

# LEAVENWORTH COUNTY FAIR 2026

## 4-H / FFA BEEF

Superintendent: Ernie Rieke

Exhibit Check In: Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am; Beef Scale (West end of the Sheep Barn)

Exhibit Judging: Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>; 8am; Show Arena

The 4-H Beef project teaches youth how to raise, manage, and care for beef cattle through hands-on experience, focusing on nutrition, health, grooming, and showmanship.

### General Beef Rules

1. Read General Rules. Violation of any of the following rules may result in disqualification. All decisions will be made by a county agent and their decision is final.
2. Judging order will be decided by the superintendents and posted in the barns on the evening before show day. Breeding beef not checked in and market beef not weighed within the designated time must be removed from the fairgrounds.
3. Entries are limited to no more than 4 total animals. Cow/calf pairs count as one head toward the 4 head limit.
4. All miniature cattle breeds (Mini Herefords, Aberdeen Lowline Angus, Dexter) will show in a mini division including breeding and market. Females' hip height must not exceed 45". Steers hip height must not exceed 48".
5. In the Market, Breeding, a minimum of 3 head will be required to make a breed. If less than 3 head are exhibited at the fair, they will be combined in an All Other Breeds (AOB) class. If less than 3 head are in the AOB class, they will be added to the crossbred class.
6. In the interest of safety, all animals must be halter broken and manageable by the 4-H /FFA member. Any animal not meeting this rule WILL be asked to leave the fairgrounds by an Extension Agent. This rule also applies to the spring weigh-in for market beef.
7. Double registered animals may show in Beef or Dairy, but not both. Animals must show definite characteristics of that breed. A screening Committee, consisting of a Superintendent and the Extension Agent has the right to move an animal to the appropriate class.
8. Blocking chutes are allowed in designated areas only.
9. The beef wash rack will be closed each day from 6pm – 10pm and 4-H/FFA groups will be assigned specific days to a clean-up rotation.
10. Cattle tie outs time is 9pm – no earlier.
11. No aerosols are allowed in the make up area.

### Market Beef Rules

1. Market beef entries are limited to those animals weighed and verified at the official spring weigh-in. Market beef will be ear tagged with an Official KS 4-H EID tag or tag designated by the Leavenworth Co Extension Office. Family Identification Worksheets for Market Beef are due at official spring weigh-in. DNA will be pulled for each market animal at spring weigh-in and again at fair weigh-in.

2. Market beef will be weighed on designated weigh-in day per the fair 4-H schedule. No weigh back will be allowed.
3. Market Beef weighing less than 1000 lbs will be moved into a **Prospect** class and shown in that class by weight. This class is not eligible for Championship or Livestock Auction.
4. At the discretion of the superintendent market classes will be divided by weight.
5. **No bulls are allowed on the fairgrounds.**

### **Breeding Beef Rules**

1. Family Identification Worksheet for Breeding Beef is **DUE By Small Animal Tagging (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in May)** in the Extension Office. Official KS 4-H EID tags are not required for breeding beef.
2. Breeding beef animals are to be checked in at the county fair. Breeding heifers may be weighed following the market animals if time permits.

### **Classes**

#### **BREEDING BEEF**

1. **Dropped between January 1 – February 28 of current year** - Animal must be weaned.
2. **Dropped between September 1 – December 31 of previous year**
3. **Dropped between May 1 – August 31 of previous year**
4. **Dropped between January 1 – April 30 of previous year**
5. **Dropped between January 1 – December 31 two years prior** - Animal must not have calved.
6. **Cow/Calf pair** - Cows will not be allowed to enter in this class more than twice.  
Example: Cow can be entered in 2019 and 2020

#### **MARKET BEEF**

1. **Heifer** - 1000 lbs or more. Shown by breed or ending weight, at the discretion of the superintendent.
2. **Steer** - 1000 lbs or more. Shown by breed. Crossbred (commercial) steers will be divided by ending weight, at the discretion of the superintendent.

#### **MINI BEEF**

1. **Breeding Beef** – Only miniature breeds listed above are allowed. Must meet hip height requirement.
  - a. **Dropped between January 1 – February 28 of current year** - Animal must be weaned.
  - b. **Dropped between September 1 – December 31 of previous year**
  - c. **Dropped between May 1 – August 31 of previous year**

- d. **Dropped between January 1 – April 30 of previous year**
  - e. **Dropped between January 1 – December 31 two years prior** - Animal must not have calved.
  - f. **Cow/Calf pair** - Cows will not be allowed to enter in this class more than twice.  
Example: Cow can be entered in 2024 and 2025.
2. **Market Beef** – Only miniature breeds listed above are allowed. Must meet hip height requirement
- a. **Heifer** - 650 lbs or more. Will show together regardless of breed. Class breaks by ending weight, at the discretion of the superintendent.
  - b. **Steer** - 650 lbs or more. Will show together regardless of breed. Class breaks by ending weight, at the discretion of the superintendent.