

OCEANA COUNTY 4-H SMALL MARKET ANIMAL
EDUCATIONAL RECORD BOOK - 2026
Young Beef/Dairy & Feeder calf project
(ages 8 and up)



If you are a little buddy check here: _____

My big buddy is: _____

As a member of the Small Market Animal Project, you are required to submit your records as part of an educational project notebook in order to show your animal at the Oceana County Fair. **This notebook must be shown to the Oceana County 4-H Market Livestock Committee's Weighmaster at the time of weigh-in and then entered by you in the Educational Notebook Division of the Oceana County Fair on Entry Day.**

AGE: _____

The age you enter depends on how old you were on January 1, 2026.

Number of years in project: _____

Use this sheet as the first page of your project record book. Fill it out completely.

Please print or type neatly.

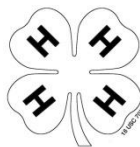
NAME _____

4-H CLUB _____

BREED _____ NAME _____

ANIMAL'S DATE OF BIRTH _____ DATE RECORD STARTED _____

LOCATION OF WHERE ANIMAL IS RAISED _____



JUDGE'S SCORE/COMMENT SHEET

(PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE, PLACE THIS SHEET IN SHEET PROTECTOR OR GLUE TO COVER). This sheet must be kept free to the judge to write their comments.

This sheet should help each 4-H'er understand their ribbon placing.

A. Specific educational value or worth

- ☐ All questions were answered completely
- ☐ All calculations were correct
- ☐ Calculations were incorrect
- ☐ Questions were not completely answered
- ☐ Questions were not answered (missed questions)

B. Notebook contains all project records

- ☐ Notebook contained all project records and were fully completed
- ☐ Notebook contained additional project related information (research materials etc.)
- ☐ Project records were incomplete
- ☐ There was no additional project related information

C. Accuracy, neatness and general appearance

- ☐ Notebook was neat in appearance (typed/hand printed)
- ☐ Notebook pages were clean and stain free
- ☐ Notebook pages were in order and complete
- ☐ Notebook pages were out of order and missing pages
- ☐ Notebook was difficult to read and messy
- ☐ Notebook had wrinkled and stained pages

Other Comments: _____

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop desirable work habits, sportsmanship, and ability to cooperate and express ideas through participation in projects, discussions, method demonstrations, judging teams, and exhibits.
2. Experience the pride and responsibility of leasing/owning and caring for beef.
3. Learn how to feed, fit, show, breed and raise beef.
4. Learn proper handling procedures to prevent injuries to 4-H members and their beef projects.
5. Appreciate and use scientific information in beef production and marketing.
6. Improve knowledge of grading, marketing and merchandising of beef products.
7. Learn the importance of the beef industry to the local, state, and national economies.
8. Acquire information on the opportunity that beef offers as a career.

This record book is part of your Small Market Young Beef/Feeder Calf project. By keeping records up-to-date you will be able to see how much progress you make as you set goals and work to accomplish them. Write or type neatly and clearly. Please keep the pages in order. Feel free to add extra pages at the end of your notebook. Pictures are a required part of your notebook. Taking pictures of your project animal throughout the project will indicate how your animal has grown and developed. Add pictures to your notebook on a separate piece of paper.

SCORING CRITERIA

The following breakdown will be used during the judging process of all market livestock notebooks.

A. Specific educational value or worth	30%
B. Creative way of showing what has been learned	10%
C. Notebook contains all project records	50%
D. Accuracy, neatness and general appearance	10%

The Oceana County 4-H Small Market Animal Committee encourages 4-H Leader and parent assistance with your project and project notebook. If you should have any questions, please contact the MSU Extension Office.

If you need extra help in filling out your notebook please have whoever helped sign below that the answers are YOUR answers and that they assisted you in the writing of the answers and understanding of the questions only.

(signature of person helping with writing if needed)

***** Include things such as walked, fed, washed, clipped, trimmed, foot care, health practices, medicines, general maintenance (cleaning living & feed area), halter broke, training, had vaccinated, etc. **please attach additional sheet for more room.***

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The start of the project will be the date the exhibitor placed the animal on feed. The end of the project will be weigh-in at fair.

Project Start Date: _____

Fair Haul in Date: _____

What month was your calf born? _____

Please fill in the following information about your calf.

Calf's Name	Calf's RFID Number	Breed	Date of Purchase	Price or Value	Estimated Starting Weight	Ending Weight	Total Pounds Gained

Note: Ending Weight-Starting Weight= Total Pounds Gained

I, _____, do attest and certify that this 4-Her has cared for
(property owner name-please print-if parent put parent's name)

animal in a responsible manner while housed on my property. I also understand that integrity & responsibility are important to this 4-H experience.

