# Sheridan County Heifer Futurity Contest

Established March 10, 1998 revised January 24, 2020

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this contest is to stimulate more interest in beef projects within the county by encouraging 4-H and FFA members to build some equity for the future in a breeding beef herd. Strong emphasis will be placed on performance, management, production records and practicality from a commercial operation standpoint.

**Rules and Regulations:**

This contest will be held under the rules and regulations of the Sheridan County Fair listed in the front of the Fair Book and under the Youth Livestock Department. Any boy or girl enrolled in a breeding beef project within 4-H or FFA programs of Sheridan County may enter.

1. No contestant may enter more than two (2) entries in each class (Yearly Phase and Cow/Calf).
2. The contest will be separate from any existing class at the fair.
3. Any or all animals may and should be shown in the respective lots and classes listed in the Fair Book.
4. Yearling heifers must be born after January 1 of previous year must be weighed on an accredited scale (with a Livestock Committee representative present.).
5. All heifers will be identified (with Bangs tag) by the County Agent/FFA Advisors/Livestock Board Members on or before February 1 of the current year.
6. All entrants must be able to show proof of ownership (brand inspections) at this time.
7. If more than two heifers are entered and considered bred by Vet at County Fair, the two heifers to be shown must be declared directly after the ultrasound.
8. A record book will be required for EACH entry.

**Judging:**

Judging of this contest will be done by a panel of three judges. They will be three local cattlemen or members of the community familiar with the cattle business in this area. Their placings and scores will be placed on individual score cards and tabulated following the show for an official placing. Their decision will be final. The judges will be selected by a committee of the Sheridan County Livestock Committee.

**Contest:**

The winner of the Heifer Futurity Contest will be selected by the most total points accumulated in a two-year program consisting of a bred heifer class the first year; a Cow-calf class the second year; and a set of production records for that period.

1. The Heifer Futurity Record Book is available at the Extension Office or electronically.
2. Records of each animal only from time of possession or October 1st will be kept in this book and must be turned in to the Fair office the Friday of Fair at 5pm. Books turned in after 5pm will lose 50 percent of their record book score.
3. The combined high point total from both years will determine the champion of the heifer futurity contest. A comment sheet will be given out by the judges after the first year. This will allow members an opportunity to see what the judges thought of their project.
4. A Veterinarian will be provided to administer an ultrasound and pregnancy test on all phase 1 and phase 2 entries. The veterinarian performing the Ultrasound will determine if the entry is bred. Only bred entries will continue the contest. Ultrasound is scheduled Thursday of the fair week at 1pm.
5. All entries shown in halter.
6. Loss of a calf in the cow/calf phase will not constitute disqualification. Grafting a calf, can be economically feasible. If the calf is lost notify your Breeding Beef Superintendent.
7. The winner of the contest will receive a heifer calf from an area Cattlemen at weaning time the fall following the completion of the contest.

**PHASE 1 -- YEARLING PHASE**

The first year of the contest there will be only one class, a class of bred heifers, any breed, 20 months of age or younger, to be shown at halter. The class will be judged by a three-member panel of commercial cattlemen as follows:

Visual Evaluation - 55

Record Book - 25

**Total 80 possible points**

1. Judges each score the heifers individually on a 55 point scale according to conformation, physical soundness and other visually observable traits. An average of these scores is entered.

2. Record books are evaluated for completeness, to date, accuracy of figures, costs of production, realism of information and general knowledge of the project and scored on a scale of 25 points maximum.

**PHASE 2 -- COW/CALF PHASE**

The second phase, and probably the most important, is carrying the heifer into the second year, where, if all goes as planned, the heifer will calve and at fair time a bred cow-calf pair is shown. The cow and calf are individually weighed, judged, and records of the project are evaluated. A winner in this phase of the contest is selected using the following criteria:

This portion of the contest will be judged as follows:

Cow/Calf Score Card 115

Record Books - 35

**Total 145 possible points**

**CALCULATIONS FOR HEIFER FUTURITY CONTEST**

**COW-CALF PHASE**

**GRAND TOTAL** - is composed of Total Yearling Score from previous year Total Cow Calf Score+ 205 day adjusted calf weight score + Adjusted Efficiency Score

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Yearling score |  |
| Total Cow Calf score |  |
| 205 day adjusted calf weight ÷ (divided) by 25 |  |
| Adjusted Efficiency Score |  |
| **GRAND TOTAL** |  |

**Adjusted 205 Weight**: Weight of calf minus birth weight, divided by days of age = Average Daily Gain, multiply by 205, plus birth weight = adjusted weight.

