

YOUTH DAIRY CATTLE DEPARTMENT
FFA Supervisor of Exhibits - James Abbas, AGWSR FFA
Assistant Supervisor of Exhibits - Caden Sporleder, AGWSR FFA
4-H Supervisor of Exhibits - Mike Eilers

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 11

8:00 a.m. Dairy Cattle may arrive

Wednesday, August 12

9:00 a.m. Dairy Cattle must be in

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Exhibitor numbers must be picked up by the Cattle Barn Office

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Entries checked – please remain at your stalls and wait for check-in crews to come to you

4:00 p.m. All substitute showmanship forms must be submitted to the Superintendent

Thursday, August 13

4:00 p.m. Dairy Awards Program - Penningroth Sale Ring

Friday, August 14

5:00 p.m. Youth Dairy Cattle Showmanship - Livestock Pavilion

Saturday, August 15

8:30 a.m. Youth Dairy Cattle Show - Livestock Pavilion

5:00 p.m. Dairy Cattle released by zone

(or after Gov. Steer Show)

Sunday, August 16

7:00 a.m. Dairy Cattle must be out

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

DEPARTMENT RULES

1. General rules, regulations and health requirements listed on the Iowa State Fair website and in the FFA section apply in this department, with special emphasis on the following sections: Member Eligibility, Supervision and Lodging, Good Conduct Policy, Medication and Drug Testing, and Showing and Fitting Ethics.
2. **Nominations must be submitted online on or before May 15.** A maximum of 20 head may be nominated.
3. Entries are open to registered and identified grade dairy animals that meet the stated FFA, 4-H and Iowa State Fair rules and regulations and were born before May 31, 2026. They must be enrolled as a part of each exhibitor's SAE program. Animals born prior to July 1, 2022 may be entered if they were enrolled as the exhibitor's SAE program and eligible to be exhibited as a 2-year-old heifer or younger. Animals entered are limited to those identified as either a 4-H or FFA project, but not both. Exhibitors may NOT show as both a 4-H and FFA exhibitor.
4. **Entries must be submitted online on or before July 1.** Entry fee is \$25 per head.
Common bedding will be used in the barns for all dairy cattle. The stalls will be bedded by the Iowa State Fair Maintenance Staff with the fee included in the entry fee. No alternative bedding will be allowed on the grounds. Exhibitors will be allowed to purchase additional bedding to freshen stalls, but there will be a standard depth maintained.
5. Registered cattle may be entered in corresponding Open Classes provided additional entry is made on or before July 1 on an Open Class entry form, accompanied by an additional \$10 Open Class entry fee for each head. FFA or 4-H dairy animals also entered in the Open Classes must be entered in the same name as shown on the certificate of registry. All such entries are subject to Open Class rules.
6. Any yearling heifer that has freshened prior to time of judging must be evaluated in a 2-year-old class.
7. Each animal must be properly identified. Animals must have 2 out of 3 of the following identification methods recorded online by May 15:
 - a. Tag/Ear Tattoo; or
 - b. Registration Number; or
 - c. DHIA metal tag ID numberAll levels of registry are acceptable. Registration papers or identified grade papers must match the animal.
8. Each exhibitor may enter up to six head with no more than two entries per class.
9. **SUBSTITUTIONS** - Exhibitors may substitute provided the substitute animal was listed online by May 15.
10. Animals exhibited in this department must be housed in stalls designated by the Show Supervisors or forfeit all premiums earned. It shall be the prerogative of the Show Supervisors to reduce the number of stalls assigned to a county or chapter to the number actually required.
11. All animals will be judged on conformation only.
12. Placings will be made in four ribbon groups: purple, blue, red and white. Animals will be placed in numerical order within ribbon groupings. The number of animals in each grouping will be at the discretion of the judge.
13. First and Second place winners from calf and yearling classes will compete for Junior Champion. First and Second place in each of the 2 and 3 Yr Old cow classes are eligible for Intermediate Champion. First and Second place in each of the 4 Yr Old and Aged old cow classes are eligible for Senior Champion. Junior, Intermediate and Senior Champions will compete for Grand Champion.
14. **PREMIUMS AND RIBBONS** - Each entry will receive a ribbon (purple, blue, red or white) in each class. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be \$40, 25, 15. Premium amounts for classes 2-year old or older will be \$50, 30, 25.
15. If numbers in class warrant, the Show Committee will split classes accordingly.
16. FFA members will compete for showing awards with other youth in the designated showmanship class.
17. **NEW IN 2026:** No aerosol cans may be used in the Livestock Pavilion.

