



WALWORTH COUNTY JUNIOR BEEF PROJECT UPDATE

January, 2023

If you are new to the project – welcome! We are pleased you are interested in learning about raising and showing beef cattle. Please carefully read and keep this sheet and any information throughout the year from the 4-H website, 4-H News Blog, FFA advisors, and our “Walworth County Junior Beef Project” face book page. Although this may be your first year and it may seem overwhelming, everyone started where you are and is ready to help you. Members who show cattle in your club, your district leader or junior beef committee member, and the superintendent are people to call on.

Whether you choose breeding stock or steers, this year-long project requires a commitment of time and resources and is very rewarding. There are some mandatory project requirements:

- Completion of YQCA certification training (more information coming soon)
 - Participation in at least one educational project meeting
- This may be fulfilled by...
- Having attended the 2022 Carcass Evaluation Meeting at the fair
 - Attending the Meats Judging Presentation/Contest and tour of the new facility at Sorg’s Meats, on **January 26th**, at 6:30 pm. Members will judge various cuts of meats. A light meal will be served and prizes awarded. Parents are encouraged to attend and participate in the contest.
 - Participating in the spring hands-on *Showmanship, Fitting and Clipping Clinic* on **March 18th**.
 - Showing your cattle at a show (prior to the Walworth County Fair and with the approval of the superintendent)
 - Participating in other educational beef project learning experiences (workshops, virtual trainings, etc.) with prior approval of the superintendent.
- Work at the annual steak cookout in July (more information coming later). Everyone in project helps! This special event started in 2011 and raises money that supports and enhances our project and show.

If you plan to show your steers at the 2023 Walworth County Fair, you must bring your animals to the weigh-in **Saturday, February 4th** (snow date February 11th), 9 to noon, at the fairgrounds. You may weigh up to 8 animals. Animals must be dehorned and broke to lead. Paperwork will be sent to you ahead of time from the 4-H office or will be distributed to you by your FFA advisors. DNA will be pulled on all steers, and if you are interested, you may pay a non-refundable \$5 fee and sign up 1 animal per exhibitor for the Carcass Contest. Make sure to complete and sign all paperwork before you come to weigh-in, and sign each DNA envelope at the scale.

Once you’ve taken a steer through the weigh-in line, it is important to remember to collect your weigh-in sheet (to take home) and, if you signed up for the carcass contest, make sure the weigh-in sheet is marked properly and you have received a receipt for payment. Hang on to these documents for the remainder of the project year in case of questions later and as a reference when signing up for the fair!!!

Good Luck!

Junior Beef Superintendent

Doc Sterken, 262-949-5890