

Department 1 – Dairy Cattle

- Entries close August 1, 2026 –
NO MAIL-IN ENTRIES

Dairy Cattle Superintendent: Terry and Carrie Delong (810) 614-4025 or delongfarm@yahoo.com

Judge: Youth Showmanship, Open and Youth Dairy Cattle – TBD

2026 Health Requirements for Livestock Exhibited in Michigan
<https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/animals/exhibitions>

ARRIVAL TIMES:

Beginning Wednesday, September 2nd 9:00 am – 9:00 pm (or call superintendent if you need a different time)

Ending Thursday, September 3rd by 6:00 pm

All Dairy must be in place by 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 3rd – NO LATE ARRIVALS

DEPARTURE TIMES:

Monday, September 7th after 3:00 pm

Dairy Judging Schedule

OPEN AND YOUTH BREED SHOWS

11:00 am	Sunday	September 6	Youth Showmanship Youth and Open Heifers - following showmanship Youth and Open Cows – following heifers
6:30 pm	Sunday	September 6	Steve Masters Master Showman
10:00 am	Monday	September 7	Youth Livestock Judging Contest
12:00 pm	Monday	September 7	“Bill Bowman” Supreme of Supremes (see Department 39 for rules and information)

FEES:

Exhibitor: \$15.00 (required); admits one person. Extra passes are available for \$15.00.

Parking: \$15.00 for week (Pass allows access behind the building after Thursday, August 28.)

Per Head: \$15.00 (open classes only)

YOUTH pays exhibitor fee \$15.00 only.

If a youth enters in the open classes – open fee and per head fee apply.

BREED REGISTRATION

An animal is eligible to enter and compete at the Michigan State Fair LLC in only one breed Classification regardless if the animal is registered in more than one breed association or registry. All individual breed association rules related to eligibility for show will apply.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SHOW – OPEN & YOUTH

***** Please check and follow General Agriculture & Livestock Rules *****

Identification

All cattle participating must have an USDA approved 840 Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag in the animal's ear. Alphanumeric metal ear tag or official breed registry tattoo are NOT acceptable in place of an RFID tag.

1. Exhibitor form, Animal Entry form and Current W-9 (or Canadian) must be filled out and returned. **Entries must include fees.**
2. **OWNER IS THE EXHIBITOR.** Registration papers should match exhibitor in accordance with individual national breed association's rules.
3. **Entries must be made on proper entry forms. Youth exhibitor's must complete Youth section of entry form and submit all Youth fees. Animals must be in Youth's (the exhibitor) name. Youth exhibitors entering Open classes must complete Open section and pay all open fees.**

