



# **Beef Replacement Heifer**

## **2024 General Rules**

## **General Rules for 4-H & FFA Beef Replacement Heifer Projects**

### **Member Eligibility**

- The exhibitor must be a member in good standing of a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in San Luis Obispo County, or be a qualified independent junior exhibitor from San Luis Obispo County. (Refer to State and Local Rules for eligibility and qualifications.)

### **Heifer Eligibility & Requirements**

- An exhibitor may only enter one (1) beef replacement heifer.
- Registered or grade beef replacement heifers are eligible projects. (Grade heifers must be without horns)
- The sire of the heifer must be of a beef breed.
- If an exhibitor declares that the heifer is registered, the registration papers must be signed off and submitted to the Livestock Office before the heifer will be allowed to sell.
- Heifers must be a minimum of 20 months and a maximum of 30 months on the opening day of the Fair.
- Heifers must weigh a minimum of 900 pounds and no more than 1700 pounds
- Heifers must be bred to calve between August 20<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year shown and be bred to a bull of a beef breed.
- Heifers must show evidence of a calfhood brucellosis vaccine. (Tattoo in right ear)
- These requirements will be verified at the scale by the certified weighmaster, the attending veterinarian, and Fair management. Those heifers that do not meet the criteria will be disqualified from show competition, no exceptions.

### **Temperament of Heifer**

- Heifers must be gentle and trained to lead with a show halter.
- The Fair Management reserves the right to disqualify heifers as ineligible for show competition, and order the removal of any beef entry that is not gentle and properly halter broke to lead, for the safety of all exhibitors, leaders & advisors and fair going public.

### **Ownership Requirements and Project Agreement**

- Project members must have ownership of their heifer by December 15, 2023
- Project Agreement forms can be found on the Mid-State Fair website, the online form must be completed no later than January 4, 2024 at 4pm.
- A copy of the Bill of Sale must be submitted with the Project Agreement form as proof of ownership for all heifers. (The original Bill of Sale must be retained by the exhibitor and presented to the State Brand Inspector at the Fair on weigh day.)

### **DNA Requirements**

- All exhibitors must submit a DNA kit by the deadline, late DNA kits are NOT accepted for any reason.

### **Substitutions**

- If a breeding or health problem should occur, as evidenced by a veterinarian or the 4-H Leader/FFA Instructor in charge, a substitute heifer may be allowed if owned by the member on or before March 19, 2024.
- Substitutions will not be allowed unless the member submitted a Project Agreement on the original heifer by the original January deadline, receives approval from Fair Management on the substitution, and submits a written justification for the substitute from the attending veterinarian or leader.

### **Judging**

- The Danish System of judging will be used at the Fair.
- Judges decisions are final.

### **Replacement Heifer Sale**

- The Replacement Heifer Sale is a non-terminal sale.
- Only those heifers placing in the top three (3) groups will be eligible to sell.
- The (4) Grand and Reserve Champion heifers **must** sell in the Heifer Sale.
- Non-champion Heifers are not required to sell. Exhibitors must notify the Livestock Office, and pay a \$50 pull fee, within one (1) hour of the conclusion of the heifer show to be removed from the sale order.
- If a heifer calves during the Fair and has qualified for the sale, she will be eligible to be sold with the calf by her side provided that the calf is healthy and the heifer is controllable. The decision will be made by Management.