

4-H Dairy Project Record Replacement Heifer Calves - Birth to 12 Months of Age

Name: _____ Age as of Jan 1: _____ Year in Project: _____

This project is: Ownership Managerial Year in 4-H: _____ Junior Ldr: Yes No

Date this project started: _____ Date project or project year ended: _____

Things I want to learn about dairy calves this year.

To find the publications below, go to: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/>. On the left side of the screen click on "Publications"; "Agriculture"; "Livestock and Poultry". Then scroll down to "Dairying". You will be able to click on most of the Dairy publications to read and/or print.

Check at least 4 of the dairy calf topics you want to learn more about this year.

- Determining Pasture Condition
- Youth and Dairy Cattle: A Safe Partnership
- Dairy Cattle Judging Made Easy Interactive CD-ROM

Read about the project topics you have selected in the references listed in parenthesis behind the topics. Then think about goals you will set for your dairy calf project. Goals are things you want to do or learn to do. Write your dairy calf project goals below. You may write more than one goal for each topic.

Topic	Project Goal

Write additional goals on a separate sheet of paper.

Approved Practices Used With My Project Calves

When the calf is born: (check all that apply)

- Cows calve in clean, well bedded maternity area
- Navel cord dipped in iodine within short time after birth
- Calf is fed colostrum within 30 minutes after birth

Other: _____

Calf Management: (check all that apply)

- Identify calf with sketch, photo, ear tag or tattoo
- Start permanent written record which includes: calf name or number, birthdate, sire ID and dam ID
- Dehorn, preferably by one month of age
- Remove extra teats
- Have calf vaccinated according to herd veterinarian recommendations
- Wean by one month of age

Other: _____

Other: _____

Calf Health: (check all that apply)

- Feed colostrum within 30 minutes of birth
- Vaccinate according to veterinarian recommendations
- Observe daily for signs of infectious disease
- Isolate calves from each other until weaning
- Provide and maintain clean, dry, well-ventilated individual pens to reduce respiratory disease
- Keep pails and other equipment clean

Other: _____

Other: _____

Feeding: (check all that apply)

- Use good quality milk replacer if not feeding whole milk
- Feed milk or milk replacer at 8% of body weight
- Offer dry calf starter after 3 days of age
- Wean calves when they consume one pound of starter per day
- Monitor and record growth rate regularly and adjust ration to achieve 1-1½ pounds per day of gain
- Switch to grain supplement formulated to balance quality of forage fed at 3-4 months of age

Other: _____

Other: _____

Fitting and Showing: (check all that apply)

- Evaluate show calf's condition and adjust ration at least 2 months before show
- Wash calf every other week starting at least 2 months before show
- Brush calf's coat every day
- Trim feet 4 to 6 weeks before show, if needed
- Begin halter and lead training 3 to 4 weeks before show. Train in short daily sessions.
- Check and double check entry forms before turning in
- Organize equipment and papers ahead of time to leave for show

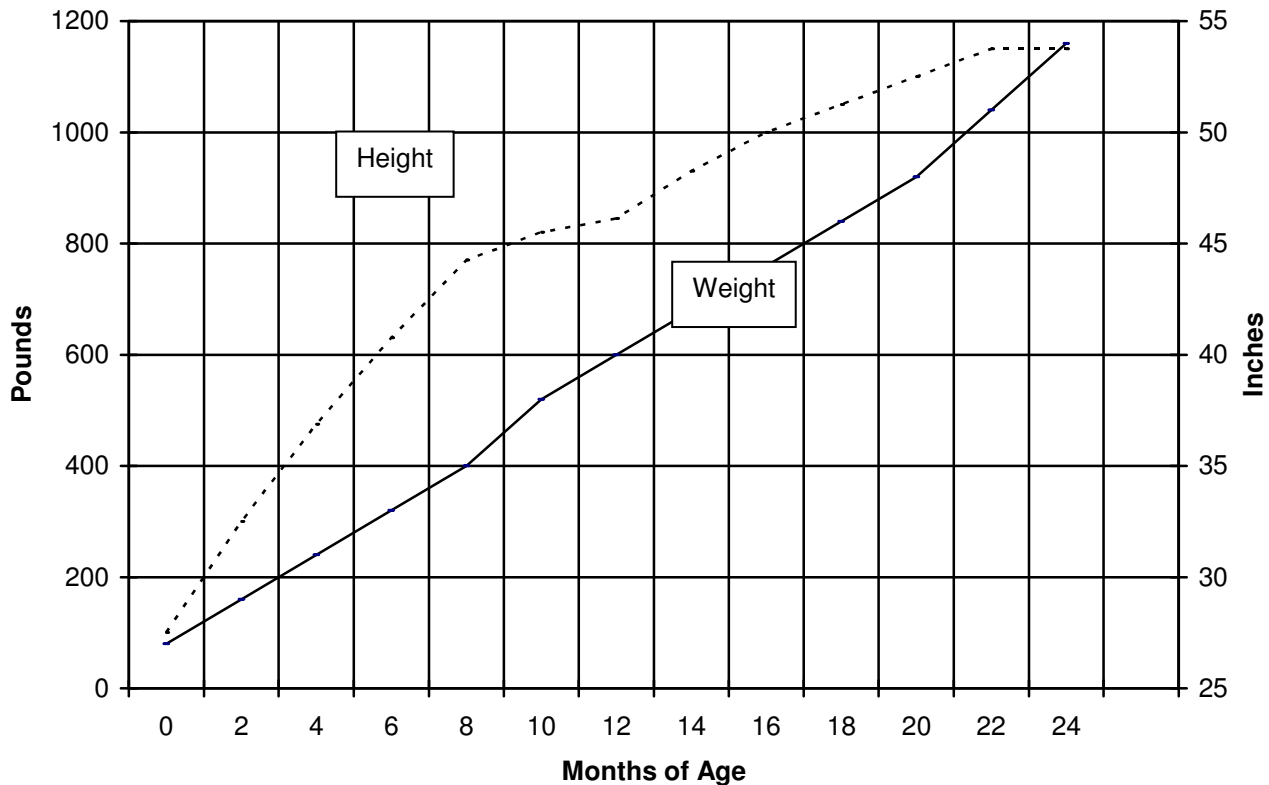
Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Heifer Growth Chart

