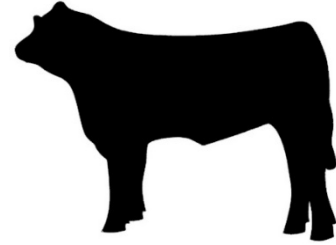


Selection



- Select Market Dairy Steers that:
 - Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey Steer
 - Look healthy
 - Sound feet and legs- walk naturally
 - Long bodied
 - Deep bodied and clean front end (neck area)
 - Bold spring of rib
 - Have a straight top line (back)
 - Deep, muscular bulging quarter (back leg)
 - Are wide and thick across the top of the back
- Market Dairy Steers 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 1000 lbs. with no upper limit.
- A normal rate of gain is about 2.5 lbs of gain per day- average daily gain =2.5 lbs/day
- Market dairy steer should weigh around 850 lbs the first week of March at tagging to reach ideal weight

Nutrition

- Market dairy steers need 3-4 lbs of hay per day
- Market dairy steer can eat 15-20 lbs of feed per day
- Market dairy steers should eat between a 10.5-12% protein feed
- Market Dairy Steers require more energy in their diet compared to Market Beef animal
- Continuous grain is an option but has health risks
- Clean/ fresh water access

Health

- A normal body temperature for Market Dairy Steer is 100.4°F-102.8°F
- Common health concerns to look for: ringworm, acidosis- overeating, and bloat
- Market Dairy Steers 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 animal recommended
- Gate should be strong and 4 ft. 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>