Allegany County Cooperative Extension

Senior Breeding Beef Project Record Book

PLEASE ATTACH A PICTURE OF YOUR PROJECT ANIMAL HERE

Livestock Interviews will be held at the livestock area the Friday of Fair from 9.30 am- 11.30am.
Project Records are due into the 4H office the first Friday of September. If showing at State Fair they will be due into the 4H office the Friday after State Fair.

Name: _____

Name of your animal_____

Age (as of January 1st) _____Years in 4-H _____

Date Project Started_____Date Project Closed _____

Instructions:

1. Use this project record for breeding beef, specifically a cow that will be calving.

2. Keep a separated record for each individual animal. Once the calf is born it should have a Beginner Breeding Beef Record Book started.

3. Fill out a new project record book every year, however some information will carry over year to year.

4. Write the things you do with and without your animal that relates to your animal project.

5. Keep all receipts as proof of money spent for your projects. Photo copies of receipts are allowed.

6. Turn in your project record at the same date as portfolios are due to get credit for you project.

(If you have any questions about your project record, please contact the office at 585-268-7644 ext. 16 or ext.11)

Project Plans

Complete this section after you take ownership of your project.

Why did you choose this individual animal?

How do you plan to care for this animal?

What do you want to learn about your project this year?

How will you ensure your animal is on track for show and market?

Project Animals Information

Animal's Name _____

Identification Number and/or Tattoo _____

Breed(s) _____

Gender_____ Date of Birth _____

Date of Purchase_____ Total Purchase Amount $_____

Purchase or Current Weight _____ Current Body Score _____

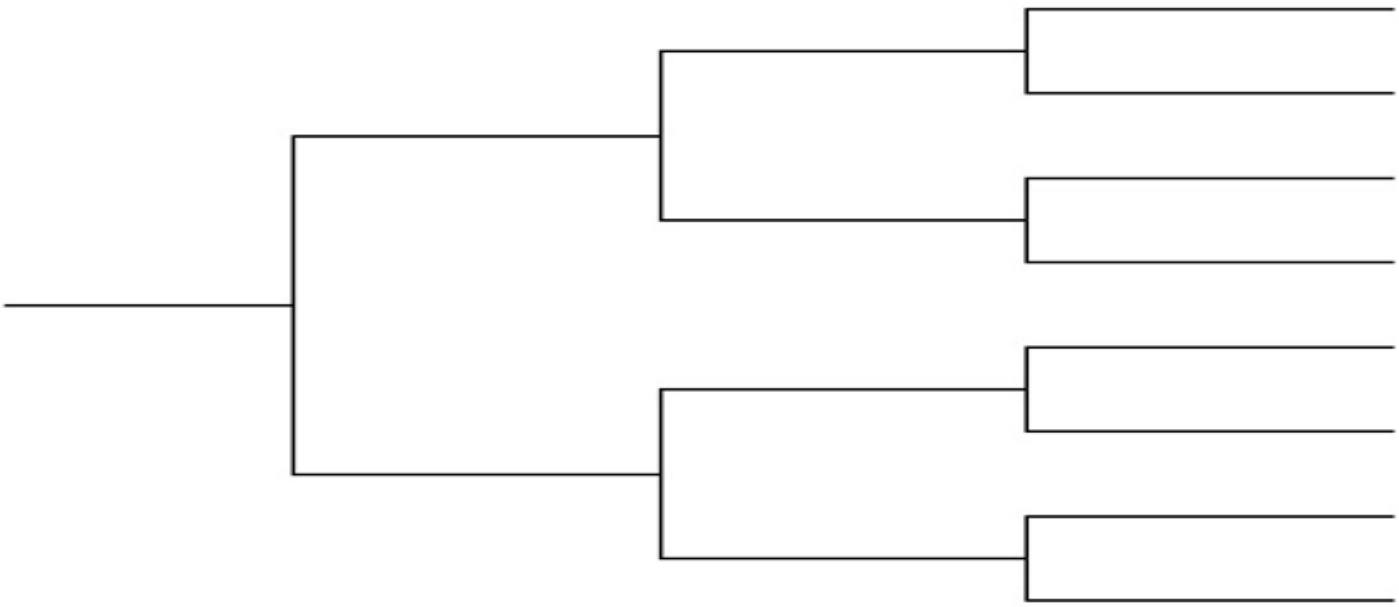
Number of Days until Show _____ Expected Calving date _____

