

Muskegon County Youth Fair

BEEF RECORD BOOK

Version B

Name: _____

4-H Club/FFA Chapter/Open: _____

Leader: _____

Age (as of January 1): _____

Years in Project Area: _____

Record Started: / / Record Closed: / /
Month Day Year Month Day Year

Check One

Junior:
8-11 years old

Intermediate:
12-14 years old

Senior:
15-19 years old

Record Book Instructions:

DON'T CHANGE THE PAPER:

Completed record books must be on standard letter sized (8.5"x11") white paper. Neatness is encouraged. Books must be fastened with a staple in the upper left hand corner or secured inside a 3-ring binder or folder.

DON'T BE LATE... KNOW THE DUE DATE:

The date and time to turn in a completed record book will be listed on the Schedule of Events for Exhibitors printed in the front of the annual Fair Book.

USE THE RIGHT RESOURCES:

Good resources to help complete this record book is the publication "Your 4-H Market Beef Project" (4-H1188) which is available by loan at the Muskegon County MSU Extension (4-H) Office and the "Beef Resource Handbook" (OSU Extension 4H117R) is available for checkout at the MSU Extension Office or online. Some answers will be found at muskegonfairgrounds.com and inside the fair book general and species rules.

All about my beef project...

For this section use the animal the exhibitor will exhibit at the fair.

Name (or identification) of my animal: _____

Tag Number: _____ Breed: _____

Color(s): _____ Date of Birth: _____ Actual Birthdate
 Estimated Birthdate

Special Markings: _____

Please Check One: Purchased Raised Date of purchase: _____

Please Check One: Steer Feeder Steer

Purchase Price: _____ If you raised your animal, list the estimated market value.

Attach beginning and ending photos. Please label the photos.

All about my beef project...

You may choose to do the weight record OR the essay. You do not need to do both the weight record and the essay for this record book. The fair recommends all market exhibitors weigh their animals frequently but understands that access to a scale is not always available.

CHOICE 1 - WEIGHT RECORD: Do not complete the essay “Choice 2” below if you complete this section. It is recommended to weigh your market beef animal(s) at least **once each month**.

ANIMAL ID:				
DATE	METHOD <i>Scale, Band, Tape, etc.</i>	WEIGHT	WEIGHT	WEIGHT
<i>Beginning</i>				
<i>Ending</i>				

CHOICE 2 - PROJECT ESSAY: Do not complete the weight record “Choice 1” above if you complete this section.

Write an essay on one of the two essay topic choices, and attach it to your record book.

Topic 1: How could today’s average market steer be changed for the better?

Topic 2: What is the largest issue facing the cattle industry today?

*Junior exhibitors complete a **one paragraph** essay.
Intermediate Exhibitors complete a **one-half page** essay.
Senior Exhibitors complete a **1 page** essay.*

Essays should be type written, double spaced, in a standard size 12 font for intermediate and seniors; but may be handwritten for juniors.

My business plan:

Senior exhibitors must answer the following questions:

The following calculations will help you learn about your ability to earn a profit for your participation in this agricultural project. Often in animal projects the profit margin for industrial feeder facilities have a slim profit margin. Let's see how you compare.

Average cost per animal (from page 2) _____

Purchase cost (of primary project animal) _____

TOTAL EXPENSES (WHOLE PROJECT) _____

Number of Project Animals in this report: _____

AVERAGE COST PER ANIMAL: _____

Finished Weight of Project Animal: _____

Note: finished weight can be taken at home anytime during the week prior to fair or it can be the fair's official market weight.

BREAK EVEN PRICE: _____

To calculate break-even price divide the average cost per animal by finished weight.

