

2023
COMMERCIAL
HEIFER
SHOW RULES

2023 Significant Schedule and Rule Changes

Schedule Changes

Tuesday, February 21

Before 5:00 PM – Commercial Heifer Sale Information Form must be turned in to Extension Office

Friday, February 24

Before 5:00 PM – Commercial Heifer Record Books must be turned in to Extension Office or CHS Ag Bldg.

Saturday, February 25

4:00-6:00 PM – Commercial Heifer Show Check-In at Cuero Livestock Commission Co.

Sunday, February 26

10:00 AM-12:00 P.M. – Commercial Heifer Live Judging at Cuero Livestock Commission Co.

6:00 PM – Commercial Heifer Auction Sale at Cuero Livestock Commission Co.

Rule Changes

15. A veterinary inspection will be required for all females entering the Show and Sale. **A Veterinary Test Record Form will be provided by Cuero Livestock Show** (*see attached form*). All females must have calfhood vaccination information listed on CLS Veterinary Test Record Form. All females must be palpated, and this information must be listed on the CLS Veterinary Test Record Form. Palpation will be the only allowed method of determining pregnancy status. **All tests must be done within 30 days prior to Commercial Heifer Sale Information Form** (*see attached form*) **turn-in date, which is February 21st.**

Note:

The Cuero Livestock Show Board of Directors are hoping to be able to show and sale the commercial heifers at the new Anne Friar Thomas Homemaking Building, however in these rules we have left it as taking place at Cuero Livestock Commission Co. If the show and sale is moved to the Homemaking Building, there will be some schedule changes with the commercial heifers and/or the Homemaking Show.

2023 CUERO LIVESTOCK SHOW COMMERCIAL HEIFER SHOW AND SALE

The purpose of the Commercial Heifer Show and Sale is to provide a project that will expose the exhibitors to commercial cattle production. This includes the purchasing, development, breeding, exhibition, and marketing of beef cattle heifers.

This project is not a part of the Junior Livestock Market Auction; therefore, 4-H and FFA members can sell their commercial heifer projects as well as a Junior Livestock Show market project. However, exhibitors must abide by the General Junior Livestock Show Rules.

1. This show is limited to projects owned, fed and cared for by DeWitt County 4-H and FFA members in good standing and under the supervision of the Ag Science Teachers and County Extension Agents.
2. This show is limited to exhibitors that are solely participating in the Cuero Livestock Show. Participants will be ineligible to show in the Cuero Livestock Show Commercial Heifer Show if they validate and show market animals in any other county show (Yoakum, Yorktown, Nordheim, Victoria, etc.).
3. The Junior Commercial Heifer Show and Sale is an opportunity for junior exhibitors to show and sell commercial heifers. Commercial crossbred heifers are desired, but purebred heifers will be permitted to show, provided they have not been shown anywhere before the 2023 Cuero Livestock Show Commercial Heifer Show. Any heifer exhibited in the Commercial Heifer Show will not be allowed to compete in the Cuero Livestock Show Junior Beef Heifer Division. The Commercial Heifer project will consist of a **pen of two heifers**.
4. Heifers may be purchased from any breeder in Texas. A breeder verification form must be turned in to committee at validation (*see attached form*).
5. Each exhibitor may validate one alternate heifer but will only be able to show and sell a total of two.
6. All junior commercial heifer entries will be **validated on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at the Finney Ranch, from 3:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., or on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at the Cuero Livestock Commission Company, from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 AM.** Exhibitors must bring with them a statement signed by the breeder showing the heifer's birth date. Forms will be available from the County Extension Agent's office, or from the Ag Science Teacher (*see attached form*).
7. All heifers must be Brucellosis calfhood vaccinated by validation. They must have a legible brucellosis calfhood vaccination tag and/or tattoo. Heifers are eligible for calfhood vaccination at 4-12 months of age.
8. All heifers entered in the Commercial Heifer Show must be dehorned by check-in time (February 25, 2023).
9. Heifers must not have calved any earlier than October 1, 2022.
10. At the time of validation, the pen of heifers must have an **average weight of 600 lbs.** minimum.
11. Heifers cannot be added or switched after the tag-in date.

