sign your calf is the way you have to show it at the county fair. Please take time to make sure you have clearly marked if your calf is a **Home Raised breeding heifer**. Any Purebred breeding heifers to be shown in a breed class must include Breed Type, Breed, Ear Tattoo with location, Birth Date, and the Registration Number from the registration paper.
- **New this year for State and County Fair: All commercial heifers and home raised heifers need to have two forms of ID. ALL heifers need a tattoo entered in 4-H Online:**
- **PLUS, one of the following:**
 - Registration # (if a purebred/breed)
 - Or,
 - Calfhood Vaccination #
 - Or,
 - Official 4-H Ear Tag

A Breeding Beef tagging day will take place at the Linn County Fair Grounds on April 28th, 2019 from 1-2:30 PM for those needing a secondary ID method of an official 4-H ear tag.

YQCA

❖ YQCA – required for ALL 4-H livestock exhibitors

- County & State Fair
- Certification due by May 15th-Take a picture of it and send it to the Linn County CYC'S email JD Waybill or drop it off at the Linn County Extension Office.

- ❖ Previous FSQA testing will be honored through expiration date

For those of you who are new to beef project, we have the **All-Around Beef Exhibitor Award** competition. Included are the guidelines. If you have any questions about this ask at the workshops. If you did not complete a record book for last year's fair or if you are new to the project you can receive credit by completing records for this year's project and bring them to fair so someone can go over them. Beef Quiz bowl will take place at the fair.

There will be a **Beef Workshop at the LDM Building in Central City May 5th** at 2:00 pm to help with Fair Entry. This workshop will also be on the Beef Quiz Bowl that is given at the Fair. Important fair information – unloading/loading of trailers, weigh in, pre-registration, etc. will be discussed. **JD Waybill, CYC from the Extension Office, will be present to help families pre-register their beef projects into Fair Entry.** If you have not entered your breeding beef, Cow/Calf, or bucket bottle projects on 4-H online bring this information with you to do this at the same time, as this information has to be entered before you can do Fair Entry. **If a 4-H member cannot attend, any family member can.**

There will also be a Beef Workshop June 2nd, 2019, 2 pm at the Linn County Fair Grounds. It will cover the daily hair care of your calf.

GENERAL AGE REQUIREMENTS-For 4H members showing livestock

- County Fair – Must have completed 4th grade
- State Fair – Must have completed 5th grade
- Ak-Sar-Ben – Must have completed 5th grade

Hopefully everyone has been working with their beef projects so at fair time they will be well broke. Remember to let your calves exercise at night. Keep them tied during the day so they will be out of the sun and then let them out at night when the sun is down to improve your hair coat and to let them move about to build up their muscle.

Additional Facts: Remember that when you are feeding your Market Animal and Breeding Heifer projects you do not feed them the same thing at the same bunk. They need to be fed completely different for completely different reasons. On a market beef project you want them to eat as much as possible to achieve a maximum rate of gain. Breeding heifers are fed to maintain a good condition and that is not giving them as much as they want to eat. Market beef can use more corn in their diet where breeding heifers do not want a high concentration of corn; oats and corn would be a better alternative for breeding heifers. You want to show them with a good hair coat just as a steer would be.

Work with your calves; at this point in the project they should be halter broke and you should be leading them around the farm. Have a radio running, take them outside their comfort zone to make sure they are exposed to different things, just don't lead them in their pen, take them out into the yard, practice loading them up into the trailer, practice setting them up with the show stick. Give them space to roam at night to help firm up their muscling. Not only will this help tame them down, but they will be easier to work with when it comes time to bring them to fair.

Make sure you read through your 2019 Linn County Fair Book for any updated rules!!