



# **Sheridan County**

## **4-H Bucket Calf Project Record**



# Bucket Calf Project

## Purposes:

- Learn how to care for young beef or dairy animals
- Learn health and nutritional requirements of young cattle
- Learn how to keep records for animal projects

## Project evaluation at Fair:

1. This project is to learn how to be the calf's momma.
2. All record books (production records) and/or journals **MUST BE** completed in the 4-H member's handwriting and not typed or completed by a parent. If not, then there is a deduction in points awarded during the first interview.
3. If the child plans to exhibit the calf at the Fair, then they would sign up for the Bucket Calf Producer's class.
  - a. These classes have 2 interviews. Most likely the judge for the 2 interviews will not be the same judge.
  - b. The first interview is held on the same day as the static building items are checked in. The 4-H'er should bring their record book (production record) or journal with them to the interview as this is an "open book" conversation. *This interview is worth 60% of the points awarded for the class.*
  - c. The second interview happens with the calf at the 4-H member's side in the in the ring. The judge will ask additional questions about how you raised the calf. *This interview is worth 40% of the points awarded for the class.*
    - i. The condition of the calf (does it look healthy, etc.) is important, but the judge is NOT evaluating the confirmation of the animal, or how you set the animal up, etc.
  - d. If the calf is unable to come to the Fair, unfortunately, there is no way of only judging the record book (production record) / journal for an award. If the 4-H'er would like to come and go through the 1<sup>st</sup> interview, for practice they are more than welcome.
  - e. All interview questions are age appropriate.
  - f. Ribbon placing will be based on overall points given for the written records, and the two interviews. Overall Grand Champion and reserve champion awards, so the 4-H'er, regardless of age, who has demonstrated they know the most about being that calf's momma, should be recognized as the Grand Champion producer.
  - g. Questions on fitting the calf, etc. please see the Sheridan County Resource Book.

## Bucket Calf Project Worksheet Instructions

**REQUIRED:** Complete and bring a copy of this worksheet with you to your first interview (see Fair schedule for interview date. Note first interview is a different date than the time when animal is in the ring. The animal does not come to the first interview. The interview judge will review your records as part of the first interview. You, also, may choose to keep this information in a notebook but at a minimum the questions, feed/expense records, profit summary and pictures must be in your notebook. Use additional pages as needed.

All Bucket Calf Project Worksheet information must be written in the member's handwriting and may not be completed by an adult or typed. The document is judge on telling the story of how the 4-H member learned to be the calf's momma (i.e., what he/she did, how he/she did it, why did he/she do it, etc.); neatness in any record is important but in this case is secondary.

## Bucket Calf Project Worksheet

1. Explain why you chose this project. What did you want to learn? (that is what was your goal)
2. Describe how you decided where and how to get your calf or calves.
3. Describe facilities where you housed your calf or calves:
4. Describe the feeding program you followed the first 3-4 days after you got your calf (type of feeds, amount fed per day, etc.
5. Describe the feed program for the next 3- to 4 weeks. (Kinds, amounts per day, etc.)
6. Describe the feeding and management after you had the calf for a month.

7. Describe the feeding program that you had for your calf by the time you brought it to the fair.
  
8. Did your calf have any health problems? (Describe the problem(s) and what you did to treat.)
  
9. What did you do to prevent health problems? What did you do to help your calf be healthy and grow?
  
10. What was the biggest problem/issue you had and what did you do to solve it?
  
11. What have you learned through this project? What would you do differently? What did you enjoy?

## 4-H BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF PROJECT FEED AND EXPENSE SUMMARY

Calf's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

*I verify that the information in this worksheet is accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

4-H Member \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Feed	Description	Pounds fed	Cost per pound	Total Cost
Milk replacer				
Starter feed				
Hay				
Other feeds				
Other				
Total feed	XXXX	(1) lbs.	XXXX	(2) \$
Bedding Cost (Explain)				
Medication Cost (Explain)				
Veterinary Cost (Explain)				
Equipment Cost (Explain)				
Other Supplies (Explain)				
Total Costs of Items other than feed				(3) \$
Purchase cost or value of calf at beginning of project				(4) \$
Total investment in calf (2+3+4=5)				(5) \$

## Bucket/Bottle Calf Production Class Project Summary

### Profit and Performance Summary

- A. Purchase cost or value of calf at beginning of project \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Total feed costs of project (#2 from page 3) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Total other costs of project (#3 from page 3) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Grand total of project investment (A + B + C) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Weight of calf at Fair \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.
- F. Starting weight (estimate or actual) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.
- G. Total pounds gained (E - F) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.
- H. Total days on feed \_\_\_\_\_ days
- I. Average daily gain [ADG] ( $G \div H$ ) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs/day
- J. Total pounds of feed (#1 from page 3) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.
- K. Pounds of feed per pound of gain ( $J \div G$ ) \_\_\_\_\_ ratio
- L. Feed cost per pound of gain ( $B \div G$ ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- M. Value of calf at end of project (estimate based on market value) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- N. Value of calf per pound of weight ( $M \div E$ ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- O. Breakeven price per pound ( $D \div E$ ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- P. Monetary loss or gain on project (M - D) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Project Pictures

Please include beginning pictures, pictures showing progress and finished project pictures. Use additional sheets if necessary.

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Caption:

Caption:

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Caption:

Caption: