

TO: FFA Beef Cattle Exhibitors
FROM: FFA Entry Department



Thank you for entering the Iowa State Fair! Your exhibitor admission ticket and unload permit have been sent to your advisor. Each exhibitor will be given one unload permit that allows 30 minutes to unload animals and tack, but does not provide parking. The vehicle unload permit has been dated for the FFA Beef Show.

Please enter the Fairgrounds through **Gate 6**. Vehicles without a permit will not be allowed to enter the Fairgrounds. *Reminder, streets adjacent to the livestock barns will be reserved for unloading/loading, no parking will be allowed on these streets including during PreFair.

All trailers will be parked off grounds. NOTE: Please remember to bring wood blocks to use when parking/setting your trailer.

Upon arrival, please take your animals' health certificates to the Veterinary Office (located on the South side of the Cattle Barn) for approval. Health certificates must be examined, approved and stamped by the veterinarian in the Veterinary Office prior to animals being checked in. **Veterinary office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., please plan your arrival accordingly.** Health certificates not completed properly will be denied and the owner will be required to obtain a new certificate at the owner's expense. The Iowa State Fair must be listed as the destination.

FFA BEEF SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, August 11

8:00 a.m. Beef may arrive (Breeding Beef: Stalling Barn; Performance Beef: East End of Swine Barn)
1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Health paper, registration paper and drug affidavit check in

Wednesday, August 12

8:00 a.m. Beef must be in
Check in Performance Beef / Check in Breeding Beef (**immediately after Performance**)
9:00 a.m. Breeding Beef health and registration papers must be checked in
3:00 p.m. Exhibitor Meeting (Youth Inn)
5:00 p.m. Performance Beef Show (Outdoor Arena)

Thursday, August 13

10:00 a.m. Breeding Beef Show (Outdoor Arena) - Bulls, Cow-Calf Units, Registered Heifers, Commercial Heifers, Selection of Supreme and Reserve Supreme
After Show Beef released
8:00 p.m. Beef must be out

Each Performance Beef exhibitor is required to fill out the Iowa State Fair FFA Animal Care and Management Disclosure Statement which can be found at <https://www.iowastatefair.org/competition>. The Animal Care and Management Disclosure Statement must be on file before the exhibitor can show their livestock. **ALL treatment given to animals since nomination time must be listed on the Statement.**

Please read all FFA Department and General and rules and regulations listed in the Premium Book sections online. A few rules to note:

- All FFA exhibitors are expected to conduct themselves in a cooperative and courteous manner while participating in FFA events at the Iowa State Fair.
- Each FFA member shall take responsibility for caring for and grooming his/her own animal(s). If assistance is needed it should be intended to help the FFA member learn new skills. FFA members can be assisted by an immediate family member, fellow active Iowa FFA member and/or chapter advisor in fitting and grooming their cattle. No other assistants will be permitted. Anyone found in violation of this rule will

be disqualified. Family members include and are limited to: parent/legal guardian, brother, sister or step-siblings.

- At any time after an animal arrives on the Fair or livestock show premises **medication of any kind is to be administered to livestock animals by an Official Iowa State Fair Veterinarian ONLY**. If an FFA exhibitor or his/her assistant administers a shot or medication, this exhibitor shall be barred from showing and premiums will be taken away.
- **THE USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND THE PRESENCE OF DRUG RESIDUE IS PROHIBITED**. Exhibitors may not use stimulants of food or beverage products that may contain stimulants such as caffeine.
- **NO** personal generators will be allowed on Fairgrounds.
 - Please be courteous and cooperate with other exhibitors so that everyone's electrical needs can be met.
- ALL breeding cattle must have official individual identification and be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection that lists official identification. Examples of acceptable official identification are: a USDA approved alphanumeric tag, Brucellosis (calf hood) vaccination tag, or purebred registry tattoo, or USDA approved RFID or 840 series tag.
- Cable halters will not be allowed in the show ring.

Livestock Release Procedure:

To help alleviate traffic congestion and expedite load out procedures, a process for livestock release will be used again this year. Please familiarize yourself with the following steps. Cooperation from all exhibitors is greatly appreciated and will provide a better experience for everyone.

1. Exhibitor will go to the barn office to obtain a release form no earlier than 30 minutes before scheduled release time.
2. Exhibitor will take the release form to the appropriate trailer lot to receive their load-out mirror hanger. **ALL** vehicles picking up livestock **MUST** go to a trailer lot to get a load-out mirror hanger before being allowed on the Fairgrounds.
3. Trucks and trailers will be lined up according to species/barn.
4. Vehicles will be released from trailer lots to the Fairgrounds.

In coordination with Metro Waste Authority, the Iowa State Fair will dispose of waste livestock bedding as a compostable material. In addition to being environmentally friendly, this program puts our waste to better use and helps reduce disposal costs. We need the help of exhibitors, superintendents and attendees to make this program successful. Please make sure to keep bedding clear of unaccepted material such as paper, cans, show supplies, feed bags or leftover food that could disrupt the composting process. Your cooperation is much appreciated!

Please make every effort to keep your entire area clean and neat. The aisles must be open at all times to the public. Thank you for helping us put on a great display of quality show animals for all visitors and other exhibitors.

If you have any questions, please contact the FFA Entry Department at 515-262-3111 ext. 246 or ffa@iowastatefair.org.

Thank you and good luck at the 2026 Iowa State Fair!