

New 4-H Member Packet

Dairy Cattle

1. Who can I contact if I have questions?

Steph Waters, 4-H Program Educator @ CCE (sah399@cornell.edu) (607) 664-2571

2. How do I know what class to enter my animal in?

Dairy cattle are judged by breed because different breeds have different defining characteristics. Additionally, each age group will be judged together, so make sure to pay attention to the dates specified for each class in the 4-H Showcase Premium Book

For classes **004** through **007**, animals cannot currently be milking. Classes **008, 009, 018, 019, 030** are reserved for animals that have already won in previous classes. To enter in **special classes** such as **009** (Junior Herd), **022** (Best Three Females), **025** (Produce of Dam), **026** (Dam and Daughter), and the **Animal Costume Class**, animals must meet the requirements that each class description specifies in the 4-H Showcase Premium Book . All 4-Hers are required to enter Showmanship with other 4-Hers in the same age range.

3. What is showmanship, is it mandatory, and how do I know what showmanship class to enter in?

Showmanship, unlike other classes, focuses less on the animal itself and more on the participant's ability to handle their animal well. If this is the 4-Her's first year in showmanship, it may be helpful to speak with an older and more experienced 4-Her such as a previous showmanship winner to understand what the judge is looking for. Showmanship is mandatory for all 4-Hers (besides past Master Showman winners). If the 4-Her does not have their own animal, they can enter in **Class 006- Non-Owner Dairy Cattle Showmanship**. Cloverbuds are in class **001**. All other 4-Hers can enter in classes grouped by age.

4. What should I wear to show my animal?

4-Hers should wear all white (especially for showmanship). Boots are also a smart idea in case your animal steps on your toes. They should also wear their entry numbers pinned on their shirt or in a showing pinny.

5. What supplies should I bring into the show ring with me?

4-Hers should wear their entry numbers and have the animal in a sturdy halter. Leather show halters are preferred (especially for showmanship).

6. What supplies do I need to bring with me to the 4-H Showcase?

- water tub or bucket,
- halters
- Straw or other bedding
- pitchforks, shovel,
- name signs or decorations the 4-Hers would like to display.

7. When do I arrive/ show my animal?

Refer to the Schedule in the 4-H Showcase Premium Books

8. Do I need a Certificate of Veterinarian Inspection for my animal? When does it need to be completed by?

Yes, you must have a Certificate of Veterinarian Inspection completed before the animals get to the Showcase.

9. Does my animal need a specific tag in order to come to the Showcase?

Dairy cattle need an official USDA approved ear tag. Radio frequency identification ear tags are recommended. If you need RFI tags please reach out the Steph Waters at the 4-H Office.