

**DEPARTMENT C -- DAIRY CATTLE**  
**Jason Zimmerman, Avon, NY**

Superintendents: Deb Merrill, Heather Merrill  
and Bill Walley

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE ALLOWED ON FAIRGROUNDS. NO DOGS OR BICYCLES. NO LASER LIGHTS. NO SMOKING IN THE BARN AND SHOW RING AREA. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN DAIRY AREA.

**Entries will be closed August 1, 2026**

**Entry fees: none**

Entries MUST be postmarked, received or date stamped on August 1, 2026. **LATE ENTRIES WILL BE REJECTED.** Entries are to be mailed to Deb Merrill, 27294 State Hwy 206, Downsville, NY 13755 or e-mailed to [delcodairy@gmail.com](mailto:delcodairy@gmail.com).

All Exhibitors must follow rules listed in the health requirements section of the Fair Book. These are from the Department of Ag and Markets and are listed as Health Regulations Governing the Exhibition of Cattle at the Delaware County Fair. See requirements in general fair information.

Mandatory exhibitors meeting held in the show ring at 7:00 pm on Monday, August 17.

No cattle will be allowed to enter the barns until Vets have cleared them. Cattle will be checked in on Saturday, August 15, from 11 am – 7 pm, Sunday, August 16, from 8 am - 6 pm and Monday, August 17, 8 am - 3 pm.

Exhibitors must truck their animals to the staging area where Vets will review them. Following clearance by veterinarians, cattle will be allowed to enter barns. **All shippers of cattle should possess official Registration and Health papers for the cattle they are transporting.**

A State Vet will check each animal. If there is a question, the decision of the State Vet and the superintendent will be final. The Vet will be checking animals periodically throughout the week. No animals can leave the grounds prior to release time without vet signed papers.

**Out of state animals must have interstate health and shipping papers.**

All substitutions will be accepted. No new entries are allowed.

All exhibitors of purebred stock (must meet national standard for each breed) are required to present registration papers, health papers and transfer papers bearing the name of owner, to the superintendents when called for. (See Rules and Regulations section for new Health Requirements) Proper identifications, ear tags, tattoos, required. These will all be checked. If tattoos have faded, exhibitors are required to restore them.

Registration papers will be checked during veterinarian check and will be required at **all** times during the week.

\*An exhibitor is the owner appearing on the registration paper for the entry. An exhibitor is further defined as those members of an immediate family operating as a dairy unit. A family or individual designated as an exhibitor for one group class will be so classified for all other group classes.

Ownership of a particular animal is determined to be the owner at the time of entry. The owner's name on registration paper is owner of record for the show.

Adopt-A-Calf animals are exhibited by the adopting youth during the 4-H show but are counted as part of the owner's herd during open class competition.

Exhibits not worthy of first prize can be handled at discretion of the judge.

It is recommended that exhibitors wear white shirt or blouse and white pants. Exhibitors must wear exhibitor number.

Exhibitors are required to keep animals, stalls, wash rack, and surrounding areas clean at all times. This rule will be strictly enforced. Failure to abide by these rules will result in forfeiture of premiums. **NO WASHING OF CATTLE IN OR NEAR STABLING AREA. THE WASH RACK IS FOR THIS PURPOSE.** Please remember that beef cattle have priority at the wash rack closest to their exhibit area on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning.

**NO EXTRA STALLS WILL BE PERMITTED FOR STORAGE OF HAY, STRAW, SHOW BOXES, ETC.** Stall assignments will be posted by Thursday evening of the week before fair.

Arrangements have been made to have stalls cleaned at the end of the week. **ANY EXHIBITOR LEAVING EARLY BECAUSE THEY ARE ONLY IN THE CLUB SHOW IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CLEANING OF HIS/HER PARTICULAR STALLS. DISINFECTING OF STALLS WILL BE DONE BY THE FAIR PRIOR TO FAIR WEEK.**

There are no reserved stalls or spaces. Family units will be accommodated where possible. Changes in stall location without prior authorization may result in disqualification.

Milking quarters will be open for the convenience of exhibitors, coinciding with the progress of show and at the discretion of superintendents and parlor operator. **MILK MAY NOT BE DUMPED ON THE GROUNDS AT ANY TIME. A DUMPING STATION FOR THE STORAGE OF MILK IS LOCATED BY THE MANURE PIT**

#### **Code of ethics of PDCA will be enforced.**

Exhibitors are not permitted to talk with a judge until the conclusion of the particular show. Please respect the judge, yourself and your fellow exhibitors by keeping this rule. Coaching is not permitted from the sidelines, and fair visitors and guests are asked to refrain from speaking with the judge until after each day's show has concluded.