Actual Calving date _____

Lifetime Number of calves _____ Number of Live Healthy Calves _____

Project's Pedigree

(Fill out as much of you projects pedigree you know even if it is just different breeds that make up your animal)



Project Evaluation

How many animals did you look at before choosing this cow? _____

Why did you choose this cow?_____

_____

What is this animals best structural characteristic and why? _____

_____

What is one structural fault of this animal and why? _____

_____

What plan do you have in mind for this year for this cow? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Project Performance

Use this chart to document your cows calving. If she had previous calves, start with them and use them to compare against one another. If this is her first calf, compare it to the current breed averages. In the weight column be sure to state if this is a birth weight (BW), weaning weight (WW), a performance tracking weight (PTW) or yearling weight (YW). Some stages in the calf's growth, the cow's current body weight, body condition score and utter score are needed as well as a calf's hip height (fill where appropriate). Utter scores are two digits (1-9). The first number denotes teat size (9 for small teat size – 1 for balloon-shaped teats). The second number classifies udder floor attachment (9 is tight and level – while a 1 is pendulous and broken floor). More sheets can be attached.

Date Animal ID	**Weight (lbs) Stage/Body Condition score**	**Days between last and taken weight**	**Total pounds gained**	**Pounds gained per day**	**Hip Height or Utter score**
2-7 Cow1	1,253lbs Calving- 6	X	X	X	87
2-7 Calf 11	76lbs BW	X	X	X	X
7-7 Calf 11	452lbs WW	180 days	376lbs	2.0 per day	43 inches
7-7 Cow1	1,250 Weaning- 5	X	X	X	X

How did calving go? _____

_____

How well did your cow milk compared to breed averages? _____

_____

What was your calf's over-all average daily gain from birth to weaning? _____lbs

How does this compare to other calves produced by this cow? _____

Was there anything you could have done different to improve calving or this calf's performance? _____

_____

Breeding Evaluation

When will your animal be eligible to be bred back? _____

What date do you expect you're animal to be bred back?_____

How will you breed your animal?_____

Heat Tracking

Use this chart to help track heats on your cow after calving. Your start date can be her actual calving date.

Date	Behavior displayed	Bleed off date	# of days in her cycle	Next expected heat
7-20	Standing for mounting	7-21	17	8-6

*If you breed your cow, mark it here in this chart so you can check for her next heat to help determine conception. Synch protocols can also be documented here if used. Additional pages can be added.

Is your cow showing regular cycles? Why or why not?_____

_____

Did you synch your cow for breeding if so what synch protocol did you use?

_____

Did your cow settle on the first bred back breeding? _____

Why or why not? _____

If conception was achieved, when is your calving date? _____

Bull Selection

Compare at least two bulls including the bull you use for breeding. Even if you are not breeding this animal in the current project year evaluate two bulls you will use in a future breeding.

Bull #1

Name _____ Breed _____

What are some reasons to use this bull for breeding? _____

_____

_____

What are some reasons not to use this bull for breeding?_____

_____

_____

Bull #2

Name _____ Breed _____

What are some reasons to use this bull for breeding? _____

_____

_____

What are some reasons not to use this bull for breeding?_____

_____

_____

What bull did you choose (name) _____

Feed Records

Example

Date	Bought (B) or Grown (G)	Feed Type/ Source	Number of Units	Weight of a Unit	Total weight	Cost per Unit Total Cost	Cost per Pound
2-7	*G*	*Hay/Forage*	*6 Bales*	*40lbs per Bale*	*240lbs*	*$2/ Bale $24.00*	*$.05*
2-7	*B*	*Corn/Energy*	*6 Bags*	*100lbs*	*600lbs*	*$10.95/ Bag $65.70*	*$.11*
2-7	*B*	*Grower/ Complete*	*8 Bags*	*100lbs*	*800lbs*	*$13.95/ Bag $111.60*	*$.14*
2-7	B	Grower/ Complete	.21 Bags	100lbs	21lbs	$10.00/ Bags $2.10	$.10

