

# DAIRY

Superintendent: Dr. Charles Hutchison

Assistant Superintendents: Dr. Gary Hay, Mr. Chuck Griffin, Mr. Kyndal Comeaux, Mr. Allen Hogan, Mr. Mark Williams, Mrs. Whitney Wallace, Ms. Cassie Faunce, Ms. Kori Myers, Mr. Spencer Stelly, & Nicholas Muse

## SPECIAL RULES

- A. In lieu of having dairy animals officially transferred and recorded in the National Association's herd book in the junior exhibitor's name a signed affidavit by the current owner, exhibitor and exhibitor's parent or guardian stipulating to the fact that the exhibitor is in the possession and has ownership of the animal for the purposes of showing at the LSU AgCenter Dairy Show for the dates recorded on the affidavit. All other rules concerning possession, housing and care of the animal would still apply as per LSU AgCenter Livestock Show rules and regulations. A copy of the Affidavit will be attached to a copy of the registration papers and sent to the 4-H agent/ FFA Advisor by the possession date. The 4-H agent/FFA Advisor will sign the original affidavit once he or she certifies possession of the animal. The original affidavit will be attached to the original registration papers and presented to the show clerk for check in purposes at their respective Parish and District shows.
- B. The following breeds of dairy— Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey and Any Other Purebred Breeds (AOB)—may be shown at the state and district livestock shows.
- C. Possession date for all dairy breeding is **November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**.
- D. Only dairy animals registered with their respective breed associations will be permitted to show. Ayrshires and Holsteins must be a minimum of 87% registered ancestry and Jerseys must be a 4, 5 or 6 on Generation Count added as a suffix in parentheses at the end of the animal's name. Animals eligible to be shown in the Brown Swiss division will have one of the following registration certificates. Standard Registration Certificate which is white with a green border is issued for Registered Brown Swiss Females and Certified Identity Enrolled Females (CIE). Brown Swiss Step II Identity Enrollment (IE) animals which have a green registration paper with black border may also be shown. Animals with other colored paper may not be shown.
- E. All original papers must be verified by the agent/FFA advisor and copy submitted to agent/FFA advisor within thirty (30) days of Possession/Validation Date. The Papers Pending Form must be submitted in place of registration papers until the registration papers are obtained. **Registration papers are due within 30 days of the respective possession date. A late fee of \$250 per animal will be charged for registration papers received between the 30 days after the possession date and January 3, 2026. No registration papers will be accepted after this date. The \$250 fee is to be collected by the respective District Show Management. Exhibitors must enter animal information into the 4-H Online system on or before the possession/validation deadline. The responsibility of entering animal information (correct and complete, i.e. Registration Papers) into 4-H online, ear tagging animals, and collecting DNA and/or hair samples will be that of the exhibitor and/or parent. Agents/Ag Teachers MAY be present and can assist.**
- F. **All registered dairy animals must be dehorned or be naturally polled. Horn scurs are allowed.**
- G. Any registered dairy animals in a class younger than the senior 2-year-old cow class that have calved will automatically be moved to the senior 2-year-old cow class.
- H. An exhibitor may enter as many registered animals as he desires; however, no member will be allowed to show more than one animal in the same class. EXCEPTION: Heifers that calve and are moved to the senior 2-year-old cow class will be allowed to show in this class along with another senior 2-year-old cow owned by the same exhibitor.
- I. Lactating cow classes will be judged following the heifer classes but not before 12:00 p.m. at the state show.
- J. Management is not responsible for special housing of cows that have just calved or heifers that are near calving. No nurse calves will be allowed in the barn (no foster calves).
- K. DAIRY CLASSES
  1. Fall calves, Sept. 1-Oct. 31, 2025
  2. Summer calves, June 1-Aug. 31, 2025
  3. Spring Yearling Heifers, March 1- May 31, 2025
  4. Champion Selection
    - o Junior Champion - Calf (selected from winners in classes 1, 2 & 3) \*
    - o Reserve Junior Champion - Calf (selected from 2<sup>ND</sup> place winner in class that Junior Champion - Calf was chosen and 1<sup>st</sup> place winners of the other 2 classes) \*
    - o Junior Champion - Calf La.-bred (Selected from La.-bred winners in Classes 1, 2 & 3) \*
    - o Reserve Junior Champion - Calf La.-bred (selected from 2<sup>ND</sup> place La.-bred winner in class that Junior Champion - Calf La.-bred was chosen and 1<sup>st</sup> place La.-bred winners in the other 2 classes) \*
  5. Winter Yearling Heifers, December 1, 2024-Feb. 28, 2025
  6. Fall Yearling Heifers, Sept. 1- Nov. 30, 2024
  7. Summer Yearling Heifers, June 1-Aug. 31, 2024
  8. Junior Two-Year-Old Heifers, March 1 – May 31, 2024
  9. Champion Selection
    - o Junior Champion - Yearling (selected from winners in classes 4 - 7) \*
    - o Reserve Junior Champion - Yearling (selected from 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner in class that Junior Champion - Yearling was chosen and 1<sup>st</sup> place winners in the other 3 classes) \*
    - o Junior Champion - Yearling La.-bred (selected from La.-bred winners in classes 4 - 7) \*
    - o Reserve Junior Champion - Yearling La.-bred (selected from 2<sup>nd</sup> place La.-bred winner in class that Junior Champion - Yearling La.-bred was chosen and 1<sup>st</sup> place La.-bred winners in the other 3 classes)\*
    - o Overall Junior Champion (selected from winners of Junior Champion Calf & Yearling and respective Reserve Champions) \*
    - o Overall Reserve Junior Champion (Selected from the 3 calves left after selection of the Overall Junior Champion) \*
    - o Overall Junior Champion La.-bred (selected from winners of La.-bred Junior Champion Calf & Yearling and respective reserve champions) \*
    - o Overall Reserve Junior Champion La.-bred (Selected from the 3 calves left after selection of the La-Bred Overall Junior

