

Dairy Project Newsletter

This Dairy Project Newsletter contains information specific to the DAIRY Project. Please use it in conjunction with the General 4-H Information Bulletin, so that you are aware of Achievement Day completion requirements as well as general opportunities and information pertaining to all 4-H members. This Project Newsletter, as well as the General 4-H Information Bulletin, will be updated in December of each year, if necessary, based on changes made at the 4-H Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting.

Welcome to the 4-H Dairy Project! This newsletter will give you an overview of the Dairy project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Enjoy your year in the Dairy project and when working on your project, remember to "Learn to do by Doing." If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Agriculture Extension Coordinator (AEC).

Project Work Requirements

Showmanship is the project work requirement for the Dairy Project. On Achievement Day, Dairy members must complete showmanship with their own 4-H registered dairy to complete the project work requirement. Members may not share dairy calves, each dairy member must complete with their own calf. Please review the Livestock Registration Section for more details pertaining to this.

The dress code for all goat showmanship and conformation classes is **white pants and white shirt**. A tie is optional. Hard soled shoes or boots are encouraged, but not essential. Members can wear sun-safety hats when showing livestock in an outdoor ring. The dress code will be enforced at the 4-H Nova Scotia 4-H Show.

Showmanship classes are done at Achievement Days, County Show/Exhibitions, and 4-H Nova Scotia Show.

Livestock Registration

4-H members must select their 4-H animal by May 1st of the current 4-H year and must submit livestock registration information to the Regional AEC by May 15th of the current 4-H year. This information is necessary to assist with county show/exhibition planning, including judges, class schedules, awards, etc. The following information must be submitted for Livestock Registration requirements: name of member, junior member/senior member, conformation class entered, sex of animal, breed of animal, and date of birth of animal.

4-H animals may be substituted between the registration deadline of May 15th and Achievement Day in the case of injury, sickness, disease or death of the animal. If an animal is to be substituted prior to Achievement Day, pre-approval from the Regional AEC is necessary. A vet certificate may be required. After Achievement Day, no substitutions in animals are permitted. 4-H members who complete their livestock project with their own registered/approved animal on Achievement Day may use another 4-H member's 4-H animal in a showmanship class at county show/exhibition and the 4-H Nova Scotia Show.

The Royal Dairy Preregistration Form serves as livestock identification in the dairy project, if members complete that form. Members not completing the Royal Dairy Pre Registration form must submit the required information on their calf by May 15.

Conformation Classes

Although conformation is not an Achievement Day requirement, livestock conformation classes are held at county level/Exhibition competitions and 4-H Nova Scotia Show. Calves are divided into conformation classes in accordance with age and breed. The following breed classes are available: Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire and Other Dairy Breeds. This last class is to for Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, Brown Swiss, etc. A reminder that to exhibit in any class (Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire or Other Dairy) the sire of the calf must be a 100% purebred dairy sire and the dam must be at least a 50% purebred dairy dam.

The age categories are as follows:

- **Junior calf** - March 1 - April 30 of current year
- **Intermediate calf** - December 1 of previous year - February 29 of current year
- **Senior calf** - September 1- November 30 of previous year
- **Summer Yearling** - June 1 - August 31 of previous year
- **Junior Yearling** - March 1 - May 31 of previous year

Important Information Specific to Dairy Project

Members must show their own 4-H dairy calf at Achievement Day. Please review the Livestock Identification Section for additional details pertaining to this.

All 4-H dairy calves must be dehorned.

For safety, 4-H members, leaders and parents are reminded to try to select a calf that matches the size of the 4-H member.

Members wishing to be considered for Royal Dairy Classic Selection Classes at the NS 4-H Show must complete a Pre-registration Form by the May 15th deadline.

NLID/RFID Tags: 4-H dairy members are reminded that all dairy calves must be identified in accordance with the National Livestock Identification for Dairy Program (NLID). All dairy cattle moving beyond their herd of origin must be tagged with an approved tag. For more information

contact NLID at 1-877-NLID (6543) or www.nlid.org. Dairy members and leaders are encouraged to be aware of guidelines and requirements relating to animal identification and traceability as it relates to the Dairy project. Additional information is available for the Regional ALC on these requirements.

