

## ADVANCED FEEDER CATTLE PROJECT GUIDELINES

1. A pen of three to eight head can be weighed and started as a project between September 30 and February 1. Cattle need to be tagged with a 4-H ear tag. Tags are available in the extension office at the cost of \$2.00/tag. The weigh-in date will be considered the starting date of the project. That weight will be the beginning weight. A stamped weight ticket from a commercial scale and a bill of sale will need to be turned in to verify beginning weight and purchase price. For cattle purchased out of a group or home-raised, without a bill of sale, an order buyer needs to appraise the pen and sign a paper that has the appraised market price on the cattle.

Send this information to:

Eric Ochsendorf at [echsendorf@landolakes.com](mailto:echsendorf@landolakes.com)

2. Accurate feed records need to be kept by the member. The pen should be separate from other livestock so accurate feed records can be maintained.
3. Each time a pen is fed, each ingredient needs to be weighed and recorded but the percentage of each ingredient in the ration needs to be known. All commodity type feed stuffs (corn, hay, ect.) will be standardized and priced monthly. The corn price will be the monthly average price at the Hull Coop. The participants will still report all their prices.

***The feed weights should be totaled for each two-week period on forms available on the Extension Web site and sent to Eric Ochsendorf once a month.***

4. The beginning weight of the cattle, the project finish weight and the feed record information will be entered into a computer feedlot-monitoring program. The printouts will provide the member with performance and break-even information and can be used to judge the accuracy of the records.
5. Management checks will be made during the feeding period by the superintendents. Management will be judged on cleanliness of water, feed bunk management, the feeding system, (how the feed is being weighed), selection of cattle to meet desired weight and finish at fair time and use of available facilities.
6. The pens will be appraised at fair time for market acceptability and market price
7. The evaluation for the project will include:
  - 30 points for management
  - 30 points for market acceptability
  - 30 points for records
  - 50 points for economy of gain
  - 60 points for \$ invested per \$ returned