

## **Dairy Replacement Heifer Project Requirements - 2026 Sale**

### **PURPOSE:**

A project which will enable participants to raise and sell a quality dairy heifer and, in doing so, learn the fundamentals of dairy heifer husbandry and management. An agreement and written set of policies and procedures are outlined in this document.

### **THE COMMITTEE:**

A voting committee composed of one 4-H dairy leader from each 4-H club which has a 4-H member participating in the project, one FFA Advisor from each participating school, one Grangemaster which has a Grange Youth Fair Program member participating in the project and one Independent Exhibitor representative per county. Also, up to four (4) dairy industry persons to be selected by the UC Cooperative Extension Dairy Advisor. Other voting members will consist of the 4-H Community Education Specialist and UC Cooperative Extension Dairy Advisor. Any interested persons are invited to attend the meetings but will not be voting members. A committee chair will be elected by a majority vote of the committee. The chair will not vote except to break a tie. The Committee will be responsible for formulating and enforcing all policy in relation to the project. A quorum shall be those in attendance at a meeting called when all committee members with current contact information on file have been notified. A current contact list will be maintained by the committee and updated as needed. All notification shall be made with a minimum of one week notice.

### **RULES:**

1. Any eligible youth in good standing within their organization (4-H, FFA, Grange or Independent) in any of the following counties are eligible to participate in the project if they follow the agreement: Glenn, Tehama, Butte, Shasta, and Colusa Counties.
2. All exhibitors shall meet all Glenn County Fair exhibitor requirements. Grange and Independent members will be required to provide a copy of their record book that qualifies them for a market division at a fair in the participating counties or complete a Glenn County Fair Independent Exhibitor Record Book.
3. All dairy heifers must be positively identified by animal disease traceability tags with premise ID numbers (i.e. RFID tag or 840 tag).
4. Exhibitors are limited to selling one dairy heifer per year.
5. The dam can be a registered or non-registered purebred cow. The heifer must be sired by a registered bull. Heifers must be a recognized dairy breed, no less than 87% purebred for Holsteins and 93.75% purebred for Jerseys. Purebred percentages will be determined from Genomic Testing results.
6. If inadequate feed or management is indicated, the project agreement may be terminated by a three-person committee consisting of a local veterinarian, the chair of the Replacement Heifer project, and the responsible leader or advisor.

7. If the committee feels at any time that the exhibitor is not meeting the agreement requirements, the committee (by a majority vote) shall have the authority to cancel any member's agreement to participate in the project or sale.
8. Each participant agrees to take part in the planning of and participate in the preparation for the dairy replacement heifer sale.
9. Prior to arrival on the fairgrounds, all dairy heifers shall be dehorned. Any extra teats must be removed from yearlings and springers. Exhibitors should seek veterinary guidance regarding additional vaccination and measures to ensure good health for the heifer.
10. The exhibitor must be able to lead and fit their dairy heifer properly for the show and sale. All heifers must be exhibited and sold by the owner unless prior authorization has been obtained from the committee. The heifer may be shown at any other fairs for which they are eligible.
11. A \$50.00 commission will be charged to all heifers in the sale to cover expenses.
12. Prior to the show/sale, a veterinarian will inspect all heifers. At this time, your heifer could be eliminated from the show and/or sale if they do not meet the requirements outlined in these rules. If they are in ill health or deemed unable to show/sell, the animal must be immediately removed from the premises.
13. Registration papers need to be checked and then transferred after the sale, if applicable. This paperwork and cost are the responsibility of the seller, not the buyer.
14. If the withdrawal period for ANY medication will extend past the date of the sale, it must be reported to the Replacement Heifer chair and announced at the time the heifer sells.
15. All heifers must be genomic tested. Results will be printed in the sale book.
16. **All paperwork must be completed by the required deadlines to participate in the program.**

## **PROJECT SPECIFIC RULES:**

### ***Calf/Junior Heifer Calf:***

The Dairy Replacement Heifer Agreement - Form A is due on the **first Friday of December**. The Dairy Replacement Heifer Agreement - Form B is due on the **first Friday of March**.

Genomic Tissue Samples are due to the Glenn County UCCE office by **the first Friday of March**. Genomic Testing Results (in place of the samples), Copy of Bill of Sale, birthday verification and color photos including both side profiles and showing ear tag number, markings and brand (if applicable) for each heifer are due with Form B by **the first Friday of March**. Dam production records, if available, are encouraged to be submitted.

1. A junior heifer calf must have been purchased by March 1 of the year of the sale. Bill of Sale is required.
2. A junior heifer calf must be born between December 1 of the previous year and January 31 of the sale year. The birthdate must be verified by dairy records. Members may participate in the Junior Calf Replacement Heifer Project for a total of two years (this rule began in project year "2023-2024").

***Yearling:***

The Dairy Replacement Heifer Agreement - Form A is due on **the first Friday of December**. The Dairy Replacement Heifer Agreement - Form B is due on **the first Friday of March**.

Genomic Tissue Samples are due to the Glenn County UCCE office by **the first Friday of March**. Genomic Testing Results (in place of the samples), Copy of Bill of Sale, birthday verification and color photos including both side profiles and showing ear tag number, markings and brand (if applicable) for each heifer are due with Form B by **the first Friday of March**. Dam production records, if available, are encouraged to be submitted.

1. A yearling heifer must have been purchased by January 1 of the year of the sale. Bill of Sale is required.
2. A yearling heifer must be born between March 1 and July 31 of the year prior to the sale. The birthdate must be verified by dairy records.
3. The yearling heifer must be open at the time of the sale.
4. There is no limit to the number of years that members may participate in the Yearling Replacement Heifer Project.

***Springer:***

The Dairy Replacement Heifer Agreement - Form A and Form B are due on **the first Friday of December**.

Genomic Tissue Samples are due to the Glenn County UCCE office by **the first Friday of December**. Genomic Testing Results (in place of the samples), Copy of Bill of Sale, birthday verification and color photos including both side profiles and showing ear tag number, markings and brand (if applicable) for each heifer are due with Form B by **the first Friday of December**. Dam production records, if available, are encouraged to be submitted.

1. A two-year old springer must have been purchased by December 1 of the calendar year prior to the year of the sale. Bill of Sale is required.
2. A two-year old springer must be born between January 16 and July 31 two years prior to the sale. The birthdate must be verified by dairy records. Beginning in project year 2026-2027, a two-year old springer must be born between March 1 and July 31 two years prior to the year of sale.
3. The heifer must be bred to a registered purebred bull of the same breed, either by natural service or artificial insemination. The heifer must be bred to calve within 90 days following the sale. If the heifer calves two weeks before the sale, the calf will be sold at the heifer's side. If the heifer calves more than two weeks prior to sale, she will not be permitted to sell.
4. There is no limit to the number of years that members may participate in the two-year old Springer Replacement Heifer Project.