12. Exhibitor must own heifers 100% throughout the feeding period starting on the initial validation date, and proof of ownership must be shown at that time (see Rule 4 Breeder Verification Forms). Exhibitors must feed and care for heifers.
13. The Commercial Heifer Committee reserves the right to go out in January 2023 to each exhibitor's place, to inspect the heifers for quality and determine eligibility.
14. There will be a **\$30.00 entry fee** (\$15.00 per head) that is due with the entry card by **February 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**
15. A veterinary inspection will be required for all females entering the Show and Sale. **A Veterinary Test Record Form will be provided by Cuero Livestock Show** (*see attached form*). All females must have calfhooed vaccination information listed on CLS Veterinary Test Record Form. All females must be palpated, and this information must be listed on the CLS Veterinary Test Record Form. Palpation will be the only allowed method of determining pregnancy status. **All tests must be done within 30 days prior to Commercial Heifer Sale Information Form** (*see attached form*) **turn-in date, which is February 21st.**
16. Commercial Heifers will be checked in, for the Cuero Livestock Show, on Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. at the Cuero Livestock Commission Co.
17. Exhibitors will be responsible for seeing that their heifers are fed and watered appropriately during the duration of the time they are at the Cuero Livestock Commission Company. No signs identifying the exhibitor, shall be displayed on the heifer pens, until after live judging has taken place.
18. Live Judging will be from 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon on Sunday, February 26th. Each pen of heifers will receive a Blue or White Ribbon as determined by the judge. White Ribbon pens will not be eligible to sell in the auction. 1st and 2nd place pens in each Class will receive rosettes and there will be a Grand and Reserve Champion Pen selected overall which will receive banners.
19. No single heifer pens will be allowed. No pens of an open heifer with a bred heifer will be allowed. No pens of an open heifer with a cow/calf pair will be allowed. If a bred heifer is with a cow/calf pair, it must be bred in the last trimester.
20. All heifers, except for white ribbon pens, must sell on Sunday, February 26th at 6:00 PM. The Auction Sale will take place at Cuero Livestock Commission Company. The bill of sale will be handled by the Cuero Livestock Show Board. All heifers must sell through the commercial heifer sale. There will be no PO's.
21. Heifers will be sold as the Committee sees fit to benefit the exhibitor and buyer. For example: A pen of heifers may be split and sold separately if a cow/calf pair is in a pen with a bred heifer.
22. A 6% sales commission will be deducted from each pen that sells.
23. All heifers will be released to buyer immediately following the Sale.
24. The Commercial Heifer Committee reserves the right to amend these rules with the approval of the Cuero Livestock Show Board.
25. All exhibitors who sell must write thank you letters to their buyers and submit a copy of the Thank You letter to Ag-Science Teachers, County Agents, or Commercial Heifer Committee members, within seven days after the sale and prior to receiving their premium check.

26. There will be no harassment of the judges, committee or show board members prior to, during, or after the show. Judges will give reasons for their placing, and this will be considered adequate explanation of his/her placing.
27. This program is designed to be educational and beneficial to the youth of DeWitt County. Any parent or exhibitor found not adhering to any rule pertaining to the Commercial Heifer Show will have their entire family banned, for a period of one year to lifetime, from exhibition in this show, at the Cuero Livestock Show Board's discretion.

28. Heifer Ages and Classes:

Heifers must be between 15 months and 30 months of age at show time (February 26, 2023). That means that heifers must be born no earlier than August 26, 2020, and no later than November 26, 2021.

Class I – Open Class: Heifers must palpate as open

Class II – Bred Class: Heifers must palpate safe in calf

Class III – Pairs Class: Heifers must have calf at side (see exception below)

Notes:

- All heifers 24 months of age or older at show time, must palpate safe in calf or have calf at side.
- No single heifer pens will be allowed. No pens of an open heifer with a bred heifer will be allowed. No pens of an open heifer with a cow/calf pair will be allowed. If a bred heifer is with a cow/calf pair, it must be bred in the 3rd trimester and the pen will be classed up to the higher class (Class III).
- All heifers must be palpated. Palpation will be the only allowed method of determining pregnancy status (See Rule #15).
- Class winners will compete for overall Grand Champion. Once the Grand Champion has been selected, the 2nd place pen from the class that the Grand Champion came out of, and the remaining two class winners, will compete for Reserve Champion.

29. Live Judging/Placing Guidelines and Selection

Heifers will be judged by a panel of judges using the following characteristics:

The judging panel's placing will be final.

