

Dairy

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General Terminology

- Define the following terms: cow, heifer, bull, steer, bred heifer, lactating, dry, rumination, eructation.
- Differentiate between commercial and registered dairy operations.

Breeds

- Identify the seven main breeds of dairy cattle.
- Identify the two most common breeds in the U.S. and why.

External and Skeletal Parts, Conformation and Structure

- Name and locate at least 10 of these body parts: muzzle, poll, throat, neck, hip, wither, heart girth, hock, knee, chine, loin, rump, udder, tail head, hoof, switch, dewclaw.

Health and Disease

- Understand the definition of normal and abnormal behaviors of dairy cattle.
- Understand the normal temperature, respiration rate and pulse of dairy cattle.
- Identify the pulse points of dairy cattle.
- Identify symptoms of a sick, injured or unwell dairy cattle that would require medical attention.
- Define vaccination and understand the importance of vaccinations in disease prevention.
- Understand the different types of injections (intramuscular, intravenous and subcutaneous) and common injection sites for vaccinations.
- Identify two vaccines dairy cattle receive annually.
- Understand how to read a medication label.

Equipment and Records

- Identify 10 pieces of equipment used for dairy cattle.
- Identify the resources (facilities, money, equipment, feed, labor, time, etc.) that are required for a successful dairy cattle project.
- Explain why it is important to keep accurate health, feed and growth records.
- Define what hundredweight means.



Nutrition and Feeding

- Label the parts of a ruminant stomach.
- Understand differences between forage and concentrates and their role within a dairy cow's diet (provide two examples of each).
- Define colostrum.
- Identify three roughages, three mineral sources, and five concentrates sources.
- Understand the essential nutrients dairy cattle need.
- Identify information included on a feed tag.

Genetics and Reproduction

- Define the following terms related to genetics: sire, dam, inheritance, physical characteristic, genetic selection, and pedigree.
- Define the following reproduction terms: gestation and parturition.
- Distinguish between male and female reproductive tracts.

Dairy Products and Processing

- Understand the differences between common types of milk.
- Identify and distinguish between the following dairy products: butter, milk, ice cream, hard cheese and soft cheese.
- List four meat products we can get from dairy cattle.

Showing Dairy Cattle

- Understand basic showmanship skills.
- Identify 10 basic pieces of equipment used in raising, grooming and showing a dairy cow.

Livestock Judging

- Recognize two to three common conformation faults of dairy cattle.
- Define the following terms used to describe dairy cattle conformation: udder depth, udder attachment, dairy character, leg soundness.
- Understand the differences between judging heifers and lactating dairy cows.

Extra Learning Opportunities

- Dairy Skillathon Contest.
- Dairy Cattle Judging Contest.
- Dairy Cattle State Show and Showmanship Contest.

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