



Oconto County 4-H Dairy Project

2015

Dairy Resources

Oconto County 4-H Project

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/>

Oconto County Youth Agriculture Programs

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

Wisconsin 4-H Project Page

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/dairy.cfm>

Project Literature

<http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/4-h-dairy-cattle/>

Oconto County Fair

<http://www.ocontocountyfair.org>

Check out the Requirements

<http://oconto.uwex.edu/agriculture/youth-agriculture-programs/>

Welcome to the 4-H Dairy Project

The 4-H Dairy Project provides youth a fun and hands-on learning experience that develops life skills, as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their animals.

Youth participating in livestock projects learn about general care, nutrition, housing, and health of their animals through workshops and activities such as project meetings, Meat Animal Quality Assurance training, and animal judging.

Youth also have the opportunity to develop responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communication skills through active participation in the Dairy Project.

Signing Up for a 4-H Dairy Project

Youth in the Dairy Project enroll in one or more of the following projects. To enroll in 4-H, visit the 4-H On-Line site at <https://www.4honline.com/> If you need help with the online enrollment, check with your 4-H club advisor or call the Extension Office for guidance (920-834-6845).

Dairy 1 (Grades 3 -5)

Dairy 2 (Grades 6 – 8)

Dairy 3 (Grades 9-12)

NOTE: Animal Project sign-up is done by grade, not skill level.

Best Place to Get Started?

Plan on attending Fall Project Kickoff (see calendar) to meet your project leader and pick up a January Thaw project challenge. You can access project challenges anytime at <http://oconto.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-projects/project-days/>



Dairy Leaders

Please feel free to contact your county-wide 4-H Dairy leader for more information on your project.

Erin Burhandt 920-598-0710
Rob Klimpke 920-373-5182
Michele DeBauch 920-598-0704
Ann Sievert 920-822-5910

Contact Us

UW-Extension Staff

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920-834-6845
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Looking for out-of county educational experiences*?

Area Animal Science Days

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/animalscience.cfm>

4-H and Youth Conference –For youth in 7th -10th grade

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/youthconf/index.cfm>

State Fair, West Allis, WI

**Funding for 4-H youth may be available from 4-H Leaders Association*

4-H Dairy Calendar 2015-16

Fall Kickoff	October 10, 2015	Gillett Schools Gillett
	<i>Meet your project leaders and pick up a Dairy Challenge for January Thaw</i>	
January Thaw	January 9, 2016	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls
Spring Fling	April 30, 2016	Washington Middle School Oconto Falls
Summer Clinic	TBA	Oconto County Fairgrounds Gillett
Oconto County Fair	August 18-21, 2016	Oconto County Fairgrounds Gillett



4-H Dairy Project

Getting Started with Dairy

2015

Hint:

For a quick start in the Dog Project, attend Fall Project Kickoff, January Thaw, and Spring Fling.

Dairy Members

It's never too soon to start training your cattle for the show season. Cows and steers are much bigger than we are, even a small calf can stop in her tracks and we can't move her. There is a way to solve these problems...start training early and work often with your cattle. This will make your job as an exhibitor easier and make the fair safer for you and visitors alike.

The first step to training is just getting your animal use to the rope; tie your animal's head up at a comfortable level for a short period of time each day. Do this for a week or two before you try to walk your animal on the rope. At this time you can start to brush your animal, this will accomplish two things. 1. Your animal will begin to be calm and relax around you when you are working with it. 2. Brushing their coat will condition it, making it shine naturally for the show. You also need to use the right size equipment for your animal -- a small nylon rope halter for a calf and a larger size for cows.

Then, when your animal is ready to halter, you can start to walk them around, a small to medium enclosed area is best. Be sure it is free of obstacles so you or your animal does not get hurt. When it warms up, you will be able to start washing your animal. They only need to be washed 2 or 3 times a week. If they get dirty between washing, you can spot wash dirty areas. Don't over wash your animal because this will dry out their skin. You need to use a milk soap that is made for cattle. Be careful around their head. They do not like their face and ears getting wet.

A month before the fair or show, you will need to get your animal used to the show halter. Start slow, just a little at a time. They won't like this change at first. Once they walk well on the show halter, you need to train them to set up in the ring for the judge. Now you are ready for show day. Good Luck to everyone!!!



Disease Prevention

Biosecurity is a set of practices designed to reduce the risk of spreading disease from sick animals to healthy ones. We recommend adding these practices to your routine:

- Restrict access to your property.
- Keep a designated pair of shoes to wear around your animals, wash clothing after caring for your animals, and use disinfectants correctly.
- Clean and disinfect equipment especially after use at fairs or public locations.
- Keep new animals separate from your herd for 30 days; quarantine returning animals from the rest of your herd after visiting a fair, exhibition or other event.
- Do not share equipment or supplies with others, but if you must, disinfect it first.
- Wash hands before and after handling animals.
- Vaccinate animals regularly to increase protective immunity.
- Accurately identify and maintain current records on all your animals.
- Look for unusual signs in your herd, such as odd behavior; sudden and unexplained deaths; large numbers of sick animals; blisters around an animal's nose, teats, mouth or hooves; difficulty rising and walking; partial to complete drop in milk production; or a large number of dead insects, rodents or wildlife. Contact your veterinarian immediately if any of these occur.



Enrolling in 4-H and Signing up for the Oconto County Fair -- - It's Two Different Things!

When you enroll in 4-H at **4HOnline.com**, you are signing up to be a part of Oconto County 4-H. As part of the enrollment process, most youth choose one or more 4-H PROJECTS. You can do that right on 4-H online, and you can go back and do it now if you didn't before.

If you want to put an EXHIBIT in at the Oconto County Fair, you must be signed up in that corresponding 4-H project (through **4Honline.com**). This project signup must be completed by **APRIL 30TH**.

We share our list of 4-H youth who have signed up for projects with the Oconto County Fair. The Fair is a separate entity and has its own guidelines for exhibitors.

Each youth who is signed up in a PROJECT through 4-H, will receive a FAIR ENTRY FORM. Those Fair Entry Forms will be delivered by a Fair representative to club advisors at the 4-H Leaders Association Meeting on Wednesday, May 14th.

To sign up to take an EXHIBIT to the fair, you must fill out the Fair Entry Form, using the Oconto County Fair premium book. The Fair Entry Forms are due to Stacie Pienta by the fourth Monday in June.

If you are planning on showing your Dairy at the Oconto County Fair:

- Before April 30th -- Be sure you are signed up in the Dairy project through 4-H Online.
- Make plans to attend one of the many Meat Animal Quality Assurance workshops in the county. This is required of all exhibitors to be eligible to sell at the Sale of Champions.
- July: Fair Entries due. You will get them from your 4-H Club Advisor.

Look over the Premium Book for the Fair carefully. Ask your project leader or 4-H Club Advisor for help to make sure you are entering in the correct category.
- August: Watch the Friday Notes for the announcement about the Fair.
- August: Get your show box and your white show clothes ready for the Dairy Show.
- Check the Fair Premium Book to find out the date and time of Dairy Check-in Day at the Fair.

→ Youth who are selected to sell their animals in the Sale of Champions at the Oconto County Fair must have 3 documented Educational Points, one of which must be MAQA training, and one must be species specific. There are plenty of opportunities to get those points at the 4-H project days (either as a participant or as a youth leader), summer workshops, and other events throughout the county and state.