

**Custer County Youth Market Beef
Carcass Evaluation Program
2024**

Purpose: To improve participant's knowledge of the transformation of a feeder calf to a finished animal that is most desirable for the beef consumer and packer.

Guidelines:

1. Any 4-H or FFA member in Custer County that is participating in the 4-H market beef project or the FFA beef production program are eligible.
2. The project deadline dates and requirements for 2024 will be as follows:

February 3 Initial identification, pictures, weigh-in
June 21 Final slaughter nominations due
July 1 Slaughter delivery with final weights and live photos – Broken Bow Animal Hospital at **6-7 a.m.**
TBA Collection of carcass data and pictures
July 29 (Mon) Interview judging of poster and participant - 11:30 a.m. **(bring poster and test to the interview, do not hand in beforehand)**
July 30 (Tues) 4-H Awards Presentation - during lunch break of 4-H market beef show - Covered Show Arena

3. Initial individual identification and weigh-in will be taken and used for all participants in the 4-H market beef and FFA beef production programs whether the animals end up in the carcass project or the live animal show.

Suggested minimum weights at weigh-in:

(Cattle need to be brought up to full feed during February.)

700-750 -- British Breeds

750-800 -- Continental Breeds

4. Education is a primary goal of this project.
5. Animal pictures! Individual animal pictures *need to be taken on the February weigh day or before* and again before **July 1st**.

Requirements: Two (2) pictures, one side view, one rear view each time.

6. Final slaughter nominations will be submitted to the extension office by June 21, 2024. At this time, the member will nominate the number of animals to be delivered to slaughter with a maximum of two (2).
7. Slaughter delivery date will be TBA. Delivery will be made to **Broken Bow Animal Hospital** from **6:00 – 7:00 a.m.** Member will need to know individual identification of animals, and have a signed brand release and fee for trucking. The packer requires that all animals slaughtered be accompanied by a signed affidavit stating that the animal has not been fed any mammalian protein. These will be the responsibility of the project participant. Late arrivals, if accepted, will be responsible for their own transportation.
8. Cattle will be delivered to Tyson in Lexington for slaughter on July 1st.

9. Project poster and unit test must be completed and brought to the Carcass Project Interview on Monday, July 29 at 11:30 a.m.

Poster requirements:

--size: 14" x 22"

--one poster per entry

--pictures:

initial pictures (2)

final live pictures (2)

carcass pictures (1)

--accompanying data on a 8 ½" x 11" page or on the poster

feedlot performance

animal health program

nutrition program

carcass data

name of member on front of poster

profit/loss record

10. Interview judging of poster and participant will be July 29, 2024 from 11:30 a.m. until finished.

Scoring of the interview judging and poster:

25%.....poster/pictures/details (100 pts x 25%)

75%.....interview (project details, test questions) (100 pts X 75%)

(Interview score will break tie for Grand and Reserve Champions)

11. Class awards to be given: Champion and reserve plaques and rankings

Class 1 - Carcass Index (CSU method)

Class 2 - Formula Basis Return (\$/cwt of Live weight)

Class 3 - Average daily gain

Class 4 - Carcass Interview (Junior and Senior Division)

Class 5 - Overall

12. Carcass project awards and ribbon placing

Determination of champion, reserve, and respective ribbon placing for carcass project will be determined in the following manner:

a. Animals will be ranked within each of the three carcass classes with the top animal in that class receiving 25 points and the remaining animals receiving corresponding points in regard to their percentile ranking.

Total possible carcass points -- 75

b. The exhibitor's poster and interview will be ranked with the top exhibitor receiving 25 points and the remaining exhibitors receiving corresponding points in regard to their percentile ranking.

Total possible exhibitor points -- 25

A Supreme Carcass Project Champion and Reserve will be determined and respective ribbon placing made based on this final total score.

13. Awards, recognition, and plaques will be presented **Tuesday, July 30th during the lunch break of the 4-H Beef Show in the covered show arena.**
14. Carcass project ribbon designations will be placed on the respective posters. Posters will be on display in the 4-H Building or 4-H Exhibit Hall for the remainder of the fair.