November 17, 2016

Dear 2016 Exhibitor:

Are you ready to begin another 4-H project year? If you are interested in exhibiting a steer at the 2017 Tuscarawas County Fair, you have probably already begun the project. Selection, housing, feeding, and winter care are all issues you are dealing with. This letter pertains to steer weigh-in and exhibiting next year. If you have any questions or problems with your calf, please feel free to contact us.

Steer weigh-in will be December 10 from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Show Arena at the Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds. For those attending the AGR Holiday Classic, we have set aside December 12 from 6 to 7 p.m. You must pre-register for the 12th by calling the Extension office by December 9.

Also note that those showing at any of the BEST sanctioned shows must have EID tags in their calves prior to the first show in which they exhibit. BEST shows prior to the January 15 deadline to submit samples to OSF include:

- Heart of It All, November 26-27, Lima
- AGR Holiday Classic, December 10-11, Columbus
- Scarlet & Gray Midwest Showdown, January 7-8, Columbus

Here is an update on the 2017 weigh-in guidelines:

1. All 4-H and FFA market and dairy steers shown and sold at the 2017 Tuscarawas County Fair must be weighed in at the December weigh-in. There is no make up date. In case of inclement weather, please listen to WJER or WTUZ for more information.

2. You may weigh-in 1 or 2 steers with one being eligible to exhibit at the Tuscarawas County Fair, or if you have a brother/sister or half-brother/sister or unrelated children (with at least one parent residing in the home) and who are members of a Tuscarawas County 4-H club and reside in the same household who have also weighed in a steer, you may at the time of weigh-in designate a back up steer that may be shown by:
   a. yourself or any of the above mentioned individuals
   b. at the time of weigh-in those individuals (siblings) eligible to exhibit the back-up steer must be so named at weigh-in. (Example: If there are 2 [or more] members in your family and they weigh in 1 steer per child, the extra steer can be used as a back-up for any of the children, BUT MUST BE NAMED AT WEIGH-IN.)

3. ALL CALVES MUST BE CASTRATED! It is suggested that you obtain a slip from your vet to verify the procedure if you had it done just prior to weigh-in.

4. CALF MUST BE WEARING A HALTER AND BE HALTER BROKE! Any steers that do not have a halter on in the trailer and when they are taken through the scales will be dismissed. Calves MUST be halter broke!

5. The Ohio State Fair Beef Department adopted in 2015 new protocols for identifying market beef animals. These protocols include the use of an electronic identification (EID) ear tag that has a unique 15-digit number and a DNA sample that will be submitted for all market beef animals that exhibitors plan to enter in the 2017 Ohio State Fair Junior Market Beef Show.

The DNA collection will be in the form of a hair sample received by the Ohio State Fair by January 15, 2017, to meet the ownership deadlines for market beef animals. Along with the DNA hair submission, each market animal’s 15-digit EID tag must also be included on the DNA packets which will be available at weigh-in.
You’re responsible for making a State Fair entry, obtaining Extension professional’s signature, and mailing. You’re eligible to show in Open Class but must follow entry procedures in the Ohio State Fair Handbook. Entry information can be obtained on the Ohio State Fair web site (http://www.ohiostatefair.com/).

6. If you know of anyone who did not exhibit a steer in 2016 but will be taking a steer in 2017, please let them know they must bring their steer to be weighed in.

**Additional reminders about the market and dairy steer project:**

1. All market livestock exhibitors must attend a Quality Assurance (QA) Seminar in 2017. These seminars will be scheduled throughout the winter and spring. Until a complete registration mailing list is available, QA dates will be posted on our web site and announced through our Facebook page. Your 4-H advisor will also be aware of the dates.

2. Please remember to begin your record keeping as soon as you get your calf for the 2017 year. Record books can be purchased at the Extension office.

3. A Jr. Fair exhibitor may only exhibit a total of two large animals and two small animals at the county fair. Breakdown of these animals is: Large Animals – steer, feeder calf, beef breeding, dairy cow, hog, lamb. Small Animals – rabbit, poultry, dairy goat, market goat, pack goat, pygmy goat. An exhibitor may only receive two sale generating checks. An exhibitor may receive a fair premium on three total projects.

4. The following steps must be complete to exhibit a steer at the county fair:
   a. Steer weighed in on December 10 (or 12), 2016.
   b. Enrollment turned in by April 17, 2017.
   c. Member’s attendance recorded at a QA meeting.
   d. Member must be in good standing with the enrolled club.
   e. Member attends Interview Judging.
   f. Member turns in a completed fair entry by the deadline.
   g. Steer is brought to the county fair by assigned time in good health condition.
   h. DUNF is complete, accurate, and animal is drug residue free.
   i. Steer must be properly cared for during the county fair, including bedding and feed.
   j. In order to be in competition for the 2017 Beef Management Award, a 4-H member must turn in their beef notebook, which includes the record book and all required and extra activities that they did throughout the year.

Additional requirements will be available on-line and distributed with Project/Record Book. Please contact me if you have any questions concerning the requirements or with your steer project.

Sincerely,

Kiersten Heckel          Chris Zoller
Extension Educator       Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development    Agriculture, Natural Resources
County Extension Director

KH/CZ/ama

cc Jacqueline Wilkins
Market Livestock Committee
Indian Valley FFA c/o Dave Stiles