



2026 REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT RULES, AGREEMENT & CATALOG INFORMATION SHEET

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Contact your Club Leader/Chapter Advisor for additional project questions.



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Amador County Fair Replacement Heifer Project Rules and Information

The objective of the Replacement Heifer Project is to learn the basic management practices of the beef cattle breeding business, the economics of raising a Replacement Heifer, and to select and raise quality Heifers that meet the requirements of local commercial cattle producers to expand and/or upgrade existing their herds.

Owning and managing a Replacement Heifer is not without risk. Several factors can delay or prevent conception and calving. Some of the causes include diseases, nutrition, sexual immaturity, genetic defects, and physical injury. Should you have any questions regarding your Replacement Heifer project, contact your leader/advisor, your breeder, and/or your local veterinarian.

The Amador County Fair Replacement Heifer Project is coordinated through the Amador County Fair, the Junior Livestock Advisory Committee (JLAC) and individual 4-H Club/Project Leaders, Future Farmers of America (FFA) Advisors, and Jr. Grange Leaders.

Club/Project Leaders and Advisors are responsible for general oversight and project visits of exhibitors and the Replacement Heifer projects.

Rules

I. Exhibitor Eligibility

To be eligible for the Amador County Fair Replacement Heifer project, the exhibitor must:

- A. Be a member, in good standing of a 4-H Club, Jr. Grange Charter, or FFA Chapter in Amador County, or be a qualified Independent Junior Exhibitor from Amador County (Refer to State and Livestock Rules in Amador County Fair Premium Book for eligibility and qualifications).

II. Heifer Eligibility

- A. Registered or Grade Beef Replacement Heifers are eligible projects.
- B. Grade Heifers must be without horns. Scurs are acceptable.
- C. The Heifer's sire must be of a beef breed.
- D. Heifers need to be bred to a low birth weight, calving ease bull.
- E. If an exhibitor declares that the Heifer is registered, the registration papers must be submitted to the Fair at the time of Preg Check.
- F. The age limit for a Heifer is a minimum of 20 months and a maximum of 30 months on the Tuesday of the Fair.
- G. Heifers must weigh a minimum of 900 pounds at Fair Weigh-In.
- H. Heifers must be bred to calve between September 1 and October 31 of the year shown.



- I. All Replacement Heifer Projects are to be physically located in Amador County and project maintenance is to be completed by the Exhibitor of the project after the March Pregnancy Check and issuing of Fair Tag.
- J. Proof of both Calfhood Brucellosis vaccination and negative test for the Bovine Viral Diarrhea, Persistent Infected (BVD-PI) must be submitted to the Fair office **no later than the first Monday in February of the year of Fair**. The proof must include identifiable information on the Replacement Heifer tested (Brucellosis Tag #, will be found on the official Brucellosis Tag). Should there be any questions regarding BVD-PI results, Fair Management reserves the right to request a BVD-PI re-test, at the exhibitor's expense.
- K. If the Brucellosis and BVD-PI proof is not submitted by the 1st Monday in February, **the Replacement Heifer Project will be disqualified.**

III. Replacement Heifer Project Agreement

- A. Replacement Heifer must be owned by the exhibitor on or before October 31st, prior to the year the animal will be shown.
- B. Exhibitors may Submit up to two (2) Project Agreements (**one for each Heifer**). Each Replacement Heifer Project must have an Agreement Form submitted by the established due date and meet **ALL** Eligibility, Project Agreement Rules, and deadlines included in this document. However, only one (1) Heifer may be shown and sold at the Amador County Fair.
- C. If two (2) Agreement Forms are submitted and Both Heifers are confirmed pregnant at the March Preg Check, the second Heifer may be used as a substitution if the first entered Heifer is found open or deemed unfit to show at the Tuesday of Fair Preg Check. Time allowed for retrieval set by Vet's discretion.
- D. Project Agreement forms must be completed by each exhibitor intending to show a Replacement Heifer at the Amador County Fair are due to the Fair office or postmarked no later than November 3rd.

NO LATE PAPERWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!!

- E. Exhibitors must:
 - 1. Fill out all paperwork completely and legibly.
 - 2. Ensure the Calfhood Brucellosis ear tag number field is completed (this can be obtained from breeder).
 - 3. Attach the following documents with the Project Agreement form:
 - i. Copy of the Bill of Sale or Consignment Form 74-036 (yellow transportation slip)
 - ii. Proof of BVD-PI, if in possession at time of agreement form due date. If not, must be submitted to the Fair by the first Monday in February of the Fair year. – **NO EXCEPTIONS**

FAILURE TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION WILL RESULT IN PROJECT DISQUALIFICATION.



- F. All signatures must be on the Project Agreement forms or the agreement will be rejected.
- G. Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring all entry deadlines and documentation requirements are met. Exhibitors should work with their club/charter/chapter leaders, advisors, and breeder, if needed, to ensure project agreements are complete and meet entry deadlines.

