



Cache County 4-H Dairy Club at the Plain City Dairy Show, 1997

DAIRY YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN UTAH – 2002

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4-H Dairy Youth Fact Sheet - 01

PURPOSE OF THE FACT SHEET - There are many 4-H youth activities available to dairy youth in Utah. Although the activities are enhanced if you live on a dairy farm and own an animal, activities are open to all, and you might look at alternative ways to start a dairy 4-H project in your community.

One of the keys to starting a 4-H project is to know where your local County Extension Office is located. Each county has a Utah State University Extension Office and will help you enroll and start any 4-H project, including a dairy project. The following are additional activities that will help youth enjoy and gain more from their 4-H Dairy Project.

Once you have enrolled in 4-H in your county, you should be eligible to participate in county, regional, and state 4-H activities. These activities not only provide you with interesting and educational activities, but are also fun. For information on general county, regional and state 4-H activities, contact your local 4-H office. The following 4-H Dairy activities are held in Utah, specifically for 4-H dairy youth participants.

DAIRY CALF CONTESTS - Over the years there have been several Dairy Calf Contests in Utah. Heifers are donated to these contests by dairymen who support the dairy youth project. There are two active contests and a third one that is inactive.



Champion Cow Class at the 1995 Jr. All Utah Show in Heber City.

The first contest is the Richmond Black & White

Days Heifer Contest. It was formerly known as the KSL Calf Contest. This contest was started in 1964 and has awarded a calf every year since. In 2001 the calf was won by Seth Israelsen, Cache County. The Extension Dairy Youth Specialist (Justin Jenson) will send questionnaires in March which must be completed by the deadline. Finalists are interviewed and the calf is awarded at the Richmond Black & White Days. The top prize is the calf, but there are other prizes including college and trip scholarships, electric clippers and more.

The other active contest is the Utah Jersey Association Calf Contest. The Jersey Association awards a calf each year at the Jr. All-Utah event in Heber City. Information of this calf contest is available through Reed Zaugg, President of Jersey Association or Justin Jenson. The Utah Holstein Association Calf Contest has not been active since 1997 and no plans have currently been made to have a Holstein Calf Contest by the Holstein Association this year.

DAIRY BOWL CONTESTS - In 1992, when Utah hosted the National Holstein Convention, the Dairy Bowl Contest, a quiz bowl competition for youth, was started in Utah. There are two teams, a junior team (ages 12 - 16) and a senior team (ages 17 - 21). The youth take a written test to qualify for the teams. The test is given in July at the Jr. All-Utah Activity in Heber City. Practices for the youth that qualify start in January and continue through March. The National Bowl is held each year at the National Holstein Convention during the last part of June. This year the National Holstein Convention is June 26-27 in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The Utah Holstein Association has provided some financial support, but the majority of the funding is raised by the youth and their families. If youth want to try out for the dairy bowl team, contact Justin Jenson before the Jr. All-Utah activities. Information about the National Dairy Bowl Contests is available on the National Holstein Web page at: www.holsteinfoundation.org. After getting on the web page, click on programs, and then click on dairy bowl to get the information.

DAIRY JUDGING CONTESTS - Each year a four-member team is selected to attend the National 4-H dairy Judging Contest held at Madison, Wis., as part of the Central National Show in the Fall. To qualify for this team youth must be of high school age and qualify by participating in state judging contests. The team is selected by the high scores in three contests. Two of the

judging contests are held in May. One is at the All-Utah Show/Plain City Dairy Days, this year on May 10 in Ogden. The second, at Richmond Black & White, was held this year on May 15 in Richmond. This year the third and final contest is held in July at State 4-H Contests. Youth must participate in the State 4-H Contest to win the trip. The scores from the top two contests are averaged to pick the team. If youth attend all three contests the lowest score is dropped. Younger 4-Hers can practice at the All Utah Contest and the Richmond Contest.

JR. ALL-UTAH DAIRY SHOW AND ACTIVITIES - Started in 1985 this activity has been held in Heber City during the last two weeks of July. The central activity is a show just for Dairy Youth. The night before the show there has been a sale and youth meeting for the Jr. Holstein Association. Other activities usually include: dairy bowl quiz, clipping and other demonstrations. This year's activities will be held on July 18 and 19. For this show and other dairy shows each exhibitor can show one animal that is not owned by him or her and as many of his or her own animals as desired..

CACHE COUNTY HEIFER PROGRAM - Most counties in the state have a Junior Livestock Sale where junior members sell their market steers, lambs and/or hogs. Cache County has expanded that to include commercial dairy heifers. The process and objectives of raising commercial dairy heifers is very similar to that of market livestock. Participants must own, be in possession of, and raise all dairy heifers for a minimum of 120 days. Youth are expected to keep a set of financial records as outlined by the dairy committee and participate in various dairy activities throughout the year. The dairy heifers are exhibited at the county fair and sold through the junior sale according to their placing in the class. A bonded buyer sets a floor price for each heifer and then businesses or individuals are invited to either boost that price or purchase the animals outright. All heifers are required to pass a blood test and have a health certificate and brand inspection. Only springer heifers have been sold in the Cache County sale. Interested youth have worked with local dairymen to purchase the heifers initially. The purpose of this effort is to strengthen the dairy youth program in the county by increased involvement of commercial dairymen as well as purebred breeders.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2002

May 10, 2002 - All Utah Judging Contest - Ogden
May 11, 2002 - All Utah Jr. Show - Ogden
May 14, 2002 - Richmond Jr. Show - Richmond
May 15, 2002 - Richmond Judging Contest - Richmond
July 15, 2002 - State 4-H Contests Judging Contest - Logan
July 16, 2002 - State 4-H Contests Dairy Bowl - Logan
July 18, 2002 - Jr. All-Utah Activities & Sale - Heber City
July 19, 2002 - Jr. All-Utah Show - Heber City
September 7, 2002 - State Fair Jr. Show - Salt Lake City

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