



To: Junior Fair Steer Exhibitors  
4-H Organizational Advisors  
FFA Instructors

From: Megan Watson  
Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Date: November 13, 2023

It's time for the **2024 Belmont County Junior Fair Market Steer Tag Pick-Up** and our records indicate you were enrolled in a Market Steer project during 2023 or are an organizational advisor or instructor. This will be a new process this year, so please be sure to read this entire letter for important information regarding the Market Steer project. If you are an organizational advisor or instructor, please share this information with any youth planning to enroll in a market steer project during 2024, as Market Steer Tagging is a requirement for exhibition at the 2024 Belmont County Fair.

The date for tag pick-up is **Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** at the Junior Fair Board Office on the Belmont County Fairgrounds. **THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP DATE.** In case of an emergency (flat-tire, accident, etc.) on your way to Market Steer Weigh-in, call Josh Lude, Senior Fair Board Livestock Superintendent, at (740) 312-0842 to let him know you will be late.

**\*\*\*BEGINNING THIS YEAR\*\*\***

Registration and tagging will **not have a weigh-in** component before the fair. Market steers are NOT to be brought to the fairgrounds for tag pick-up. All animals are to be tagged by the members or their helpers. If you do not have a tagger there will be some available to sign out temporarily.

Prior to picking up your tags, you will be completing the registration form for each animal that will be tagged for members this year. To complete this registration form, a list of information needed is below. **PLEASE BRING ALL PIECES OF INFORMATION WITH YOU.**

- Animal's date of birth
- Breed of animal
- Color of animal
- Any distinctive markings on the animal

In compliance with the State 4-H guidelines, members participating in both 4-H and FFA can carry a Market Steer Project in only one organization. The organization under which the steer project is to be taken must be indicated on the Project Enrollment Form at the November tag



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pick-up and cannot be changed after this date. Advisors and instructors with members in this situation are responsible for sharing this information with their members.

All steers must be tagged with an official ear tag which must remain in the animal's ear through the completion of the 2024 Belmont County Fair. Animals are NOT to be brought to the fairgrounds as this will be a self-tagging process. If you need assistance, please let the staff know.

To verify that self-tagging was completed, a photo verification must be sent into the Belmont County OSU Extension Office for review. Photos can be emailed to [belmont4h@osu.edu](mailto:belmont4h@osu.edu) or brought into the Extension Office during business hours, and MUST include a photo in which the animal, member, and tag number in the animals ear are clearly visible. These photos are due by **December 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.** *Failure to submit photo verification will result in ineligibility to show at the 2024 Belmont County Fair.*

Thanks for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the Extension office.

Enc. Market Steer Rules, Project Enrollment Form, and Housing Exemption Form

*\*Please check the 2024 Fair Tab, available in early summer, for any further updates which may have occurred for the 2024 Belmont County Fair.*

## **MARKET STEER RULES**

1. Steers must be owned by exhibitor at steer tag pick-up on November 18, 2023, 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Steers must be born after January 1, 2023.
2. All exhibitors are required to participate in the Livestock Skill-a-thon and attend a Quality Assurance Training to participate at the fair (see General Livestock Rules).
3. Only steers showing predominance of recognized beef breeds or dairy steers of Holstein, Brown Swiss or their crosses may be entered.
4. All steers must be separated from nurse cows and fed no milk after the tag pick-up in November.
5. Steers must be castrated and dehorned on or before tag pick-up in November. The official fair veterinarian will have the final decision in what are horns and what are scurs, and what stays on the fair grounds and what is to be taken back home.
6. Four steers is the maximum each exhibitor may tag. Exhibitor may show one or two steers.
7. Exhibitor may sell only 1 steer at the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. (See Division 6 Livestock Sale)
8. Steers must weigh a minimum of 1000 pounds and maximum of 1500 pounds at the Junior Fair Weigh-In in September.  
Market Steer Classes: Light Weight (1,000-1,166 lbs)  
Medium Weight (1,167-1,333 lbs)  
Heavy Weight (1,334-1,500 lbs)
11. All Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion market steers must go directly to a state inspected slaughter house or to the sale barn and then directly to a state inspected slaughter house.
12. Read Department 7-General Livestock Rules.
13. Read Division 6-Livestock Sale.

**DNA Identification Procedures  
for Ohio State Fair Steers in 2024  
DUE January 15, 2024**

The Ohio State Fair identification procedures for Ohio State Fair Steers procedure includes hair sampling and an EID tag. Each participant must request a Nomination Packet.

The Nomination Packet (Ziploc Bag) includes the following:

- a. Hair sample collection envelope with Ohio State Fair logo on the front;
- b. DNA sample collection and Ohio State Fair nomination protocol sheet;
- c. Envelope seal - Ohio State Fair logo sticker (1"x1"); and
- d. An EID (Electronic Identification) tag with a 15-digit number

*(If your animal already has been tagged with a 15-digit EID tag, another tag will not be included). Note: If planning on attending a BEST show this year, you must have your EID tags in your calves prior to arriving at your first BEST sanctioned show. BEST shows prior to the January 15 deadline to submit samples to OSF include: AGR Holiday Classic (December 9-11, Columbus) and Scarlet and Gray Midwest Showdown (January 6-8, Columbus).*

These packets can be requested by exhibitors, FFA Instructors, or 4-H professionals.

**All nominations require an Extension professional signature or FFA Advisor Signature if the project is through FFA.**

Nomination Packets can be obtained at Steer Weigh-In or by calling the Extension Office.

Completed packets are due back to Ohio State Fair by January 15, 2024 (**this is not a post mark date**).