Champion) \*

\* Jr. & Reserve Jr. Champion Calf/Yearling Classes & respective La-bred champion classes only apply to breeds that have 30 or more heifers checked in to show at the state show. For breeds less than 30 heifers, Overall Jr. & Reserve Jr. Champion & La-bred Overall Jr. Champions are selected from the winners of classes 1-7 with 2<sup>nd</sup> place from the Junior Champion's class competing for Reserve Overall Jr. Champion.

10. Senior two-year-old cows, Sept. 1, 2023 - Feb. 29, 2024
  11. Junior three-year-old cows, March 1 - Aug. 31, 2023
  12. Senior three-year-old cows, Sept. 1, 2022 - Feb. 28, 2023
  13. Four-year-old cows, Sept. 1, 2021 - Aug. 31, 2022
  14. Aged cows, born before Sept. 1, 2021
  15. **Dry cow class-cow must be dry (not lactating) and must have freshened (calved) at least once.**
  16. Champion Selection
    - o Senior Champion (selected from winners in classes 8 - 13)
    - o Reserve Senior Champion (Selected from 2nd place winner in class that Senior Champion was chosen and 1st place winners in the other 5 classes)
    - o Senior Champion La.-bred (Selected from La.-bred winners in classes 8 - 13)
    - o Reserve Senior Champion La.-bred (Selected from 2nd place La.-bred winner in class that Senior Champion La.- bred was chosen and 1st place La.-bred winners in the other 5 classes)
    - o Grand Champion (Selected from Overall Junior Champion & Senior Champion)
    - o Reserve Grand Champion (If Senior Champion is selected Grand Champion, then Reserve Senior Champion and Overall Junior Champion compete. If Overall Junior Champion is selected Grand Champion, then Overall Reserve Junior Champion and Senior Champion compete.)
    - o Grand Champion La. bred (Selected from La-Bred Overall Junior Champion & La-Bred Senior Champion)
    - o Reserve Grand Champion La.-bred (If La-Bred Senior Champion is selected La-Bred Grand Champion, then La-Bred Reserve Senior Champion and La-Bred Overall Junior Champion compete. If La-Bred Overall Junior Champion is selected La-Bred Grand Champion, then La-Bred Overall Reserve Junior Champion and La-Bred Senior Champion compete.)
    - o Best Fitted Animal (by breed)
    - o Parish Groups (by breed) A parish group will consist of four dairy heifers and/or cows of the same breed or division, all from the same parish, with at least two exhibitors represented.
- L. **Selection of Supreme Champion-** Breed champions from each of the above listed breeds will compete for supreme champion along with the champion commercial heifer and cow at the conclusion of the breeding show.
- M. There is no restriction on previous winners entering the "Best Fitted Animal" Class at the state show.
- N. **Grooming Rules** – Adapted from the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA) Showring Code of Ethics. Animals will be groomed and prepared for the judge's evaluation in order to display the animal's natural contour, conformation, performance and mobility. Specifically:
- I. Changing the natural color of the animal is prohibited. However, external applications of cosmetics that affect only appearance may be used, including by way of example hoof polishes and false switches.
  - II. The maximum allowable length of naturally growing hair anywhere on the topline is not to exceed 1 inch.
  - III. Addition of foreign objects, including but not limited to hair or hair substitutes, cloth or fiber, to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body is prohibited.
  - IV. Externally sealing the teat end with a preparation that does not harm the animal's skin is permissible. Natural teat placement will be given preference over artificially positioned teats.

