

Jackson County 4-H Junior (ages 8-10) Breeding Beef Project Record Book



Name _____

Age (as of September 1st) _____

4-H Club _____

Purpose of this Project

The purpose of any animal project is to help teach youth life skills. Life skills are skills that youth need in order to transition into a healthy, responsible adult. Animal projects specifically target the life skills of:

- **Responsibility** (feeding and caring for an animal on a regular basis)
- **Determination** (working with the animal on a regular basis in order to show it)
- **Record keeping** (keeping a record of the animal's health and feeding)
- **Money/Resource Management** (keeping track of how much money or other resources have been invested in the project, and managing money and resources wisely)
- **Sportsmanship** (practice being a good winner and a good loser through competition with peers and with self. Dealing with constructive criticism, even when you've given your best is a very hard lesson to learn, but a very valuable one!)

“As the exhibitor of this project, I certify that I have personally kept records and completed this record book.”

Signed _____
Member **Date**

**“This youth is an active member of the _____
4-H Club or FFA Chapter. This book has been completed by the
youth and is an accurate record of the project.”**

Signed _____
Club leader or Chapter advisor **Date**

Keeping records is an important part of any project, but especially for a market animal project. If you don't keep any records, then you have no idea whether you made money or lost money at the end of your project.

General Records

What is the breed of your animal?

When did you take possession of your animal?

Do you plan on breeding your animal?

If so, are you going to breed it naturally (by putting a bull in the pen or field) or by artificial insemination?

What date(s) do you plan on breeding your animal?

What do you plan on doing with any animals that are born? (sell, raise, etc)

Breeding Beef Timeline

Birth of calf	Record weight, date of birth and tag calf if possible
1-4 months	Begin to introduce feed – Calf may eat along with mother. Have as much contact with calf as mother will allow!!
4 month	First set of vaccines: Contact local vet for more info
4 month	Castrate bull calves early (preferable in cool weather when flies are not a problem) Worm calf (pour on if show calf prospect)
5-6 months	Continued to feed and work with calf
6-7 months	Wean calf continued to feed and work with calf Booster Vaccines, worm again
8-15 months	Feed – Feed – Feed
15 months	750 lb. minimum before breeding. Select a calf ease sire for your heifer and bred
15-24 months	Feed – Feed – Feed
24 months	Watch for calving
24 months+	Vaccinate and Worm (Spring and Fall)

*** Remember it takes 9 months for a cow to calve. Plan your calving time around the fall of the year if possible.**

Expenses and Income

An expense is something that you pay for, or that costs you money. Your project expenses include the cost or value of your animal at the beginning of the project, what you paid for feed, what you paid for veterinary bills, and what you paid to show your animal.

Income is money that your project brings you. Examples of project income include what your animal is worth at the end of your project (or what someone pays for your steer), and any show premiums you win.

Your project begins the day that you take possession or responsibility of your animal.

PROJECT EXPENSES

Animal Expenses

What you paid for your heifer (or the value of your heifer if it is given to you or you raised it your self). If you bought your animal, simply write down the actual purchase price. If you were given your animal, or if it was born on your property, or if it was leased, simply write down the fair market value. As a general rule, a yearling breeding animal is worth \$750.00.

Value of Animal at Start of Project: \$ _____

PROJECT INCOME

Show Premium Income

Date	Name of Fair or Show	Class	Placing	Premiums Won
<i>Example: 10/11</i>	<i>Jackson County Fair</i>	<i>Junior Showmanship</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>25.00</i>
TOTAL PREMIUMS WON				\$

Animal Income

As a general rule, a mature cow (2 years or older) is worth a minimum of \$1,200.00. A yearling calf is worth a minimum of \$750.00. You can use these general guidelines to calculate the total value of your breeding animal(s) at the end of your project.

What is the value of your animal(s) at the end of your project? \$ _____

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Project Income

Animal Income (page 7) \$ _____

Sponsorship Income (page 7) \$ _____

Total Project Income \$ _____

Project Expenses

Animal Expenses (page 4) \$ _____

Feed Expenses (page 5) \$ _____

Veterinary Expenses (page 5) \$ _____

Show Expenses (page 6) \$ _____

Total Project Expenses \$ _____

TOTAL PROFIT OR LOSS \$ _____

Subtract your total project expenses from total project income. This is your total profit or loss.

Project Story

Your story should answer the following questions about your project experience:

1. What is the breed of your animal, and where did you get it?
2. What new skills did you learn from this project?
3. Who helped you with this project?
4. What did you like best or least about this project?
5. What would you do differently, if anything, next time?

Project Photos

Include at least three photos of your project with captions that describe what is happening in the pictures. If you like, you can add pages to include other items and memorabilia, such as your exhibitor numbers, stall cards, ribbons won, etc.

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IFAS EXTENSION

This document was developed by Heather C. Kent, and Doug Mayo, August 2006. Funding for duplication of this document was provided by the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners.

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