

**YOUR
EMMET COUNTY
OPEN CLASS
BUCKET/BOTTLE CALF
PROJECT**



Introduction

Any Emmet County youth completing grades 2nd or 3rd (pre 4-H) by fair, enrolled in the Bucket/Bottle Calf Project can exhibit in this class.

Objectives

1. To learn proper health care and nutritional requirements of calves.
2. To learn basic calf management skills.
3. To learn basic livestock record keeping skills.

Guidelines

1. Open to youth completing 2nd or 3rd grade by fair.
2. Calves must be born between March 1 and May 15.
3. Calves must be identified on a bottle calf ID sheet before May 15.
4. You can identify 2 calves but only show 1.
5. A photo of the calf and the youth must be included on the ID sheet.
6. Any newborn or orphan calf, steer, or heifer, dairy or beef calf is eligible.
7. Calves can NOT be nursing a cow, they must be bottle or bucket fed.
8. No clipping or fitting.
9. Supporting information and photos allowed for judging, but not necessary.

Calves at the County Fair

1. Calves will be shown at halter at the Emmet County Fair.
2. Interviews will be conducted approximately one week before fair, on an individual basis.
3. **Interview judging** will be based on:
 - a. What the member has learned about caring for and raising a calf, health care, feeding, normal growth etc.

4. **Overall judging** will be based on:
 - a. Showing with an emphasis on what a member has learned.
 - b. General health of the calf and knowledge.
 - c. Interview score.
 - d. Completed records and report form will be evaluated.
 - e. Quality and calf confirmation will **NOT** be considered.

Health

1. Check your calf before each feeding for any health problems.
2. Calves can pass disease by sucking on each other. To prevent the spread of bacterial infections, wash and sanitize buckets, bottles and nipples. Keep the calf equipment clean, just like the dishes you eat from.
3. Ask your veterinarian about vaccinations for:
 - a. IBR (Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis)
 - b. BVD (Bovine Virus Diarrhea)
 - c. Clostridial Diseases (Black leg and Enterotoxemia)
 - d. Castration
 - e. Fly Tags
 - f. Lice Control
 - g. Vitamin A, D, and E injections
 - h. Salmonella
 - i. Pasteurella
4. Dehorn calves when the horn button can be felt. The electric dehorner or dehorning paste are possible methods. Check with your vet for help with dehorning. For your safety, calves will be dehorned.

Milk Replacer

1. Purchase a high quality milk replacer. The milk replacer **MUST** contain milk based protein and **NOT** soybean based protein, because soybean protein is hard to digest.
2. Calves should be fed **twice** daily. Follow the directions on the milk replacer bag. Feed fresh milk at each feeding. Calves should be on milk for at least 4-6 weeks. Calves should have access to fresh water daily.
3. Feed at 110 degrees or about the temperature of hot tap water. For example:
 - a. A calf weighing 80 pounds needs 6.4 pounds or 3.2 quarts of milk per day (1.6 quarts per feeding).
 - b. A calf weighing 100 pounds needs 8 pounds of milk or 4 quarts per day (2 quarts per feeding).
 - c. A calf weighing 120 pounds needs 9.6 pounds of milk or 4.8 quarts per day (2.4 quarts per feeding).

Calf Starter

1. Begin feeding a calf starter at about 7 to 10 days of age plus a handful of high quality hay. Remember to change feed and hay every feeding to prevent it from becoming stale.
2. Try to encourage the calf to eat some calf starter after it has finished with its milk. Calves should have access to a little fresh water during the day when they begin to eat feed. Calves do not like finely ground and dusty feeds. Feed should be coarsely ground, cracked, rolled or flaked.
3. Calves can be weaned at 4 to 6 weeks when they are eating 1.5 to 2 pounds of calf starter per day. Keep feeding starter up to 3 - 4 months of age. Hay may be hand fed at about 1/2 to 1 pound per day. The calf can then be put on a grower ration of corn, oats, and protein. Keep trace mineral salt before it at all times after weaning.
4. Calves should be weaned from the bottle or bucket before fair.

Open Bucket Bottle Calf Identification Sheet

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Grade In School _____

(This class is for youth completing 2nd or 3rd grade by fair.)

This report must be on file by **May 15** with the fair board or the Extension office for you to be eligible to participate in the Emmet County Fair.

Project	Dairy Breed	Beef Breed	Animal's Birth Date (if known)	Tattoo or Tag Number	Date Animal Purchased
Bottle Calf					
Bottle Calf					

(Please attach a photo of you and each of your calves)

Mail by May 15th to:

John Irmiter

5771 160th Street

Armstrong IA 50514