## COMMERCIAL DAIRY REPLACEMENT HEIFERS & COWS

1. Heifers in this division will be judged as replacement dairy heifers. No heifer that has calved will be eligible to show in the heifer division. Commercial animals that have calved will show in the commercial dairy cow class (see rule 10 below).
2. To be eligible for this division a heifer or cow must not be registered with a dairy breed association. These may be purebred grade dairy heifers or crossbred dairy heifers. Any Holstein heifer or cow with less than 87% RHA on the certificate from the breed association will show in the A.O.B. division and not commercial dairy animal division. Any Jersey heifer or cow with a Generation Count of less than 4 on the certificate from the breed association will show in the A.O.B. division and not commercial dairy animal division.
3. Possession date for commercial dairy heifers is **November 10, 2025**.
4. Each heifer must be officially Validated and tagged with an official LSU AgCenter Livestock Show ear tag; State Fair tag may be used for LSU AgCenter validation. Agents and FFA advisors will request these from the district the same as other tag requests.
5. **All Commercial Dairy animals must be dehorned or naturally polled. Horn scurs are allowed.**
6. Exhibitor can show a maximum of 3 commercial dairy replacement heifers.
7. Heifers will show by weight. They will be weighed only once on an official set of scales (no reweighs). Classes will be determined by the range of weights of heifers eligible for exhibition.
8. Heifers weighing less than 150 pounds at the time of weigh-in will be ineligible to show.
9. Champion and Reserve Champion exhibits will be selected from 1st and 2nd place individual class winners.
10. Commercial Dairy Cow Class {Cows that have freshened at least once and are currently in milk (lactating)}. Exhibitors can show only 1 Commercial Lactating Dairy Cow.
11. Commercial Dry Cow Class {Cows must have calved at least once & are currently Dry (not lactating)}. Exhibitors can show only 1 Commercial Dry Cow (not lactating).

12. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners from the Commercial Dairy Cow Class (lactating) & Commercial Dry Cow Class (not lactating) will compete for Grand Champion Commercial Cow & Reserve Grand Champion Commercial Cow.
13. Commercial Dairy Heifers and commercial cows may be shown in dairy showmanship classes along with registered exhibits.
14. A Best Fitted Commercial Dairy Heifer & Cow class will be offered at the state show.
15. There will be a parish group competition for Commercial Dairy Heifers and cows. A parish group will consist of four commercial dairy heifers and/or cows, all from the same parish, with at least two exhibitors represented.
16. Champion commercial heifer and cow will be eligible to compete for Supreme Dairy Champion.

## **DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP**

Any exhibitor may enter the dairy showmanship contest. The exhibitor must show his or her own animal. That animal must also be exhibited in the regular dairy class. No registration for the showmanship contest is required. The eligibility of the exhibitor in the respective showmanship classes will be determined by the exhibitor's age as of January 1, 2026. The showmanship contest will be judged following Best Fitted on Sunday, February 15, 2026, but will not start before 3:45 p.m. in Main Arena. Judging will begin with the Premier Exhibitor participants followed by the 9-year-old class in ring 1 and 12-year-old class in ring 2, class sizes of more than 20 exhibitors will be split A Champion & Reserve Champion junior showman, intermediate showman and a senior showman will be selected from the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place class winners in each division. Each individual class winner receives a sweatshirt.

### **Dairy Showmanship Exhibitor Attire: Guidelines**

1. Exhibitors are not required to wear white shirts and pants.
2. Exhibitors should not wear cowboy hats or baseball caps.
3. A button-down shirt with collar is preferred instead of polo shirts and T-shirts.
4. No farm identification or advertising should be on the clothing.
5. Footwear should not have open toes or heels.

### **Dairy Showmanship Classes**

#### **Ring 1**

Premier Exhibitor Participants

#### **Junior Division:**

- 9 years old
- 10 years old
- 11 years old

#### **Junior Champion Showman & Reserve Champion**

#### **Ring 2**

#### **Intermediate Division:**

- 12 years old
- 13 years old
- 14 years old

#### **Intermediate Champion Showman & Reserve Champion**

#### **Senior Division:**

- 15 years old
- 16 years old
- 17 years and older

#### **Senior Champion Showman & Reserve Champion**

**Overall Champion Showman** – Selected from the 3 Division Champions