

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY™

Extension and Outreach

Muscatine County Extension & Outreach
1601 Plaza Place
Muscatine, IA 52761-4629
563-263-5701 or
1-800-992-0894
FAX: 563-263-5707
www.extension.iastate.edu/muscatine
muscatine4h@iastate.edu

2023

To: Bucket Calf Project Members, FFA Advisors

Fr: Jerry Anderson
Bucket Calf Superintendent

Katrina Bostwick
4-H Program Coordinator



Re: **Muscatine County Bucket Calf Project Record, Fair Year: 2023**

The Bucket Calf Project is a unique project that gives members an opportunity to utilize their skills in calf management before the fair and communication during the fair. This hands-on project allows members the opportunity to take responsibility for raising a healthy calf and members can choose to continue with this project a second year as a Return Bucket Calf in the 4-H/FFA Beef Show.

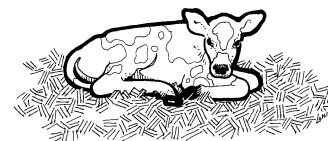
Whether you have been in this project area several years or this is your first, please know each calf is a new project with new prospects to learn within the project area. While most of your work will take place from the time your calf is in your possession until fair, please be mindful of what your goal for the project area is. The Bucket Calf Project is set up so that a judge is able to return for two years. During the first year the judge has the opportunity to look at all members for the first time and during the second year the judge looks for how much members have grown within the project area. Think about increasing the difficulty of your goals as you grow and truly consider what you would like to gain from this project area. Ultimately in July, the judge will be looking for:

- How much you have learned in this project area
- Your knowledge of raising a calf – including costs
- Your experience – including challenges of raising a calf
- Your ability to manage a calf on the fairgrounds and in the ring

Members are required to keep records from the time of possession of the calf until Saturday, July 8th. Please submit your records electronically to the Extension Office by July 9th at 11:59 p.m. by emailing Katrina Bostwick at kbost@iastat.edu. Record forms are available online at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/muscatine/county-fair>. Your records should include the information required on the appropriate Bucket Calf Report form for your age. Failure to use the provided record form will result in loss of points.

Weighted equally, the Muscatine County Bucket Calf Project scores are based upon the following areas:

<u>Written records</u> (Given to the Judge during personal interviews)	75 points
<u>Personal interview</u> (Monday of fair week)	75 points
<u>Ring showmanship</u> (Friday of fair week)	75 points
<u>Management of the calf</u> (While on the fairgrounds)	<u>75 points</u>
Total	300 points



Remember:

- **4-H Bucket Calf Identification** - must be submitted in 4hOnline by **May 15**. FFA members give ID form to FFA advisor before **May 15**.
- **Fair entry** must be made in the FairEntry database from May 16 - June 16. Go to muscatine.fairentry.com after May 16 to make your fair entry
- **Health Papers are due at check-in on fairgrounds**- your calf must be checked by a veterinarian within 30 days of your arrival at the fair on Wednesday, July 19 between 8:00-9:00 a.m. You will not be allowed to show your calf without health papers.
- **Bucket Calf Interviews** – are scheduled in coordination with your 4-H club/FFA static exhibit judging time held in the Activities Building (4-H Exhibit Building) on the fairgrounds on **July 17**.
- **Bucket Calf Forms Online:** <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/muscatine/county-fair> at the bottom of the page under “Livestock Exhibit Information Forms.” Failure to use the provided record form will result in loss of points.

Important Dates to Remember:

Feb. 1-May 10	Calf must be born and in your possession
May 15	Bucket calf identification must be entered into your records in 4hOnline or with FFA advisor
May 16-June 16	Make your fair entries through the online program FairEntry and pay entry fees
June/July	Obtain health papers from veterinarian within 30 days of July 19
July 17	Bucket calf interview in the at the fairgrounds during exhibit judging
July 19	Calf check-in on fairgrounds
July 21	4-H/FFA Bucket Calf Show
July 23	Calves released at 7 a.m.