Interference with the show, or interference with the show committee, the superintendents or their designees, can result in immediate dismissal from the show and the fairgrounds. Premiums will be

withdrawn from the exhibitors and their privilege to exhibit at future fairs may be forfeited.

**SHOW ETHICS VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE SUPERINTENDENTS and/or JASON CRAIG IMMEDIATELY.**

**All exhibitors, except children 12 and under, must buy an Advantage Pass.** Passes may be purchased at the Fair Secretary's Office or at the Gate. Passes will admit you to the fairgrounds. Lights out in the dairy barns no later than 11 PM.

No parking will be allowed around dairy barns beginning Sunday 9 AM.

No vehicles may be brought onto the grounds until 8 pm on Saturday. No part of an exhibit may be removed prior to 8 pm on Saturday of Fair week. Sick animals may only leave with vet signed papers.

All animals entered for premium must be on the grounds by 3:00 pm Monday and must remain until 8:00 pm on Saturday. **FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN THE EXHIBITOR FORFEITING ALL PREMIUMS.**

Judging of cattle will be as follows:

Thursday: Brown Swiss, Holstein & Milking Shorthorn.

Friday: Ayrshire, Guernsey & Jersey.

Judging will begin at 9:30 am each day

Milking classes will be shown at 1:30 pm each day.

Dry cow classes may follow best three Junior Females Class, depending on the timing of the show, and at the discretion of the superintendents. Heifer classes may follow milking classes, depending on the timing of the show.

After Senior Champion of each breed, we will follow with the Grand Champion of that breed and then move to the Group Classes of that breed. **We will not alternate breeds for these classes.**

Junior Supreme Champion and Supreme

Champion will be the final classes of the show  
on Friday afternoon.

**Total Performance Award:** This award will be given to the top cow in the Show based on a 100 total as follows:

- 50 points on placing –  
1<sup>st</sup> 50, 2<sup>nd</sup> 47, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 44, etc.
- 50 points on production –  
1<sup>st</sup> 50, 2<sup>nd</sup> 48, 3<sup>rd</sup> 46, etc.

Production placing will be based on the percentage above each individual's breed average using the latest completed 305-day or less record. Actual FCM. 4% FCM = (0.4 x lbs. milk) + (15 x lbs. fat).

Any cow shown in the Open Class that has a total record of 2,000 lbs. Fat Actual may enter this class.

**DAIRY CATTLE PREMIUMS**

To find the premium for any class, check the number of entries in the left hand column and then find your placing for the correct premium.

Individual DHI records must be presented to the Cattle Superintendents by Thursday. A plaque will be presented.

**Prizes:**

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
21.75	16.50	14.50	12.00	9.70	8.50
		7 <sup>th</sup> thru 15 <sup>th</sup>			
		6.75			

A rotating trophy will also be presented.

**Classes 1-21**

No. of entries in class	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
1	16.50					
2	17.75	14.50				
3	18.75	15.50	13.25			
4	21.00	17.75	14.50	11.00		
5	24.00	20.00	15.50	13.25	10.00	
6-8	27.00	21.00	17.75	14.50	11.00	7.75
9-12	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> of \$7.75 each					
13-16	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> of \$7.75 each					
17-20	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> of \$7.75 each					
21+	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> of \$7.75 each					

**Classes 31-63**

No. of entries in class	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
1	22.00					
2	24.00	21.00				
3	29.75	24.25	18.75			
4	32.00	29.25	23.25	17.60		
5	35.25	32.00	26.50	22.00	15.50	
6-8	37.50	35.25	33.00	24.00	23.25	13.25
9-12	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> of \$13.25 each					
13-16	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> of \$13.25 each					
17+	same as 6-8 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> of \$13.25 each					

**Classes 25-27 & 76-90**

No. of entries in class	1st	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3rd	4th	5 <sup>th</sup>	6th
1	24.00					
2	29.25	17.75				
3	32.00	23.25	14.50			
4	35.50	26.50	17.75	13.25		
5	38.50	31.00	22.00	14.50	11.00	
6-9	38.50	31.00	22.00	14.50	11.00	7.75
10+	same as 6-9 entries plus 7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> of \$7.75 each					

In addition to above premiums, \$6.75 will be paid to the Best Udder cow in each Class: 31 - 54.