Please note that the National Farm Animal Code of Practice should be followed when housing animals for 4-H events.

These standards can be found at: <http://www.nfacc.ca/>

Royal Agriculture Winter Fair

Nova Scotia is permitted to send up to 8 dairy members and their calves to the Royal Dairy Classic, at the Royal Winter Fair, in November. Selections are made at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show, but members must first qualify to attend the 4-H Nova Scotia Show through county competitions. Pre-registration for the Royal Dairy Classic is done by application by May 15th. The forms and related information/ rules/guidelines are attached to this newsletter. All dairy members who meet the requirements are encouraged to pre- register. Chaperones are required for this program, and applications for chaperones are also attached. Please read the attached info regarding this program carefully. If an animal is switched between pre-registration and Achievement Day, the member is no longer eligible for the Royal Winter Fair classes, or for Royal Winter Fair Selection Classes at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show, as only the pre- registered calf is eligible.

John Versteeg Memorial Award

One of the dairy members selected to participate in the Royal Dairy Classic is the recipient of the Versteeg Memorial Award. The guidelines for this award are included in the attached Royal Dairy Classic information.

Andrea Crowe Memorial Herdsperson Award

The Nova Scotia Royal Dairy Committee is pleased to announce the "Andrea Crowe Memorial Herdsperson Award". This will allow for travel for a team herdsperson to the Royal Winter Fair. This NS 4-H member will travel as a team member, without their calf, and will work alongside the delegates attending with their calves, in all components of the show. This individual will provide additional help with stall and calf preparations, feeding, mentoring, and supporting the team. This award will be reviewed by have annual reviews and is contingent on rules/guidelines by National Organizers. Application and additional details for this award are attached.

Royal Dairy Classic Participation

If you are interested in participating in the Dairy Classic, please keep in mind that any dairy member selected at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show to represent Nova Scotia 4-H at the Dairy Classic

be required participate with the Nova Scotia Dairy Team at the Royal Dairy Classic for a period of not less than 50% of the time the Nova Scotia Team is participating. This includes all members who are a part of the NS 4-H Dairy Team. Members wishing to participate at less than 100% must apply in writing to the NS Royal Dairy Committee within the one week following the 4-H Nova Scotia Show, and have the reason deemed valid by this Committee. Members will be permitted to show their current year's 4-H heifer at the Quebec International Show, and will be asked to join the Nova Scotia delegation in Toronto within a reasonable amount of travel time following the Quebec International Heifer Show. The Nova Scotia Royal Dairy Committee, 4-H Nova Scotia, nor the NSDA assumes no responsibility either financially or for the wellbeing/safety of the 4-H member outside the times that they are directly participating with the delegation.

In the event that a member cannot commit to the policy of a 50% time commitment, then the spare or alternate will be invited to participate in place of the selected member and his/her expenses be covered in the same manner as the remaining delegates. In the event that all 4-H members and calves selected to attend the Dairy Classic participate at the required level, then the spare selected at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show will only participate at the Royal Classic if one of the selected members and their calf cannot attend the Royal Dairy Classic. A 50% time commitment would be one half the number of hours from the arrival of the Dairy Team at the Halifax airport for departure to Toronto until the team arrives back in Halifax following the event.

As clarification, a group of eight individuals, plus one spare, will be selected at the 4-H Nova Scotia Show through a selection class as determined, and by invitation, of the 4-H Nova Scotia Show Dairy Judge. 4-H Nova Scotia Show entries will be determined through county qualifying. The Royal Dairy Classic Delegation will include the Champion Dairy Showman (if eligible), the Reserve Champion Showman (if eligible), John Versteeg Memorial Winner; 5 conformation selected calves, plus one spare who only becomes part of the team if a member who is selected is unable to attend the Royal Dairy Classic, and the winner of the Andrea Crowe Memorial Herdsperson Award. All confirmation selections will be at the judge's discretion and will be made from those invited back to participate in the Royal Dairy Selection Class. If the Champion or Reserve Champion Dairy Showman is ineligible, then an additional conformation calf will be selected. The Andrea Crowe Memorial Herdsperson Award will be selected by application.