Ayrshire and Guernsey Breeds



These are the heights and weights dairy scientists say heifers of the breeds on the chart should reach at each age. How do yours compare?

Checking your calf's growth regularly shows whether you are providing the feed, environment and care necessary to allow the calf to grow to its full potential.

Graph your calf's height and weight on the chart to compare its growth performance to the goals. Weigh and measure your calf's weight and height every month or every other month and plot those values on the chart above.

Hints:

Weigh and measure the same calf each month (you can do more than one) using a scale, if it is available, or a weight tape. Ask your feed dealer or veterinarian if they can provide you with a weight tape or check farm supply stores or catalogs to purchase one.

To measure the calf's height, lead the calf to a level area next to a wall or door frame. Lay a carpenter's level on the calf's back at the withers. Mark the height on the wall or frame. Measure height from the floor to the mark to get the calf's height.

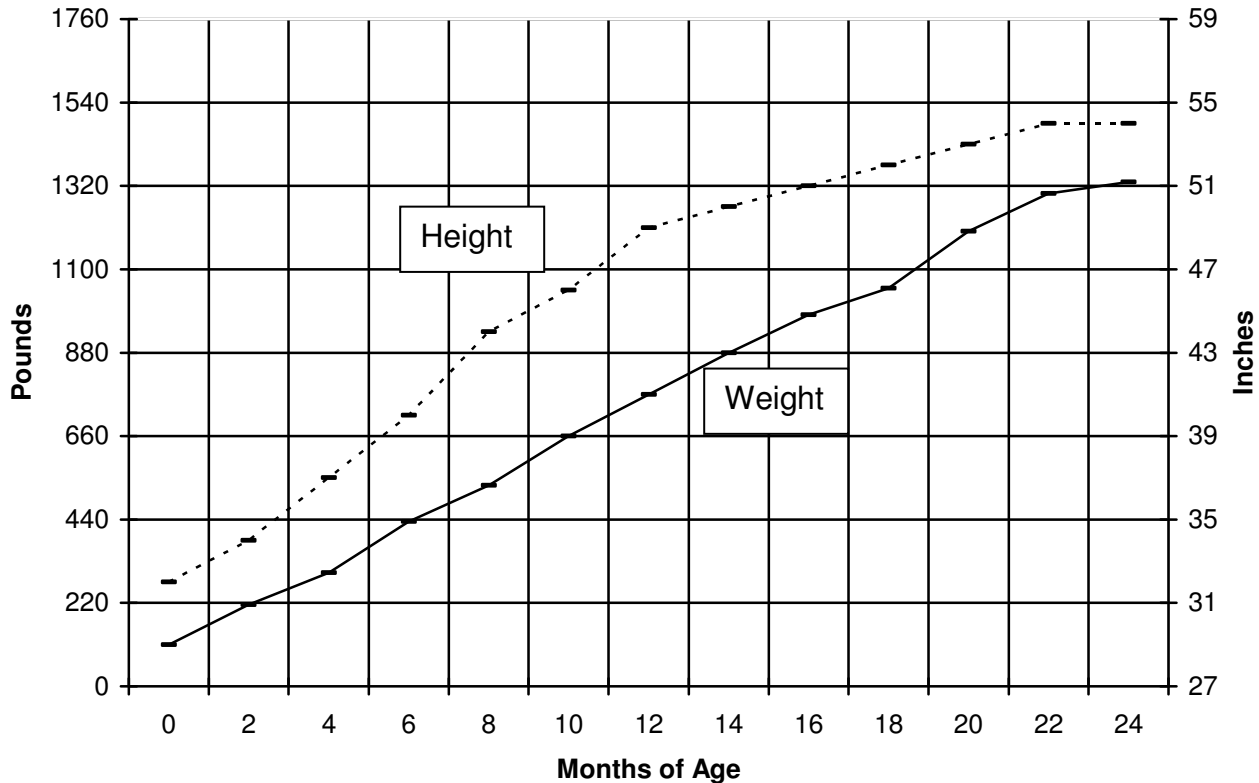
Feed and Nutrition

Heifer Age	Feeds Fed	How Much Does it Eat in One Day?
One Week Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
Two Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
6 Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
12 Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
18 Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
24 Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	

List the ingredients and amounts per batch of TMR red to heifers.

Heifer Growth Chart

Holstein and Brown Swiss Breeds



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	3)	
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	2)	
	3)	
18 Months Old	1)	
	2)	
	3)	
24 Months Old	1)	
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Project Activities

Shows and Exhibits		
Show Exhibited at	Animal Exhibited	Placing

Showmanship Record	
Date	Activity

Project Educational Activities, Demonstrations and Talks	
Date	Activity

Certification

I certify that this record is a true and accurate account of my dairy cattle project activity.

Project Member Signature

Date

Leaders Comments: _____

Parents' Comments: _____