AY-Ayrshire HO-Holstein	BS-Brown Swiss JE-Jersey	GU-Guernsey MS-Milking Shorthorn		
<b>Classes</b> Class numbers are the same for Thursday and Friday – <b><i>please make sure you enter correct breed on entry blank</i></b>				Office Use only CC C
	AY BS	GU HO	JE MS	
Spring Heifer Calf – born March 1, 2026 – May 31, 2026	1	2	3	1
Winter Heifer Calf – born Dec 1, 2025– Feb 28, 2026	4	5	6	2
Fall Heifer Calf – born Sept 1, 2025 – Nov 30, 2025	7	8	9	3
Summer Yearling (not in milk) – born June 1, 2025 – Aug 31, 2025	10	11	12	4
Spring Yearling Heifer (not in milk) – born March 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025	13	14	15	5
Winter Yearling Heifer (not in milk) – Dec 1, 2024 – Feb 28, 2025	16	17	18	6
Fall Yearling Heifer (not in milk) – born Sept 1, 2024 – Nov 30, 2024	19	20	21	7
Best Three Junior Females- all three bred and at least one owned by exhibitor or family. Limit one per exhibitor	25	26	27	9
Fall Yearling Heifer (in milk) – born Sept 1, 2024 – Nov 30, 2024	31	32	33	11
Junior 2-year old Heifer – born March 1, 2024 – Aug 31, 2024	34	35	36	12
Senior 2-year old Heifer – born Sept 1, 2023 – Feb 29, 2024	37	38	39	13
Junior 3-year old Cow – born March 1, 2023 – Aug 31, 2023	40	41	42	14
Senior 3-year old Cow – born Sept 1, 2022 – Feb 28, 2023	43	44	45	15
4-year old Cow – born Sept 1, 2021 – Aug 31, 2022	46	47	48	16
5-year old Cow – born Sept 1, 2020 – Aug 31, 2021	49	50	51	17
Cow – 6 and over – born before Sept 1, 2020	52	53	54	18
Cow - 125,000 lbs Lifetime production record must be brought to the ring with the animal.	55	56	57	19
Dry Cow 4 years and under (may not be shown in milking class)	58	59	60	20
Dry Cow 5 years and over (may not be shown in milking class)	61	62	63	21
Produce of Dam – 2 head both owned by one exhibitor or family	76	81	86	26
Dam-Daughter	77	82	87	27
Best Three Females any age – all three bred and at least one owned by exhibitor or family. Limit one per exhibitor	78	83	88	28
Graded Herd – to consist of five animals: 2 over 2 years that have calved; 2 under 2 years that have not calved and 1 any age. Limit one per exhibitor	79	84	89	29
Total Performance Award – given to the top cow in the show based on a total of 100 points	80	85	90	CC30

This year the theme for stall decorations will be:

## ***Celebrate America! 250 Years of Independence***

### **STALL DECORATION PRIZES**

1<sup>st</sup> - \$50.00    2<sup>nd</sup> - \$40.00    3<sup>rd</sup> - \$30.00    4<sup>th</sup> - \$20.00    5<sup>th</sup> - \$10.00

Prizes for the Best Stall Decorations will be awarded to exhibitors based on:

1. Neatness
2. Originality
3. Attractiveness
4. Color
5. Farm Sign

### **CATTLE HERDSMAN'S PRIZES**

1<sup>st</sup> - \$50.00    2<sup>nd</sup> - \$40.00    3<sup>rd</sup> - \$30.00    4<sup>th</sup> - \$20.00    5<sup>th</sup> - \$10.00

These awards will be given to exhibitors maintaining the best record throughout fair week, taking into consideration the following points:

1. Personal appearance of exhibitor.
2. Neatness and cleanliness of exhibit, including stalls, animals and storage area.
3. Willingness to cooperate with the Superintendent in helping to make the entire exhibit neat and attractive.

### **PREMIER BREEDER AND PREMIER EXHIBITOR**

Premier Breeder and exhibitor points are based on the exhibitor of 6 or less animals in each breed who accumulates the highest total points, ties will be calculated based on the next animal (7<sup>th</sup>).

Placing	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Junior Females and Dry Cows	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Senior Females	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2

## **DAIRY EXHIBITORS' DINNER Saturday, August 22@Noon**

Please bring two covered dishes and/or desserts.  
Each should serve AT LEAST 10 people.

***Cost: Donation at the Luncheon***

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**