If 4-H members are unable to participate with the Royal Dairy Classic Delegation because they wish to show their own 4-H Heifer, and/or a personal show string, in the Open Show at the Royal Winter Fair, and are responsible for the care/ management of their heifer, and/or animals, once the Royal Dairy 4-H Classic Show concludes, then that member will be released from the responsibility of the NS Chaperone, and from Nova Scotia Delegation participation immediately following the Royal Dairy 4-H Classic Show. The Nova Scotia Royal Dairy Committee, 4-H Nova Scotia, nor the NSDA, assume no responsibility either financially or for the well-being/safety of the 4-H member from the point when they are no longer a part of the Nova Scotian 4-H delegation.

EASTGEN 4-H Showcase

EastGen Inc. hosts a showcase for beef and dairy 4-H members in the Atlantic Provinces. It is open to dairy and beef members who are 13 years of age and older as of January 1 of the current 4-H year. The program includes training and education on showing, judging, preparation, and management, as well as a competitive show. This is an extremely good program to advance your dairy skills. **EastGen Atlantic Showcase will be online registration only and applications will be accepted beginning April 15th, closing May 20th.** Following online registration, members will be notified of acceptance and provided with additional paperwork to complete and return to organizers. If members do not receive this paperwork by June 1, please email Rhonda.MacDougall@novascotia.ca. This year the event will be July 3-4-5, at the Agridome, in Truro. In order to register online, members must have the calf registration information, as well as a credit card for payment to the event. The link for Assist Expo is:

<https://www.assistexpo.ca/eastgen-atlantic>

Regional & Donald Scothorn Memorial Clipping Competition

The Reginald & Donald Scothorn Memorial Clipping Competition is open to junior & senior dairy members, with each county eligible to send one team of two members to this competition at 4-H Nova Scotia Show. Members will draw for a calf and evaluate the calf in a written report. Members must wash, train and clip the calf. Each member will show the calf in a showmanship class. For additional details, scoresheets, rules and guidelines, please contact the Regional Agriculture Extension Coordinator.

Dairy Clipping Competition Rules and Regulations:

1. This is a team competition, members may be either both junior members, or both senior members, or a combination of the two.
2. Team members will be selected through county competition. Each county has the right to select its representatives using its own method.
3. Once a member has won the provincial competition, they are no longer eligible to compete with the same team member in subsequent years.
4. The county teams competing in the dairy clipping competition will each provide an animal meeting the requirements/guidelines for the respective competition.
5. Dairy clipping competition - teams who do not supply an animal for the competition will not be permitted to proceed in the competition.
6. The organizing county will provide one additional animal which meets stated guidelines, to be used as a spare in the case where one of the animals must be disqualified due to sickness, injury, or safety concern.
7. County organizers of the competition must ensure that all animals do not exhibit signs of illness, contagious diseases, that they meet the requirements of the competition, i.e. required age range, no horns, hair growth, etc., and do not pose a safety concern.