REGISTERED DAIRY

Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn

	AYR	BS	GUE	HOL	JER	MS
	DIV 210	DIV 211	DIV 212	DIV 213	DIV 214	DIV 215
Spring Heifer Calf -- born March 1, 2026 - May 31, 2026	21001	21101	21201	21301	21401	21501
Winter Heifer Calf -- born December 1, 2025 - February 28, 2026	21002	21102	21202	21302	21402	21502
Fall Heifer Calf -- born September 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025	21003	21103	21203	21303	21403	21503
Summer Yearling Heifer -- born June 1, 2025 - August 31, 2025	21004	21104	21204	21304	21404	21504
Spring Yearling Heifer -- born March 1, 2025 - May 31, 2025	21005	21105	21205	21305	21405	21505
Winter Yearling Heifer -- born December 1, 2024 - February 28, 2025	21006	21106	21206	21306	21406	21506
Fall Yearling Heifer -- born September 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024	21007	21107	21207	21307	21407	21507
Junior Best 3 Females (<i>enter at check-in</i>)	21008	21108	21208	21308	21408	21508
Fall Yearling in Milk -- born September 1, 2024 - November 30, 2024	21009	21109	21209	21309	21409	21509
Summer Junior Two Year Old Cow -- born June 1, 2024 - August 31, 2024	21010	21110	21210	21310	21410	21510
Junior Two Year Old Cow -- born March 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024	21011	21111	21211	21311	21411	21511
Senior Two Year Old Cow -- born September 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024	21012	21112	21212	21312	21412	21512
Junior Three Year Old Cow -- born March 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023	21013	21113	21213	21313	21413	21513
Senior Three Year Old Cow -- born September 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023	21014	21114	21214	21314	21414	21514
Four Year Old Cow -- born September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022	21015	21115	21215	21315	21415	21515
Five Year Old Cow -- born September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021	21016	21116	21216	21316	21416	21516
Aged Cow, 6 Years Old and Over -- born before September 1, 2020	21017	21117	21217	21317	21417	21517

** When fewer than three animals are shown in the classes for Four Year Old Cow, Five Year Old Cow and Aged Cow, the three classes will be combined to form a class for "Cows Four Years and Older".

DAIRY HERD

1. The Dairy Herd shall consist of three animals, all of one breed; all entered and shown in the individual classes and owned by one exhibitor. (Limit, one herd per exhibitor.) One animal must be the produce of one of the exhibitor's FFA or 4-H project animals. Registered and Grade Herds will be shown together as one class. Enter at check-in.
2. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top three entries in each class. Premiums paid will be \$15, 12, 9.

CLASS

21018	Ayrshire
21118	Brown Swiss
21218	Guernsey
21318	Holstein
21418	Jersey
21518	Milking Shorthorn

YOUTH DAIRY CATTLE SPECIALS

The **Dairy Science Club at Iowa State University** sponsors trophies for the top Junior, Intermediate and Senior Dairy Showmanship winner.

The **Holstein Foundation**, Brattleboro, VT, will provide ribbons for the first five places in each Holstein class and a Champion and Reserve Champion Rosette.

The **Iowa Ayrshire Breeders Association** sponsors a Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship award in the Youth Dairy Show. A recipient may win this award one time only.

The **Iowa Holstein Association** sponsors a trophy for the Grand Champion Holstein Female.

The **Iowa Jersey Cattle Club** will award a show halter to the Grand Champion Jersey Female.

The **Iowa Jersey Cattle Club** will provide a heifer statue to the Junior Champion Jersey.

The **Iowa Jersey Cattle Club** will provide an award for the top Jersey exhibitor in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior division of Dairy Showmanship.

The **Iowa Milking Shorthorn Society** sponsors a trophy for the Grand Champion Milking Shorthorn Female.