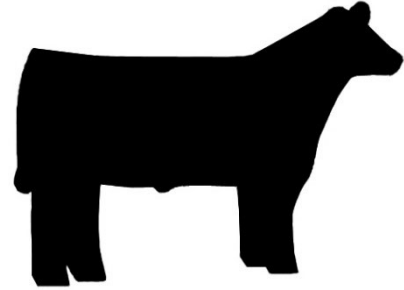


Selection

- Select Market Steers or Market Heifers that:
 - Have a straight top line (back)
 - Deep, muscular bulging quarter (back leg)
 - Deep bodied and clean front end (neck area)
 - Bold spring of rib
 - Are wide and thick across the top of the back
- Market Beef should have been born March- July of the previous year



Weight

- Ideal market weight is about 1300 lbs- Delaware County Fair has a lower limit of 900 lbs. with no upper limit.
- A normal rate of gain is 1-2.5 lbs of gain per day- average daily Gain =1-2.5 lbs/day
- Market beef should weigh around 900 lbs the first week of March at tagging to reach ideal weight

Nutrition

- Market Beef need 3-4 lbs of hay per day
- Market Beef can eat 15-20 lbs of feed per day
- Market Beef should eat between a 10.5-12% protein feed
- As beef grow bigger the protein can be brought down
- Slower growing beef may need to stay on a higher protein diet to continue muscle development
- Beef that are gaining too much fat or cover over the ribs should be fed a higher protein to try to burn off cover
- Beef that need to add cover should be fed a lower protein diet that has a higher fat content
- Clean/ fresh water access

Health

- A normal body temperature for Market Beef is 100.4°F-102.8°F
- Common health concerns to look for: ringworm, pneumonia, and lice/mange
- Market Beef that do not feel well will stand by themselves, not eat, not stand and move, as well as other symptoms
 - It's very important to observe your animal's normal behavior every day so you can notice abnormal behavior.

Facilities and Equipment

- Good ventilation
- Space- 40-50 Square feet per animals recommended
- Gate should be strong and 4ft. or more in height
- Grooming chute
- Rope halter- 1 per animal
- Show halter- 1 per animal
- Neck rope – 1 per animal
- Show stick
- Feed pan
- Water tub
- Blower
- Scotch comb
- Curry comb
- Grooming clipper

Dates you need to look for

- Quality Assurance (or test out)-July 1
 - Market animal exhibitors by law must attend
- Animal must be in possession of the exhibitor by March 1
- Mandatory tag-in is the first Saturday in March
- Entry deadline is the last Friday in August
- Mandatory project book and interview is the second Saturday in September

Additional opportunities

- Ohio State Fair- End of July
 - Entries due June 21
 - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
 - Read their rules at: <https://ohiostatefair.com/livestock/>
- Hartford Independent Fair
 - For eligibility both the following criteria must be met:
 - (1) They are enrolled in a youth organization in the following townships of Delaware Co. (Harlem/Centerburg Village, Trenton, Porter and Berkshire);
 - (2) They attend school in, or have residence within the specified townships
 - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
 - Read their rules at: <http://hartfordfair.com/premium-book.htm>
- Best program through Ohio Cattleman Nov- March
 - Jackpot Series with point accumulations throughout the series
 - Read more information at: <https://www.ohiocattle.org/Youth/best-program>