8. The judge and/or county organizers of the competition will determine if the spare animal is to be used in the case where one of the animals is sick, injured, or is a safety concern.
9. If it is determined by the judge and/or county organizers that an animal does not meet the outlined criteria, then selection may be done in another manner.
10. Prior to the competition draw for animals, a team member will walk the animal they supplied to the competition in front of the judge and/or organizing committee. This is to ensure the animals are suitably broke, and safe to handle. Animal used for the competition must have been previously shown or broken suitable for show.
11. Animal used for the competition must be weaned.
12. Animal used for the competition have no height restrictions.
13. Animal used for the competition must have at least three weeks of hair regrowth prior to the event.
14. Animal used for the competition must be between the ages of 8 and 10 months.
15. Team members are responsible for supplying and caring for their own grooming/clipping/fitting equipment/materials/supplies during the competition. In the case where the animal provided to the draw requires specific grooming/clipping/fitting equipment/materials/supplies, the team supplying the animal must provide the specific equipment/materials/supplies to the draw.
16. In the Dairy Clipping Competition, the members supplying the animals are responsible for providing all feed and bedding requirements for the supplied animal for the duration of the show.
17. Team members/animal owners understand that team members are responsible for feeding, handling, preparing, and caring for their competition animal for the duration of the event, as this is part of their score. All feeding instructions will be provided to the teams for their competition animals. From then on it is the teams' responsibility to feed and care for the calf that they drew until the conclusion of the competition. **Ensure someone from the committee feeds and cares for the spare animal throughout the weekend.**
18. The selection of animals for competition and draw for animals will take place on Friday evening of Provincial Show. The judge does not have to be in attendance for the selection/draw, and members can work with their animals following the selection/draw, but no clipping may be done until the assigned clipping time.
19. Ties in the competition are to be decided using the team's score in showmanship – highest over lowest.
20. The welfare and wellbeing of all the animals will be foremost in the competition. The county responsible for the competition will ensure animals are well cared for (including spares).
21. Team members must submit their competition report cards by the time indicated in the program.

22. In the case where after the event "scratch date" an individual team member cannot continue in the competition, the remaining team member may continue in the competition. For aspects of the competition where points are allotted to each team member, the remaining team member can only earn points for their own work.
23. In the case where a member must temporarily step away from the competition for good reason, the remaining member may continue working, however, clipping, feeding, and stall clean-up/prep is a joint effort for members to share equally.
24. Teams will be evaluated on the following:
 1. **Report Card (20%)** – Members determine the weaknesses of the animal and explain how these are to be overcome by proper fitting and clipping.
 2. **Herdsmanship (10%)** - Team effort – Members provide proper care and handling, watering, stall and animal cleanliness, feeding (Includes cleaning out stalls after animal leaves).
 3. **Showmanship (30%)** - 15 points will be allotted to each team member based on their showmanship abilities and how they handle the animal in the ring. Team member points will be combined for a combined score.
 4. **Fitting & Clipping (40%)** - 20 points will be allotted to each member based on their fitting and clipping abilities and techniques as well as overall teamwork and sharing of tasks. Team member points will be combined for a combined score.

Contagious/Infectious Disease & Quarantine:

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H achievement days and shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local veterinarian immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

A brochure providing additional information on "Infectious and Contagious Diseases Affecting 4-H Livestock" is available. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your ALC for this information. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H achievement days and shows.

ANIMAL MOVEMENT REPORTING – Regulations around moving animals to and from Fairs, Exhibitions, Achievement Days, Pro Show and other events are in place or are coming into place for some species. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for these regulations regarding the identification of animals and how livestock owners report moving animals on and off the farm. This includes individual animal ID tags and reporting the movements of animals. Tag numbers are to be reported by the owner/operator of a premise when the animals enter, and then by the farmer/owner when the animals are brought back to the farm or where they are housed for the species affected.

MOVEMENT DOCUMENT – A Movement Document is to travel with the animals. This document will record the departure premise and destination premise, as well as the quantity of livestock being transported. These documents will be made available by CFIA once the regulation changes come into effect.

There are three things 4H members can do to prepare for these changes.

1. **Identify your livestock premises** by applying for or confirming a premises identification (PID) number with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. www.novascotia.ca/agri/pid
2. **Confirm or set up a Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database account** at <http://www.clia.livestockid.ca> with Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) by toll-free telephone at **1-877-909-2333** or email: info@canadaid.ca **CLTS MOBO** - a free app to submit animal movement events **quickly** and **easily** to your CLTS database account using a mobile device
3. **Voluntarily report receipt (move in) event data** to your CLTS database account for livestock arriving at your livestock premises using the individual animal identification, within seven days of receipt.

The NS Department of Agriculture has a Traceability Coordinator that reviews Premises ID (PID) applications and can be reached at 1 (902) 890 9840 or daniel.muir@novascotia.ca to answer any questions surrounding these changes.