- a. Quality, Conformation and Condition
- b. Breeding Status per Day of Age
- c. Structural Soundness
- d. Frame Size (for Age)
- e. Reproduction Soundness
- f. Area Adaptability
- g. Uniformity
- h. Temperament

30. **Record Book (MANDATORY)**

If heifer pens are disqualified for any of the reasons stated in these rules, the exhibitor will also be disqualified from record book judging.

It is **mandatory** that Exhibitors complete a record book on their commercial heifer project. The record book will not affect the placing or live judging of the pen of heifers. The record book forms (*see attachments at the end of this section*) and entry cards (white) can be picked up from the County Extension Office or from the Ag Science Teachers. The entry cards are due on February 1, 2023, by 5:00 pm with all other Cuero Livestock Show entry cards. **Record book turn-in will be at Extension office or CHS Ag Building by 5:00 pm on the Friday, February 24, 2023. If an exhibitor misses record book turn-in, the heifer pen will be disqualified (no exceptions).** Record Books will be judged sometime between 2-24-23 and 3-2-23 and scored by the following point system.

Judging of Record Books

1. Neatness & Completeness 5 – 25 pts.
(*Name; Age; Signatures; Ear tag numbers; Animals birthdate(s) month & year; Sex and color description of animals; etc.*)
2. Record Keeping 5 – 25 pts.
(*Expenses Incurred (animal cost, feed, etc.); Breeding Information; Breeder Statements; Health Certificates; Receipts; Medication; Feeding; etc.*)
3. Creativity 5 – 25 pts.
(*Pictures; Stories relating to their animals; etc.*)
4. Summary 5 – 25 pts.
(*Overall Content of Project; etc.*)

Premium monies will be awarded for the first place Record Book in the Junior and Senior Divisions. Premiums, provided by the Cuero Livestock Show, will be \$100 for each division.

31. **Oral Interview (OPTIONAL)**

If heifer pens are disqualified for any of the reasons stated in these rules, the exhibitor will also be disqualified from interview judging.

The oral interview is **optional**. If an exhibitor wishes to participate in the interview for premium monies, they must notify the superintendent of the Commercial Heifer Division at the time of arrival. Premiums will be awarded for the first-place interview in the Junior and Senior Divisions. Premiums, provided by the Cuero Livestock Show, will be \$100 for the Junior Division and \$200 for the Senior Division. The interviews will be scheduled on Thursday, March 2nd from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Time slots will be assigned by the Committee at 15-minute intervals.

32. Record Book and Oral Interview for Junior and Senior Divisions will be divided into the following divisions based on the **AGE AT THE DATE OF THE SHOW.**

JUNIOR DIVISION: 3rd – 8th Grade

SENIOR DIVISION: 9th – 12th Grade

Note: Add on monies for the Live Judging portion of the Commercial Heifer Show will be distributed equally amongst all exhibitors, according to the donor money available.

2023 CUERO LIVESTOCK SHOW
COMMERCIAL HEIFER SHOW BREEDER'S
STATEMENT VALIDATION SHEET
(1 Sheet per Heifer)

*** Due at Validation ***

Exhibitor Name: _____

Heifer Ear Tag (will be provided by CLS at validation): _____

Breed of Heifer: _____

Heifer Birth Date (**Month & Year – REQUIRED**): _____

County in which Heifer was Bred and Born: _____

Heifer Breeder Name: _____

Address: _____

Breed of Sire: _____

Breed of Dam: _____

Remarks:

Signature of Breeder _____

Please Note: The exhibitor and parent(s) must sign a statement verifying that the breeding information on the heifers is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. This statement will be turned in on September 22 or September 24, 2023, at validation and retain a copy for the Record Book.

DUPLICATE FORM AS NEEDED

Commercial Heifer Sale Information Form
Due in EXTENSION OFFICE by FEBRUARY 21, 2023
NO EXCEPTIONS

EXAMPLE

Exhibitor Info	Tag #'s	Breed	Class/Age	Breeding Status
Exhibitor: Johnny Smith 4H/FFA: ABC 4-H Club Parents: John & Sue Smith	87 & 88	F1 Braford	Class III Pairs	Calves at side from low-birth-weight Angus bull.

PLEASE FILL OUT

Exhibitor Info	Tag #'s	Breed	Class/Age	Breeding Status

Notes:

- This form will also be attached to the commercial heifer entry card.
- This form cannot be filled out until veterinary inspection work is complete.
- Veterinary inspection must take place within 30 days prior to this form being turned in (January 22 – February 21).
- This form is important, as this information is what will be printed in the commercial heifer sale catalog.