Your Records

Date	Bought (B) or Grown (G)	Feed Type/ Source	Number of Units	Weight of a Unit	Total weight	Cost per Unit Total Cost	Cost Per Pound

Information to Assist Your Feed Records

Additional pages can be added if needed. Remember purchased or bought items should have a receipt to document the purchase. Photo copies of receipts are allowed. If you are feeding more than one animal, only document the feed that is given to ***your*** individual animal. Depending on your set up we realize calculating feed cost for one individual can be difficult. Estimations for this purpose are acceptable as long as the documented receipt can prove to be accurate.

For example: You are feeding a group of ten calves and buying two hundred pound bags of feed every week at ten dollars a bag, note the relative size of your calf compared to the group. All ten calves are eating approximately 2.86 pounds of feed a day each. If your calf is the biggest and spends the most time at the feeder, he/she is probably eating more than average. This should be documented at three pounds per day.

Here is how the math works:

200 lbs of feed given to 10 calves = 20 lbs of feed per day

Divide by 7 days = 2.86 lbs of feed per calf per day

You would round up because your calf is bigger to 3 pounds per day

3 lbs X 7 days = 21 lbs of feed per week

21 lbs is less than 100 lbs therefore 21 lbs/100 lb bag is 0.21 bags

*See the last line in the example chart for documentation of this. Be sure to make a notation on the receipt to reflect the relative cost.

Summary of Feed Costs

Total cost of forages fed (add all forage cost per unit total cost) _____

Total cost of grains fed (add all grain cost per unit total cost) _____

Total cost of supplements fed (add all supplement cost per unit total cost) _____

Total feed cost (add all three totals up)_____

Project Health Treatment Record

Record your animal's health record, treatment etc. In the table below

Date	Animal or pen ID	Product Name	Amount adminis-tered	Person who treated animal	Preslaughter withdrawal	Date with drawl completed	Date & treatment results	Advising veterinarian	Cost

Other Costs or Income

These costs can consist of general supplies like; halters, brushes, bedding, trucking and breeding costs. Income can be prize money won or manure sold. Sale of a calf produced by this cow should also be documented here.

Date	Item/description	Cost ($)	Income ($)
Example 4/18	**Entry Fee**	**$5.00**	
Total			

Financial Summary

Here is where you are going to determine your cow's profitability.

Income

Calf sale income $_____ Other income total $_____

Expenses

	Beginning Evaluation ($)	Actual Amount ($)	Total ($)
Cost of animal if Purchased ($) Or * total cost from purchase to project start date			
Total Feed cost ($)			
Total Health Care cost ($)			
Total Breeding cost ($)			
Total of Other cost ($)			
Total income ($)			
Your cost to raise this Cow project this year($)			

*Only put this value in if you had this animal previous year(s) and have continued to raise her. The value would carry over from your last project record.

Was your cow profitable this year? If not, why and when do you project a profit?

_____

_____

_____

If you didn't sell any of this cow's calves this year, what is the current value of her offspring? $_____

Subtract this amount from the total cost to raise your cow $_____

Did you show profit? _____

Could you do something differently next year to increase profitability of next year's project? (Examples: get my cow bred back on time, creep feed calves prior to weaning)

_____

_____

What You Experienced

How did your initial profitability evaluation and the actual compare and why?

_____

_____

Where did you keep your animal? _____

_____

What did you do to take care of your animal? _____

_____

_____

How much and what did you feed your animal? _____

_____

What did you do to keep your animal healthy? _____

_____

_____

What did you do to keep your animal and equipment clean? _____

_____

_____

What did you do to groom and train your animal? _____

_____

_____

What are you doing next with your animal? _____

_____

_____

What was one skill you learned or improved this year? _____

_____

_____

What was one goal you met this year? _____

_____

What would you like to learn or do next year?_____

_____

_____

_____

Portions of this Project Book were adapted from publications from Penn State University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Penn State Extension