

2024 Beef Skillathon Study Guide

The Morgan County Jr. Fair Skillathons will take place on Saturday, August 17 at the fairgrounds. All beef exhibitors should bring their completed beef record book.

Age divisions for Skillathon are as follows (your age as of January 1): Juniors 8-11, Intermediates 12-14, and Seniors 15+

This study guide describes each station that will be included in the Beef Skillathon. The Beef Skillathon is for all youth exhibiting beef animals including market steers, feeder calf heifers/steers, dairy beef feeder calf, and beef breeding. If your animal is unable to exhibit at the fair, skillathon will serve as a judging requirement.

Station 1: Project Record Book & Quality Assurance

Present your project record book to the judge and the judge will review your record book and award points for completion. ***All youth must have their project books with them and completed or else they will be turned away at Skillathon***

***ALL youth must have a picture of their project animal in their books regardless of what the project is (Market, Breeding, Pack Goat, etc.) and regardless of what the book states. ***

You will be asked 5 questions about the Good Production Practices (GPP) 2, 4, and 5.

- ▶ GPP #2: Establish and Implement an Efficient and Effective Health Management Plan
- ▶ GPP #4: Properly Store and Administer Animal Health Products
- ▶ GPP #5: Follow Proper Feed Processing Protocols

To be eligible to show at the Morgan County Fair, you must attend a Quality Assurance Training by **July 27, 2024**. To be eligible to show at the Ohio State Fair, you must attend Quality Assurance by **June 10, 2024**.

Station 2: Project Interview

You will have an interview for the beef project you are exhibiting at the Morgan County Jr. Fair. You will be asked 5 questions by an interview judge. Sample interview questions are included in this study guide. All questions are based on the Beef Resource Handbook.

Station 3: Hands-On Activity

Juniors: You will be asked to name 5 beef breeds more information can be found on pages 2-4 of your Beef Resource Handbook (117R).

Intermediates: You will be asked to identify 10 beef breeds by traits more information can be found on pages 2-4 of your Beef Resource Handbook (117R).

Seniors: Must label all 9 retail cuts by what meat comes from each cut. More information can be found attached to this study guide.

Beef and Dairy Feeder Study Guide Sample Questions

Market Beef/Feeders/Beef Breeding Projects

Juniors:

1. What are the name(s) given to a breeding female?
2. Name three ways to identify cattle.
3. Name two common bedding sources for your animal.
4. Name two identification procedures for a beef project.
5. What is colostrum?
6. What is the name of a tool used by beef/dairy feeder showmen to adjust the legs of the animal?
7. Why should you look at the records of a calf's parents (sire and dam) before buying it?
8. What is the name of a tool used by beef/dairy feeder showmen to adjust the legs on a calf/steer?
9. Know the breed of your animal.
10. Name 1 external parasite.
11. What do the 4-H's stand for?
12. What is an ideal weight for a market steer?
13. What is the difference between an internal and external parasite.

Intermediates:

1. What is another term to describe calving difficulty?
2. What care practices should you perform on a calf soon after it is born? Name 3.
3. Name the major nutrient class found in corn.
4. What is cross breeding?
5. Define dressing percentage.
6. What are external parasites? Give an example.
7. What is the process called in which the testicles of male calves are removed?
8. Name two of the five classes of nutrients that make up a diet.
9. Rump Roast comes from what beef wholesale cut?
10. When is the best time to dehorn a calf.
11. What is a zoonotic disease?
12. Know the 4-H motto.
13. Name two external parasites

Seniors:

1. What is the major vitamin that needs supplemented to cattle?
2. Why is hot branding not a desirable form of identification?
3. Explain the difference between cow hocked (splayfooted) and bowlegged (pigeon toed).
4. What are 3 signs of estrus.
5. Calcium and phosphorus are examples of what type of nutrients?
6. Describe the 3 stages of calving.
7. What is a common parasite of cattle?
8. T-bone steak comes from what wholesale cut?
9. What are frame scores?
10. Name 2 internal parasites
11. What is the 4-H or FFA motto.
12. Calcium and phosphorus are examples of what type of nutrients.
13. List three (3) advantages of artificial insemination.
14. How long before you take your animal to a show should you start feeding it out of the feed pan that it will be eating out of at the show?
15. Describe the benefits of estrous synchronization to a herd.
16. What care practices should you perform on a calf soon after it is born?
17. How do you prevent bloat in cattle?
18. Carcass evaluations are accomplished through two grading systems; what are they?

Dairy Beef Feeders

Juniors:

1. How long should a calf receive colostrum?
2. How many times a day should you feed your calf?
3. What kinds of feed does your calf need during its first six months?
4. Doing things like brushing, washing, and clipping are called what in a beef project?
5. What is the biggest cost of raising a dairy beef feeder?
6. What is conformation
7. When should you dehorn your dairy beef feeder.
8. What is one tool used to castrate a calf?
9. Name 1 external parasite.
10. Name 2 of the common bedding sources for your animal.
11. Besides a balanced ration, a clean, fresh supply of what item is essential in feeding beef?
12. How did you teach your calf to lead?
13. What are two common breeds in the dairy industry?

Intermediates:

1. Dairy Beef Feeders are especially vulnerable to three diseases. What are they?
2. Name the four (4) parts of a beef animal's stomach:
3. What is ringworm?
4. When is the best time to dehorn a calf?
5. Name two methods which could be used to dehorn a newborn calf.
6. When should you wean your calf?
7. Share two possible causes of calf scours?
8. Why is it recommended to raise your calf in an individual hutch, pen, or stall from birth to weaning?
9. Name three of the six major minerals that cattle need.
10. Name two methods of dehorning?
11. What are two common breeds in the dairy industry?
12. What precautions can be taken with dehorning tools to prevent infections?
13. What is the term for an abnormal condition in ruminates caused by an accumulation of gases.
14. What is the weight range for a Dairy Beef Feeder for the Morgan County Fair?
15. What are 4 common breeds in the dairy industry?

Seniors:

1. A dairy-beef feeder is usually marketed in what weight range?
2. Name two methods which could be used to dehorn a newborn calf.
3. Calcium and Phosphorus are examples of what type of nutrients?
4. What is pinkeye?
5. Explain what it means to "spread out" the stress points during a calf's life.
6. What do the letters TDN represent?
7. What is acidosis and how can you prevent it?
8. What is the ball of feed that cattle regurgitate from the rumen and chew, to help digest food called?
9. At what age should you wean your animal?
10. What are three common diseases you find in dairy feeders?
11. Name two common parasites of cattle?
12. What is the ball of feed that cattle regurgitate from the rumen and chew, to help digest food, called?
13. Name five feed ingredients that are high in energy.
14. What is a term that means the amount of fat cover on an animal?
15. What percentage of all fed steer and heifers marketed annually in the United States are Holstein-fed steers and heifers?
16. Why is correct hoof trimming important?
17. T-bone steak comes from what beef wholesale cut?
18. What is the weight range for a Dairy beef Feeder at the Morgan County Fair?
19. What is the 4-H or FFA motto?

Senior Hands-on Study Guide

Wholesale Cuts of Beef

