Beef Project

Objectives
4-H’ers will learn to:
• adopt best management practices for animal care.
• adopt safe and ethical management practices for animal welfare.
• demonstrate the ability to judge and select quality animals.
• demonstrate ability to show and exhibit animals.
• demonstrate knowledge and skills to prepare and present public presentations.

Supporting Events & Activities
Competitive Contests:
County, District, State or National Levels
Demonstration and Illustrated Talks
Part of the “Animal Industry” division, this area includes all presentations related to beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, layer, broilers, turkeys, rabbits, meat goats, dairy goats, quail, duck, geese and ratite.

Livestock Judging Event
This team event enables youth to develop decision-making, evaluating, and communication skills for the appropriate selection of the livestock species: beef cattle, and swine. Please see the back of this brochure for additional requirements and information.

Meats Judging and Identification
4-H’ers will acquire knowledge and skills in meat identification and grading techniques and then apply those basic skills to the selection process. Please see the back of this brochure for additional requirements and information.

Agricultural Judging Event
This event provides 4-H’ers with an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in the following agricultural matters: Beef, Sheep, Poultry, Swine, Corn (Shelled), Soybeans, Oats, and Hay. Please see the back of this brochure for additional requirements and information.

Public Speaking
This program is designed to give members of 4-H experience in the preparation and delivery of a 4-H related speech. This contest requires 4-H’ers to recognize, organize, and present information on a given topic. For further information and requirements, please visit http://florida4h.org/events.

Photo Exhibit
The General Photo Exhibit Contest provides a showcase for 4-H member’s photographic accomplishments with the intent of increasing public awareness and understanding of the 4-H program. For more information and requirements, please visit http://florida4h.org/events.

Project Manuals & Other Resources
Beef (Ages 8-18)
This curriculum provides youth with an opportunity to learn about beef through various projects as they work to enhance numerous skills.

BF 1   Bite into Beef
BF 2   Here’s the Beef
BF 3   Leading the Charge
BF H   Beef Helper’s Guide
BF B   Breeding Animal Record
BF M   Market Animal Record

Additional Resources
Calf Pattern
Beef Learning Lab Kit (ages 9-18)
   Beef Learning Lab Kit
   Curriculum Guide & Video (included in kit)
   Beef Learning Lab Interactive CD-ROM
Your Calf - A Kid’s Guide to Raising and Showing Beef and Dairy Calves (ages 8-18) Reference Book
www.animal.ufl.edu/youth/livestock/documents/Projectbook.pdf (available to print from website)

For updates on additional resources, please visit our website http://www.florida4h.org and choose the Curriculum link.
Award & Recognition Opportunities

Ribbons and Awards for Competitive Events
Blue, Red, and White ribbons are awarded based on quality of performance during a competitive event using a standard scoring system. In addition to ribbons, youth may receive additional recognition for excellence, such as trophies, at the district, state and national levels.

4-H Project Reports
Certificates, pins and other county determined awards are available to youth who complete their project records annually at the county level. The project report forms are available for each age group (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). For copies of these materials, please visit our website http://florida4h.org.

4-H Portfolios
Senior 4-H’ers (ages 14 and up) are eligible to complete and submit a 4-H Portfolio of their 4-H experiences and activities. Youth in this project area may compete in one of the following categories:

- **Animal Sciences** - (predominantly focused on experiences in animal science category)
- **Citizenship** - (if activities have been significantly focused on community and helping others)
- **Achievement** - (if 4-H activities include a broad spectrum of 4-H projects)
- **Leadership** - (if 4-H experiences have centered on leadership provided to other youth or teaching and leading project activities)

The award for 4-H Portfolio is a partially expense paid trip to National 4-H Congress.

College Scholarships
Graduating Seniors in 4-H are eligible to compete for a variety of educational scholarships.

Meats Judging and Identification
4-H’ers will acquire knowledge and skills in meat identification and grading techniques and then apply those basic skills to the selection process. Participants develop an understanding and appreciation of the basic scientific principles involved in maintaining the wholesomeness, eating and cooking quality, nutritional value, and consumer appeal of meat. 4-H’ers will also learn to be more effective decision-makers.

**Participation Criteria:**
- Junior 4-Her’s must be 8-10 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Intermediate 4-Her’s must be 11-13 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Senior 4-H’ers must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year.

**Participation Procedures and Quotas:**
- **County:** Establish own regulations.
- **District:** No competition
- **State:** Each county may enter as many senior & junior teams consisting of 4 members as they wish.

**Awards:**
Each of the top three teams will receive team trophies. Individual members of the first place team will receive a plaque. The high scoring senior team will also receive a partial travel scholarship towards a trip to the National Meats Judging Contest in Kansas City, Missouri. The second place team is eligible to represent Florida at the Western Nationals in Denver, Colorado.

Livestock Judging Event
This team event enables youth to develop decision-making, evaluating, and communication skills for the appropriate selection of the livestock species: beef cattle, and swine.

**Participation Criteria:**
- Senior 4-H’ers must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year. Because of national policy, seniors must be at least 14 years old to participate.

**Participation Procedures and Quotas:**
- One senior level team (consisting of 4 members) per county.

**Awards:**
Trophies will be awarded to teams and individuals with the highest point totals in several divisions. The first place senior team is awarded a trip to the National Livestock Judging Contest in Louisville, Kentucky in November, and the second place team is eligible to represent Florida at the Western Nationals in Denver, Colorado.

Agricultural Judging Event
This event provides 4-H’ers with an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in the following agricultural matters: Beef, Sheep, Poultry, Swine, Corn (Shelled), Soybeans, Oats, and Hay.

**Participation Criteria:**
- Junior 4-Her’s must be 8-10 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Intermediate 4-Her’s must be 11-13 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Senior 4-H’ers must be 14-18 years old by September 1 of the current program year.
- Participation Procedures and Quotas: 4 teams per county (Jr., Sr., or combination of). A team consists of 3-4 members.
- Counties may also enter individuals who will be eligible for individual awards.

**Awards:**
Cash awards for Jr. and Sr. Divisions are listed in the North Florida Fair catalog.

Contact your local 4-H office for these and other supporting project events, activities and award opportunities.