4. The Michigan State Fair Youth Dairy Show is open to all youth in Michigan, who are seven (7) years of age and no older than twenty (20) years of age as of January 1 of the current year. Animals need not be registered to exhibit in this show, however, a youth is only allowed up to 3 unregistered animals. Unregistered animals are only eligible for exhibiting in the Michigan State Fair Youth Dairy Show (not eligible for the Dairy Open Show). Youth do not have to own the unregistered animals.
5. For unregistered animals, enter in the breed class that your animal best represents. For example: if you have a black and white animal, that animal would be entered as a Holstein. A solid brown animal would be entered as a Jersey. If the pedigree is known, but the animal is not registered, enter in the breed class that matches the animal's pedigree. For example: an animal sired by a Holstein bull, out of Holstein cow would be entered in the Holstein class. Please refer to each breed's website for specific breed characteristics to determine breed class for unregistered animals.
6. All entries must be made in accordance with general livestock terms and conditions. Please go to www.MichiganStateFairLLC.com and enter online. **LATE ENTRIES: Entries received between August 2, 2025, and August 7, 2025, will incur a \$50.00 Late Entry Fee.**
7. **CAMPING.** Camping **MUST BE** registered for **SEPARATELY**. Please use this link to apply: <https://www.eventeny.com/events/applications/application/?id=8661>
8. Copies of Certificates of Registration must be furnished at time of check-in and identity of each animal established, or the animal will be barred from competition. The superintendent will not allow the showing of any animal without a registration certificate. The exhibitor must be the owner of the animal. Animals owned in partnership or by syndicate may be entered in the name of the partnership or syndicate only.
9. An exhibitor may substitute an animal within the same class as entered at no charge. The exhibitor will be charged a fee of \$5.00 to substitute an animal into a different class.
10. **Dress Code: All exhibitors are required to wear white trousers** or white skirts when leading animals in the ring.
11. All cattle entered for competition shall be presented in the judging ring in their natural conformation and with no preparation other than natural feeding and fitting with the exception of any treatment of hair, hoofs, and horns.
12. Every exhibitor in consideration of his entry being accepted, specifically represents that no animal entered by him/her has been or will be before entering the judging ring unethically fitted and he/she agrees to submit any animal for inspection at any time required before any inspector or inspectors appointed by the management, and he/she further agrees that the opinion of such inspector or inspectors shall be final and conclusive and without recourse against the management or any officer thereof or any person or persons appointed as inspector. Infringement of the above rules will be dealt with the same as any other fraud consummated or attempted.
13. All cows three (3) years old and over entered in the several classes of breeding stock shall have born a calf within eighteen months prior to the exhibition or show satisfactory evidence of being in calf, or the cow cannot compete. Affidavits relating to cows regarding breeding may be required and evidence of this fact satisfactory to the superintendent shall be furnished by the exhibitor if required. All dry cows three (3) years old and older must show satisfactory evidence of being in calf to be eligible to show.
14. The superintendent may require that all cows in milk be milked out not earlier than 6:00 pm previous to showing and the superintendent or judge may require any animal to be milked out in the show ring.
15. An exhibitor may only have one entry in group classes. An exhibitor may show a maximum of two head per individual class. Only first place winners are eligible for Champion prizes; Second place animals may compete for Reserve Championships.
16. Only animals shown in individual classes may show in group classes.
17. Milking machines or compressors must be shielded. **No milkhose or milk storage will be available. All disposal of milk needs to be approved by superintendent.**
18. **Exhibitors may choose to bring in cows in milk on show day. Must be in place by 8:00 am and released after entire dairy show. For each animal entered in this manner, Exhibitor MUST enter and EXHIBIT two (2) non-milking animals for entire fair.**
19. **The floor in the livestock area is polished concrete. For the safety of the animals and exhibitors, exhibitors are responsible for providing suitable floor coverings in their stalls/pens. Examples of coverings may be: roofing paper, carpet, plywood, deep bedding, rubber mats or other suitable material to prevent animals from the risk of injury. Aisles will have rolled roofing or other covering on them for movement to and from the rings, etc.**
20. **After 12:00 am on the day in which an animal is to be shown, no administration of fluids by mouth is allowed, unless it is deemed therapeutically necessary and is only administered by a licensed Michigan State Fair veterinarian.**
21. External applications of cosmetics that affect only appearance may be used, including by way of example: colored touch up a maximum of 4 inches on either side of the topline; hoof polishes; and false switches.

22. All chores to be completed by 9 am including feeding, watering and pen cleaning. Aisles are to be clean and swept entire time fair is open to the public.
23. Stock tanks are prohibited from being used to water livestock.
24. Youth exhibitors in this department will be permitted to enter a maximum of seven head in the Youth Division. A Youth may show additional cattle in the Open Show as long as they do not have more than 2 head in an individual class.
25. **Youth may not enter an animal in the same class for in-person and 4-H virtual show. (Example: if a youth enters a Holstein Spring Heifer Calf in the in-person show, they may not enter a Holstein Spring Heifer Calf in the 4-H Virtual Show).**
26. Exhibitors must have at least four (4) animals of the same breed to qualify for Premier Exhibitor awards.
27. Each breed association will receive a 10' x 10' booth space for breed promotional material, at no charge, if available. **Please contact Superintendent by August 5, 2026.**

*****Making Entries for the Michigan State Fair indicates acceptance of the Michigan State Fair Code of Conduct, which is found in the General Rules.*****

Dairy Show will run according to the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association Show Ring Code of Ethics.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1. Exhibitor and Breed – Where a herd is registered in the name of different members of a family, residing on one farm and where the herd is one unit, all entries may be considered as a single exhibitor for group classes and Premier Exhibitor.
2. Senior Champions and Reserve Champions are chosen from first and second place animals two years old and over, or that has freshened.
3. Junior Champions and Reserve Champions are chosen from first and second place animals under two years, or females not to have freshened.
4. Best Three Females – Three females any age, all bred by exhibitor and at least one to be owned by exhibitor. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry.
5. Produce of Dam – Two (2) females, any age, from the same dam. Limited to one (1) entry per exhibitor.
6. Dam and Daughter – at least one (1) animal owned by exhibitor. Limited to one (1) entry per exhibitor.
7. Premier Exhibitor – The exhibitor winning the most points, not to exceed six animals in the open single classes exhibited by himself shall be designated the Premier Exhibitor. The point system for determining Premier Exhibitor is as follows:

<u>POINTS</u>	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Senior Females	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2
Junior Females	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Grand Champion	30		Reserve Grand Champion		20					
Division Champion	20		Reserve Division Champion		10					

Champion points will break ties from above.

