

## **Weld County 4-H/FFA Dairy Heifer Replacement Project (DHRP)**

The purpose of the program is to provide 4-H and FFA members an opportunity to:

1. Learn how to select a dairy heifer that has the potential to be a good producing cow.
2. Learn how to raise a good quality animal, demonstrating approved management principles.
3. Offer for sale a top quality dairy replacement animal at the conclusion of the program.
4. Give non-farm members an opportunity to gain valuable experiences in dairy husbandry and the dairy industry.

The Weld County 4-H Dairy Advisory Council (Council) will oversee and assist in managing this project.

### **Eligibility**

1. Any duly enrolled Weld County 4-H or FFA member is eligible for this program.
2. The member must enroll, or be enrolled, in a 4-H or FFA dairy cattle project.
3. The member must specifically enroll their project heifer in the DHRP by March 1 of the project year. Forms are available at the County Extension Office.

### **Requirements**

1. Members may enroll up to three (3) heifers each year, but are limited to showing and selling one (1) heifer. Members must designate their DHRP heifer on their Fair entry.
2. Member must be the sole owner of the animal. A copy of the brand certificate or bill of sale must be submitted with enrollment. Two photos of the heifer, one of each side, must be included with the enrollment.
3. The animal must be:
  - a. Born September 1 – November, 2010 (21-23 months old at Fair time).
  - b. From a registered sire (AI or natural breeding).
  - c. From a dam that is either registered or grade, that is at, or above, herd average for milk production. Production records must accompany enrollment.
  - d. Positively identified (by a 4-H Leader, FFA Advisor, Extension Agent, or member of the Council) with an ear-tag.
  - e. A minimum of 40 days pregnant as of March 1. A certificate of pregnancy from a licensed veterinarian or other qualified individual must be turned in with enrollment.  
Heifers should not be bred to calve before September 1.
4. Any breed of dairy is acceptable. Heifers must be bred to a registered service sire (AI or natural) of their same breed.
5. Heifers must be exhibited at the Weld County Fair. All heifers enrolled in this project will show in a separate “Dairy Replacement Heifer” class.
6. Members are strongly encouraged to participate with their project heifer at the Colorado Dairy Youth Extravaganza, June 3-5, 2012, at Island Grove Park in Greeley.

### **Sale**

1. Heifers will be sold at the Weld County Fair.
2. Heifers will be inspected and pregnancy checked at the Weld County Fair prior to the sale. Heifers will not be allowed to sell if:
  - a. They are not at least six (6) months pregnant,
  - b. They are not healthy or in good condition according to breed standards. Heifers are expected to meet the following height and weight measurements (measurements listed are for Holstein heifers; for other breeds contact the Weld County Extension Office):
    - i. 21 month old heifer – 1086-1372 lbs; 52-56” at withers
    - ii. 22 month old heifer – 1148-1420 lbs; 52-57” at withers
    - iii. 23 month old heifer – 1148-1420 lbs; 53-57” at withers
3. Members will receive all proceeds from the sale less a five percent (5%) commission, as long as they have turned in a completed record book after the Fair.
4. Members are encouraged to contact potential buyers for their animals. Buy back opportunities will be available for businesses that purchase animals.



**Weld County 4-H & FFA  
Dairy Heifer Replacement Program  
Application**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H club/FFA chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Heifer Breeder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Ear Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Heifer's Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Bred: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Sire Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

A.I. Stud Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sire of Heifer: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

A.I. Stud Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Dam of Heifer: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear Tag or Tattoo: \_\_\_\_\_

Best 305 Day Record or Mature Equivalent (attach copy of test records):

Milk \_\_\_\_\_ Fat \_\_\_\_\_ Protein \_\_\_\_\_

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Submit completed application, certificate of pregnancy from a licensed veterinarian, and copy of dam's test records to:

Weld County Extension  
525 N 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Greeley, CO 80631

**Application deadline:                      March 1, 2012**