

RULES APPLYING TO THE DAIRY SPRINGER HEIFER PROJECT

1. To participate in this program, you must be a 4-H or FFA member throughout the entirety of the project as well as being a member in good standing throughout the entirety of the project based on your Chapter's or Club's eligibility rules. The heifer must be shown in Special Dairy Heifer Project classes as a calf at the Madera District Fair, as a yearling at the Chowchilla-Madera Co. Fair and shown and sold as a springer at the Chowchilla-Madera Co. Fair.
2. You must have adequate housing and feed before entering into the project. The project may be terminated by the Committee if improper feed or management is indicated. Any losses occurring because of this rule will be incurred by you.
3. You shall purchase your heifer with the approval of your 4-H Leader or FFA Advisor and the Dairy Committee.
4. The dam of the heifer must have a minimum 305 ME value for lbs of milk of 20,000 for Holsteins and 14,000 for Jerseys as verified by computer records.
5. The sire of the heifer must have been a registered bull of the same breed as the dam.
6. It will be your responsibility to have the heifer dehorned, extra teats removed, hooves trimmed, vaccinated and tattooed for Brucellosis, and vaccinated for Leptospirosis. A veterinarian should be consulted immediately in case of sickness.
7. A minimum of 21 months ownership will be required. Heifers will be born no earlier than March 1st: no later than March 31st, (approximately 26 months prior to sale). This form, all the dam's record sheets (6 pages from Dairy Comp 305 or 3 pages from DHIA) and a photograph of one side of your heifer - showing both ears - must be turned in to your leader by **September 1st and the Dairy Committee Chairman by September 15th.**
 - A. Substitutions may be made only by approval of the Dairy Committee for such causes as death, freemartin, barren (verification by veterinarian) and/or abortion. In the event of a heifer switch, Springers must make the switch before April 1st of the year they are selling.
8. The heifer must be bred to a registered bull of the same breed, either by natural service or artificial insemination, to freshen within 90 days following the sale which will be held around May 15th. Heifers should not be bred until after August 15th. Your heifer must be bred by November 15th. Vet Certificates need to include the following:
 - A. Preg Check on or before October 20th
 - B. Any open heifers from October 20th, need to be rechecked on or before December 31st. All Vet Certificates must be in the Dairy Committee Chairman's possession by January 15th.
9. You must keep adequate records on care and management available for Committee inspection. **IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EXHIBITOR TO KEEP ALL ORIGINAL COPIES OF ALL PAPERWORK (CONTRACTS, DAM AND HEIFER RECORDS, BILL OF SALE, PICTURE, ETC) FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE PROJECT.**
10. Record Books will be due on May 1st for all projects, yearlings and springers. Record books will be judged for excellence based on the scoring rubric and the top book in 4-H and FFA will receive an award. The Springer Update Form with the breeding date and service sire used must be filled out (this form is available online on the website) and printed copies of the dam's updated Dairy Comp 305 or DHIA cow sheet, (or other computer printout sheet) must be in the possession of the Dairy Committee Chairman no later than May 1st.
11. If the heifer calves during the fair, the calf is to be sold by her side. If the heifer calves within 1 week prior to showday or the fair, the Thursday before fair week, they will still be allowed to sell provided the heifer has been properly cared for. (Depending on inspection and approval of the Dairy committee).
12. You will sell the heifer at the Springer Heifer Sale unless the heifer is sifted by the Committee. The Committee shall inspect all heifers prior to sale and those not measuring up to expected condition and breed type will not be allowed to sell through the sale. If the heifer is sifted or for some other reason she is not sold, you are to contact the breeder to give him the first chance to buy her back.
13. In the event that you wish to terminate the project prior to its completion (Springer Heifer Sale), you must notify your Leader/Advisor and the breeder (dairyman) of the heifer. If the breeder wishes to purchase the heifer from you, a 3-person committee will be appointed consisting of your Leader/Advisor and 2 representatives from the Dairy Committee. A "Fair market value" shall be determined by said Committee. In the event the breeder does not desire to purchase the heifer, you may dispose of her as you wish.
14. The committee shall have the authority to cancel any member's agreement to participate in the Dairy Heifer Replacement Project at any time the Committee feels the member is not meeting the above requirements.
15. All decisions concerning these rules are subject to the discretion of the Dairy Committee.

Changes to contract are **highlighted and will be in place for the 2020 calves ONLY!