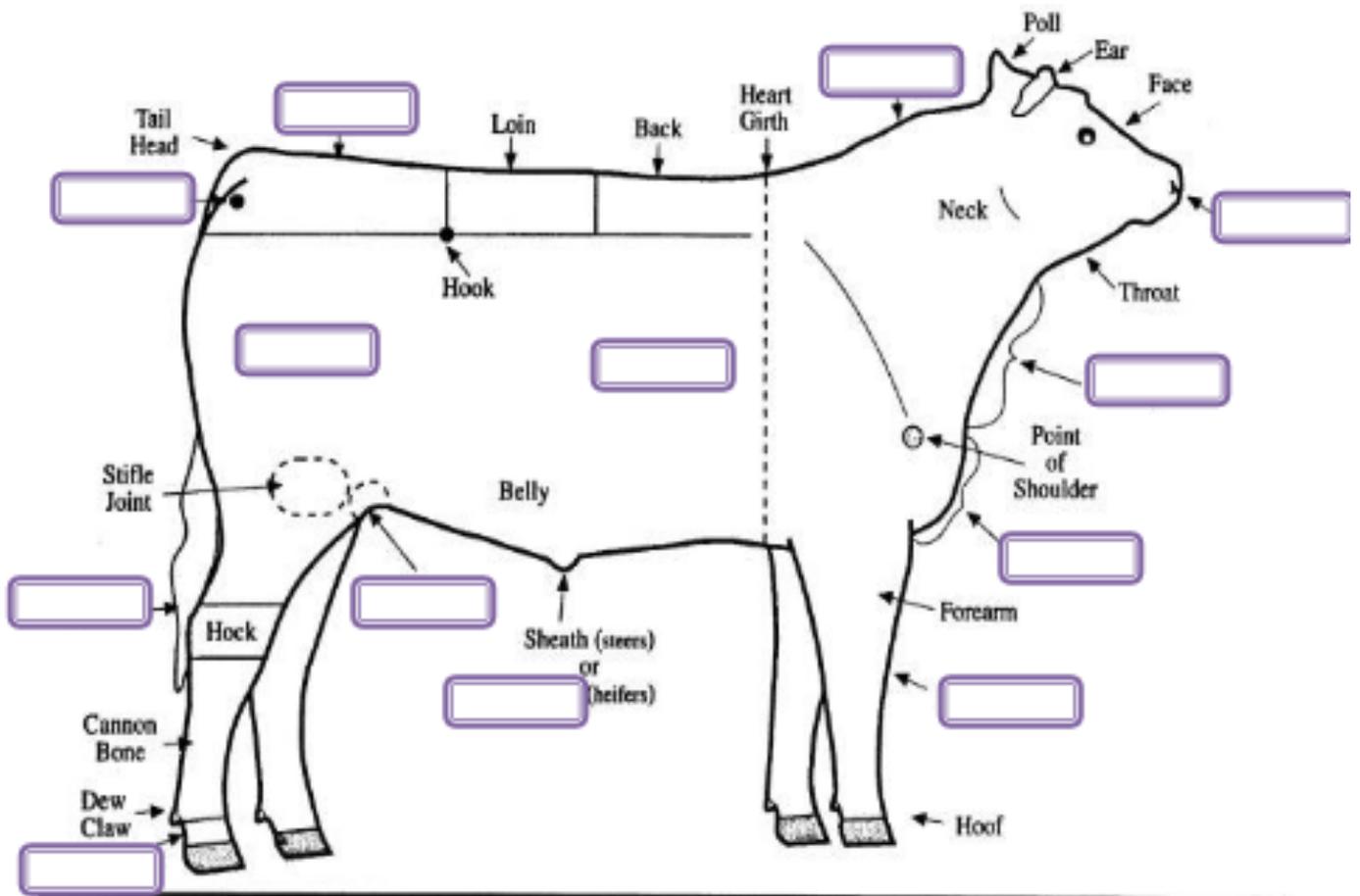
What is the current market price of market steers? _____

Many market prices are reported PER 100 LBS. Divide that amount by 100 to find the price per pound.

Would you have been able to make a profit if you would have sold your steer at a stock yard (Ravenna Livestock Auction for example) at this current market price rather than the fair's livestock sale? Why or why not?

External Anatomy:

All exhibitors: Label the external parts of the steer marked with a box.



My General Beef Knowledge:

Ages 8 to 19 complete the following questions:

Market beef steers at the Muskegon County Youth Fair must have a minimum weight of _____ lbs. in order to show in market and sell.

What is the ideal weight of a finished market steer?

What time must all fair animals be fed and watered and have their pens cleaned by?

The essential nutrients for beef cattle are:

Cattle will drink up to _____ gallons per day, depending on their _____ and the _____.

MCYF Exhibitors must show _____ animals in showmanship classes.

Ages 12 to 19 complete the following questions:

Name 2 cuts of wholesale beef:

What is the average daily gain of a market steer?

How long does it take cattle to reach market weight?

Ages 15 to 19 complete the following questions:

What is the average dressing percentage of a market steer?

What is marbling?

Why is marbling important in cattle?

Name four by-products of cattle: