

# ***WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program Rules***

***This project is intended for youth who have not shown livestock before and should be an individual project rather than a group project. Youth are encouraged to reinvest their project earnings into a beef breed project of their own in future years.***

## **Criteria and Requirements:**

1. This project is open to youth residing in any of the WNC area counties.
2. Participants must be 8 to 18 years old on January 1, 2022.
3. Because this is an individual project, calves must be assigned to a specific participant for the duration of the project. The participant must be listed on the Participant Agreement and Application and will receive updates/information through the email address provided.
4. There will be a limit number of participants to be determined by the committee each year and based on availability of calves for the program. Applications will be reviewed with priority going to first time exhibitors. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program after the applications have been reviewed.
5. Participants must understand this is a **terminal** project and they will be required to sell their calf through the WNC Dairy Steer Program sale at the conclusion of the Mountain State Fair. Calves will be sold in groups (NOT individually) to the highest bidder.
6. Interested youth **MUST** complete a WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program application, which is due no later than **Friday, February 18, 2022 to holly\_jordan@ncsu.edu**.
7. If application is accepted, a site visit may be performed by a member of the WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf committee.
8. Families must attend scheduled project workshops including the **MANDATORY** orientation meeting being held in person at the **WNC Regional Livestock Center (474 Stock Drive, Canton, NC 28716** or via **Zoom on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 6:30PM**. Youth **MUST** register for the mandatory orientation at: <https://forms.gle/nzX2Kwz8g5CGj5SH6>
9. There is a **\$200.00** enrollment fee that will help cover the cost of the calf and start up feed.
10. Participants must show their calf at the WNC Mountain State Fair and the Haywood County Fair shows.

## Rules:

1. Participants understand that they will be required to sell their calf at the conclusion of the project through the WNC Dairy Steer Program sale. **All calves must be sold with the lot of calves and can NOT be purchased by the exhibitor individually.**
2. Participants must exhibit their animal in the Mountain State Fair Dairy Steer show and Haywood County Fair. Participants are responsible for registering in the correct classes at each fair and are responsible for paying any fees associated with each fair's registration process.
3. Applicants must submit an application for the project by the published deadline.
4. Site visits may be made to inspect the facilities at the home or farm of each applicant whose written application is accepted. Participation in the program depends on the approval of the applicant's facility to keep the calf in good order.
5. Site visits may be made by any member of the WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program.
6. Applicants who have their site approved must then agree to attend all mandatory meetings of the group (maximum of 5 per year) and at least one voluntary meeting or event (a list of approved events will be provided).
7. Applicants or family members must pick up the animal at the agreed time and place. Failure to do so will disqualify applicant from the program if alternate arrangements are not made beforehand.
8. Parent or legal guardian of the youth participant must sign the project agreement and be responsible for all expenses involved in the project.
9. The WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program Committee will provide information on proper care of the calf, including information on vaccinations, feeding, and other best management practices.
10. The WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program Committee will coordinate a mandatory work day where castrations, dehorning, vaccinations, and other pertinent practices will take place with the calves.
11. Second year participants AND those registered for either the beef or dairy youth/open showmanship classes at the Mountain State Fair during the current program year MUST show in a designated Dairy Steer Program Intermediate Showmanship class.
12. WNC Communities will act as the fiscal agent for the project.
13. WNC Beef Commission is the sponsoring organization of this event.
14. The WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program Committee, through the Mountain State Fair, will coordinate the show and facilitate sale of the calves.

15. By participating in this project, the participant and their family or guardian assumes all risk for financial loss, personal injury, and personal liability. All agencies and volunteers involved in this project are not responsible for any damages or loss to person(s) or properties during and after the duration of this project. Liability is solely the responsibility of the participating youth and families.
16. Youth are expected to take an active role in care, feeding, and all other practices involved in the dairy steer project.
17. Project steering committee decisions in all matters pertaining to this project not directly addressed in this document will be considered final.

**Additional Rules for Returning Participants:**

1. All returning participants in the WNC Dairy Beef Feeder Calf Program must have successfully fulfilled all the requirements of the program in their first year of participation.
2. Returning participants must show in a separate showmanship class from first time participants. This class will be designated the intermediate showmanship class.
3. Returning participant must agree that new participants get priority for a calf if available calves are limited.
4. Returning participants must agree to mentor new participants if asked by their project leader.
5. Returning participants must be recommended by an F.F.A. Advisor, 4-H Agent, 4-H Leader, NC Extension Agent, or NCDA Technician.
6. Youth may NOT participate in this program more than two (2) years.