

2024 IOWA STATE FAIR - FFA PERFORMANCE BEEF STEERS

Weigh in begins November 1, 2023 and ends on January 31, 2024.

Ear tattoo, State Fair FFA tag and DNA hair samples are required for each steer.

The following must be mailed to the Iowa State Fair FFA Entry Department on or before February 1:

- Completed Iowa State Fair FFA Performance Beef Weigh In Sheet for each exhibitor
- DNA hair envelope for each steer with all signatures
- Payment of \$5 per tag (payable to Iowa State Fair)

Online nomination will open in the spring. Online nomination deadline is May 15. **All mailed items listed above MUST be postmarked by February 1 to be eligible for online nomination.**

Students must be listed on the chapter roster with the Iowa FFA Association BEFORE they can be nominated.

Each exhibitor may nominate a maximum of SIX steers.

All Performance Beef Steers must use a State Fair issued FFA tag. 4-H tags will not be accepted. Do not use any old State Fair tags - only use tags issued from the State Fair Office for the 2024 Fair.

All Performance Beef Steers must be ear tattooed. Tattoo must be legible when steer arrives at the Fair. Each steer from the same FFA member and/or FFA family must have a unique tattoo.

The following information is required on the weigh in sheet:

- FFA Ear Tag Number and Location (left, right)
- Ear Tattoo and Location (left, right, both)
- Hide Color (black, red, white)
- Weigh In Weight
- Weigh In Date and Location
- County Weigh In Official's Signature

Produce must be indicated online at the time of nomination. Produce animals are raised by the exhibitor from a cow owned by the exhibitor and enrolled in the exhibitor's SAE program. Animal's date of birth will be required.

Breeding Beef nominations (bulls, heifers and cow/calf) must be submitted online on or before May 15. They are not required to use a State Fair issued FFA tag. They are required to have an ear tattoo.

DNA ENVELOPES

- Write CHAPTER NAME on EVERY envelope (not chapter town or chapter number).
- Write exhibitor's first and last name on EVERY envelope.
- Make sure the exhibitor name and tag number are legible.
- If more than one exhibitor is nominating the same animal (siblings or school cooperative), then all names need to be listed on the envelope and all need to sign the envelope.
 - A Livestock Partnership Form for each of these exhibitors must be sent with the envelopes by February 1.
 - Nominations must be submitted online under each exhibitor.
 - There is only one nomination fee per animal.
- Parent/Member Waiver is required if the parent/member was not present at the time of DNA collection and tagging.
 - Waivers must be sent with the envelopes by February 1.
 - If the parent/member witnessed the DNA collection and tagging, a waiver is not needed. They need to sign the envelope.
- Please make sure DNA envelopes are sealed completely. Once sealed, the DNA envelope must remain sealed.

TAGS

- Use tags on strips in number order.
- Let the Entry Office know if you gave tags to another chapter or used tags from another chapter.

Advisors are responsible for mailing all materials to the State Fair. Please do not rely on the county extension office to mail materials to the State Fair. All materials listed above must be postmarked by February 1.

Unused DNA envelopes and extra ear tags **must** be returned to the Iowa State Fair FFA Entry Department on or before February 1. Chapters will be invoiced \$5 per tag for unreturned tags. The fee for tags used on animals not nominated for State Fair is \$5 per tag and payment is due by February 1. Please notify the Entry Department of these tag numbers.

Window choice will be indicated at entry. Please make sure your exhibitors are aware of and understand the window specifications (listed in the premium book available online in April).

REMINDERS

- Online nomination will open in the spring. All FFA **nominations** must be submitted online on or before May 15.
- All FFA **entries** must be submitted online on or before July 1.

Iowa State Fair - FFA Entry Department - PO Box 57130 - Des Moines, IA 50317

515-262-3111 ext. 246 or ffa@iowastatefair.org