**Example**:

**Adjusted 205 calf weight score**

Weight of calf 400

Minus Birth Weight -90

= Weight Gained 310

Divided by Days of age        ÷ 131

= Average Daily Gain 2.37

Multiply by 205         x  205

  485.1

Add Birth Weight +90

=Adjusted 205 Day Weight 575.1

÷ 25

**=Adjusted weight score 22.84**

**Adjusted Efficiency Score:**

Adjusted 205 weight 575.1

Divided by Cow Weight        ÷ 1200

Multiply by 100           x 100

**= Percentage of Efficiency 47.92**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Adjusted 205 Day Weight and Percent Efficiency Worksheet - Youth (Black) Example** | | | | | | | |
|  | Birth Date |  | 2/7/2016 |  | Calf's Birth Weight |  | 77 |
|  | Today's Date |  | 7/30/2016 |  | Calf's Weight Today |  | 482 |
|  | # of Days Old |  | 174 |  | Cow's Weight Today |  | 1224 |
| **Adjusted 205 Weight Score Calculation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Weight of Calf |  |  |  |  |  |  | 482 |
| 2. Minus Birth Weight |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from 1 above |  |  |  |  | 482 |
|  |  | Less birth weight of calf |  |  |  | - | 77 |
|  |  | Equal calf’s weight gained |  |  |  | = | 405 |
| 3. Divided by Days of Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from 2 above |  |  |  |  | 405 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Divided by # of days old |  |  |  | / | 174 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Equal average daily gain |  |  |  | = | 2.33 |
| 4. Multiply by 205 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from 3 above |  |  |  |  | 2.33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Multiply by 205 |  |  |  | x | 205 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Gain at 205 days |  |  |  | = | 477.16 |
| 5. Add back Birth Weight |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from 4 above |  |  |  |  | 477.16 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Birth Weight |  |  |  | + | 77 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Adjusted 205 weight |  |  |  |  | 554.16 |
|  |  | Divide by 25 |  |  |  | / | 25 |
|  |  | **205 Day Score** |  |  |  |  | **22.16** |
| **Efficiency Percentage Calculation** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Adjusted 205 weight of the calf |  |  |  |  |  |  | 554.16 |
| B. Divided by today's weight of the cow |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from A above |  |  |  |  | 554.16 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Divided by Weight of Cow |  |  |  | / | 1224 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | = | 0.45 |
| C. Multiply by 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Results of from B above |  |  |  |  | 0.45 |
|  |  | Multiply by 100 |  |  |  | x | 100 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **Percent Efficiency** |  |  |  | = | 45.27 |
|  |  | What is sex of calf? |  |  | Heifer | Steer | Bull |
|  |  | Result from C above |  |  | 2.26 |  | -2.26 |
|  |  | Adjustment |  |  | 5% | None | -5% |
|  |  | **Adjusted Efficiency** |  |  | 47.54 |  | 43.01 |

Using the cow’s current weight and the calf’s 205 day adjusted weight. Heifer calves will be given an additional 5% and bull calves will be given a 5 % deduction for sex difference.

**Yearling Heifer Score Card**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Judge # |  | |
| Exhibitor Number |  | |
| Animal Bangs Tag Number |  | |
| Beginning Weight |  | |
| Fair Weight |  | |
| Ave. Weight of Daily Gain |  | |
| Circle the number for the rating of the heifer. 1 being lowest quality 5 being ideal. | | |
| **General Appearance (Judged on their breed, not by comparison to other breeds)** | | |
|  |  | Comments |
| Breed Character/Type | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Eye Appeal | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Body Condition (Finish/ Fat Cover) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Disposition | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Conformation** |  | Comments |
| Stature (frame) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Capacity (volume) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Body Length | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Muscling | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Structural Soundness (While Standing) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| Mobility (Fluidity in movement) | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Breeding Qualities** |  | Comments |
| Femininity | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Score** | \_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 55 points | |
|  |  | |
| **Total Score** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of 55 points** | |

**Cow/Calf Score Card**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Judge # |  | |
| Exhibitor Number |  | |
| Animal Bangs Tag Number |  | |
| Cow Weight |  | |
| Calf Weight |  | |
| Age of Calf |  | |
| Days |  | |
| Weight Day of Age |  | |
| Circle the number for the cow and calf of the heifer. 1 being the lowest quality 5 being ideal. | | |
| **General** **Appearance** (Judged on their breed, not by comparison to other breeds) | | |
| **Breed Character/Type** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Eye Appeal** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Body Condition** (finish/fat cover) | | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Disposition** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Conformation** |  |  |
| **Stature (frame size)** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Capacity (Volume)** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Conformation** (continued) |  |  |
| **Body Length** |  | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Muscling** (light to heavy muscled) | | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Structural Soundness** (when standing still) | | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Mobility** (fluidity in movement) | | **comments** |
| cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| calf | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Breeding Qualities** |  |  |
| **Femininity** |  | **comments** |
| Cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Udder Attachment** |  | **comments** |
| Cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
| **Teat Size** |  | **comments** |
| Cow | 1 2 3 4 5 |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Cow Score** | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Out of 65 | |
| **Total Calf Score** | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Out of 50 | |
|  |  | |
| **Total Score** | **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Out of 115** | |