Signature of Property Owner or Parent
If housed on own property.

Date

(A) MONTHLY FEED RECORD & EXPENSES

Month	Type of feed used- List the main ingredient	Lbs. of feed used for the month	Cost of feed used for the month
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			

(A) Total Cost of Feed \$ _____

DATE	VET, BEDDING, EQUIPMENT, TRUCKING, CLIPPING, MARKETING/BUYER RECOGNITION, ETC.	COST
		\$
	(B) TOTAL SPENT ON OTHER EXPENSES	\$

(C) COST OF FEEDER CALF **\$**_____

TOTAL EXPENSES (A+B+C) = \$_____ (TE)

$$\frac{\text{Total Expenses (TE)}}{\text{Final Weight (FW)}} = \text{Break Even Price (BE)}$$

(or total cost per pound to raise your animal)

**** The breakeven price is the price that you need to get at the Small Market animal auction in order to not lose money on your market project ****

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Why did you pick the calf that you picked? _____

2. What is the best feature(s) of your market calf? _____

3. What feature(s) of your market calf could use improvement? _____

POTENTIAL BUYER'S NAMES

As part of your 4-H Market Project, you must personally contact at least three potential buyers before the Oceana County Fair. You are encouraged to try to seek at least 1 new buyer that has not been asked or submitted before. **Three different buyers than those of your siblings are required in the livestock project.** Please confirm with your buyers their accurate mailing address (example: post office box vs. a street address). The information on page 8 must be completed and taken to the Oceana County MSU Extension Office on or before the due date where it will be copied and used to send out letters to your potential buyers. This page will remain in your notebooks. This is a Market Livestock/SMAA Committee rule. Failure to comply will result in you not being able to sell your animal in the 4-H Small Market Livestock Sale.

SMALL MARKET POTENTIAL BUYER'S LIST
FEEDER CALF PROJECT (AGES 8 & up)

Name _____ Club _____

Please print business names and complete addresses clearly.

1. Contact Name _____

Business Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ After Hours Phone _____

Mailing Preference (Please Check One): Email _____ Postal Delivery _____

Email _____

Signature _____

2. Contact Name _____

Business Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ After Hours Phone _____

Mailing Preference (Please Check One): Email _____ Postal Delivery _____

Email _____

Signature _____

3. Contact Name _____

Business Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ After Hours Phone _____

Mailing Preference (Please Check One): Email _____ Postal Delivery _____

Email _____

Signature _____

(Must be stamped by the MSU Extension Office)

PICTURES OF YOUR PROJECT

(Please use this page for your project pictures. Add additional pages if you would like.
The judges appreciate captions or labels with your pictures
to know what the picture is about.)

CLUB POINTS
JUNIOR MARKET/SMALL ANIMAL ASSOCIATION PROJECT
ATTENDANCE RECORD

MEETING NAME	LOCATION	DATE	POINTS	SIGNATURE OF LEADER

Please note: This form must be included with your record notebook and turned into the weigh master on entry day of the Fair.
BEFORE SEEKING SIGNATURES AT MSU EXTENSION – MEETING NAME AND DATE MUST BE COMPLETED. You need to accumulate **nine (9) points** to be allowed to sell your animal. **Six (6)** of these **nine (9) points** must come from club meetings. **Two (2)** of the 9 points are non-club points and must be earned from attending various 4-H events and activities. **One (1)** of the 9 points must be a fairgrounds workbee point. **No more than 2 non-club points** can be earned from fairgrounds workbees.

NON-CLUB POINTS

JUNIOR MARKET/SMALL MARKET ANIMAL ASSOCIATION PROJECT ATTENDANCE RECORD

(this must be filled out when presenting for signatures at the office)

MEETING NAME	LOCATION	DATE	POINTS	SIGNATURE OF LEADER, SUPERINTENDENT OR MSU STAFF

Please note: This form must be included with your record notebook and turned into the weigh master on entry day of the Fair. **BEFORE SEEKING SIGNATURES AT MSU EXTENSION – MEETING NAME AND DATE MUST BE COMPLETED.** You need to accumulate **nine (9) points** to be allowed to sell your animal. **Six (6)** of these **nine (9) points** must come from club meetings. **Two (2)** of these 9 points are non-club points must be earned from attending various 4-H events and activities. **One (1)** of these 9 points must be a fairgrounds workbee point. **No more than 2 non-club points can be earned from fairground workbees.** See your leader, the MSUE office, or online at https://www.canr.msu.edu/oceana/oceana_county_4_h/oceana_4_h_market_livestock for a listing of approved nonclub points.