DEFINITIONS

1. A Spring Heifer Calf is born after March 1, 2026 and is over four months of age.
2. A Winter Heifer Calf is born after December 1, 2025 and before February 28, 2026.
3. A Fall Heifer Calf is born after September 1, 2026 and before November 30, 2026.
4. A Summer Yearling Heifer is born after June 1, 2025 and before August 31, 2025.
5. A Spring Yearling Heifer is born after March 1, 2025 and before May 31, 2025.
6. A Winter Yearling Heifer is born after December 1, 2024 and before February 28, 2024.
7. A Fall Yearling Heifer is born after September 1, 2024 and before November 30, 2024.
8. A Fall Heifer in Milk is born after September 1, 2024 and before November 30, 2024.
9. A Two Year Old Cow is born after September 1, 2023 and before August 31, 2024.
10. A Three Year Old Cow is born after September 1, 2022 and before August 31, 2023.
11. A Four Year Old Cow is born after September 1, 2021 and before August 31, 2022.
12. A Five Year Old Cow and Older is born before September 1, 2021.

Dairy Cattle

Use tables below for Section and Class #
(Example – a Jersey 3 year old cow would be Section JR Class 11)

<u>BREED</u>	<u>Open Section #</u>
Any Other Registered Breed	AOR
Ayrshire	AY
Brown Swiss	BS
Guernsey	GY
Holstein	HL
Jersey	JR
Milking Shorthorn	MS

Dairy Classes

	Breed Section	AOR	AY	BS	GY	HL	JR	MS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Spring Heifer Calf		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Winter Heifer Calf		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Fall Heifer Calf		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25

Summer Yearling Heifer	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Spring Yearling Heifer	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Winter Yearling Heifer	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Fall Yearling Heifer	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Junior Champion & Reserve Junior Champion Female	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	Rosettes				
Sr. Yearling in Milk	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
2 Year Old Cow	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
3 Year Old Cow	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
4 Year Old Cow	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
5 Year Old Cow and Older	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	\$60	\$50	\$45	\$35	\$25
Senior Champion & Reserve Senior Champion Female	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	Rosettes				
Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Female	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	Rosettes				
Dam & Daughter	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	\$35	\$27	\$25	\$22	\$20
Three Best Females – Any Age	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	\$35	\$27	\$25	\$22	\$20
Produce of Dam	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	\$35	\$27	\$25	\$22	\$20
Best Udder	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	Banner (if sponsored)				
Premier Exhibitor	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	Banner				

Supreme Champion – Section 1

Class	Description
19	Supreme Champion Female

Banner/\$300.00

Special Contests – See Department 39

Educational Contest

“Bill Bowman” Supreme of Supremes

Department 2 – Youth Dairy Cattle

Youth may not enter an animal in the same class for in-person and 4-H virtual show.

Youth Dairy Cattle Classes

Use tables below for Section and Class #
(Example – a Guernsey 2 Year Old Cow would be Section YGY Class 10)

BREED	Youth Section #
Ayrshire	YAY
Brown Swiss	YBS
Guernsey	YGY
Holstein	YHL
Jersey	YJR
Milking Shorthorn	YMS
Any Other Registered Breed	YAO

Premium Scale

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
\$25	\$20	\$15	\$12	\$10

Junior Champion, Reserve Junior Champion, Senior Champion, Reserve Senior Champion, Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion classes are non-premium; Rosettes only.

	Breed Section	YAY	YBS	YGY	YHL	YMS	YJR	YAO
Spring Heifer Calf		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Winter Heifer Calf		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Fall Heifer Calf		3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Summer Yearling Heifer		4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Spring Yearling Heifer		5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Winter Yearling Heifer		6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Fall Yearling Heifer		7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Junior Champion & Reserve Junior Champion Female		8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Fall Yearling in Milk		9	9	9	9	9	9	9
2 Year Old Cow		10	10	10	10	10	10	10
3 Year Old Cow		11	11	11	11	11	11	11
4 Year Old Cow		12	12	12	12	12	12	12
5 Year Old Cow and Older		13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Senior Champion & Reserve Senior Champion Female		14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Female		15	15	15	15	15	15	15

Supreme Champion – Section Y1

Class	Description	
16	Supreme Champion Female	Banner/\$150.00

Youth Dairy Showmanship – Section Y2

Entries in this section will be accepted up to show time.

PREMIUM SCALE

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5

CLASSES

<u>Class #</u>	
1	7 through 11 years of age
2	12 through 15 years of age
3	16 through 20 years of age
4	Champion and Reserve Champion Showman

RULES

There will be three age divisions for Dairy Showmanship: 7 – 11, 12 – 15, and 16 – 20 (Age as of January 1, of the current year). No entry fee is required. Showmanship is open to all junior dairy exhibitors at this show. Please include junior exhibitor birth date on entry form.

Special Contests – See Department 39

Educational Contest

Youth Scholarship

Youth Livestock Judging Contest

Steve Masters Master Showman