IV. Replacement Heifer Substitutions/Replacement

- A. If a breeding, health problem or temperament problem should occur PRIOR to the March pregnancy check, a substitute Replacement Heifer may be allowed, if replaced by the exhibitor within two (2) weeks. This applies only if the exhibitor had submitted the Project Agreement on the original heifer by the October deadline. If a substitute is required prior to the march Preg Check:
 - 1. The exhibitor must immediately notify the Fair of the need for substitution by email at entries@amadorcountyfair.com.
 - 2. Evidence of breeding or health problems must be submitted by a veterinarian.
 - 3. If requesting replacement for Temperament, please notify the Fair office at entries@amadorcountyfair.com & ceo@amadorcountyfair.com
 - 4. A new Project Agreement must be completed and submitted to the Fair.
- B. If a substitution is required and the Heifer is found open AT the March Preg Check, a substitute replacement Heifer may be allowed, if replaced by the exhibitor within two (2) weeks:
 - 1. The Heifer must be replaced within two (2) weeks) from the March Preg Check.
 - 2. A new Project Agreement must be completed and submitted to the Fair.
- C. If a breeding problem occurs prior to the March Preg Check, and documented by a veterinarian, and all prior paperwork and contracts have been submitted, a substitute for the Replacement can be brought with all pertinent paperwork for the new Replacement Heifer to the March Preg Check if the Fair has been notified and permission has been granted.
- D. If a breeding problem occurs after the March Preg Check and a 2nd Heifer was not previously entered and pregnancy checked and tagged on the March date, no substitutions will be allowed unless there has been a second Project Agreement as listed in Rule III B.

V. Replacement Heifer Project Rules

- A. The rules for this project specify that Heifers ***must be bred*** to calve between September 1 and October 31 following the Fair. Assuming 283-day gestation, the Heifer should be bred between November 23 and January 22.

**HEIFERS THAT CALVE PRIOR TO AMADOR COUNTY FAIR REPLACEMENT
HEIFER SHOW WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND INELIGIBLE TO SHOW OR SELL
THROUGH THE REPLACEMENT HEIFER SHOW AND SALE.**



- B. It is **REQUIRED** that the Replacement Heifer Project be halter broken and able to be led and controlled by an exhibitor at the March Preg Check. The Heifer needs to be calm around crowds. The Fair Management reserves the right to disqualify, as ineligible for show competition, and order the removal of any Replacement Heifer project entry from the Fairgrounds, which is not gentle and properly halter broke to lead, if it is determined that the beef entry may endanger other exhibitors and the Fair-going public. If a heifer is disqualified, it ***must*** be removed from the Fairgrounds that day.
- C. A required pregnancy check, tag and pre-weigh will be held March 15, 2026, from 8:30 am – 10:00 am. at the Amador County Fairgrounds.
- D. Local Bred Forms are due no later than the March Preg Check date.

NO EXCEPTIONS

- E. All Preg Checks will be done through palpitation.
- F. Use of Tranquilizers (Acepromazine) on cattle is unethical and is not allowed.
- G. An exhibitor may not ***SHOW*** or ***SELL*** more than one (1) Replacement Heifer project at the Amador County Fair per year. No refunds of entry fees associated with the Replacement Heifer Project.
- H. All Heifers will be checked by the veterinarian upon arrival at the Fairgrounds, and those Heifers that do not pass the Vet Check, shall not be allowed on Fairgrounds, and be disqualified from show competition. (Please refer to Vaccines & Recommendations by our vet on page 6 of this packet)
- I. Required for Sale Catalog:
 - 1. One (1) show ready photo of the Replacement Heifer & Exhibitor in uniform. The digital photograph submitted needs to show the full profile of the heifer including the exhibitor. Photo must emailed to the Fair along with the two (2) page Replacement Heifer Sales Catalog Information form, including a biography, are due to the Fair between July 13-17, 2026. Sales catalog information form, and biography can be emailed to the Fair at entries@amadorcountyfair.com. Please write "Heifer Sales Catalog" in the subject line.
- J. In addition to your project agreement, your Heifer(s) must be entered in the Fair!! Please check Fair book on the website for Entry Due dates at www.amadorcountyfair.com. If you declared two (2) Replacement Heifers, there is a no cost entry option for your second heifer that will allow for a photo to be uploaded in the unfortunate likelihood of a slipped calf in your first heifer.
- K. Heifers will be pregnancy tested at the Tuesday Weigh-In at the Fair by palpitation using a veterinarian designated by Fair Management.
- L. A brand inspector will be present to conduct brand inspections at the Tuesday Preg Check at Fair. The original Bill of Sale and transportation form must be retained by the exhibitor and presented to the State Brand Inspector at the Fair during the Tuesday Weigh-In/Pregnancy Check.



VI. Replacement Heifer Sale

- A. Per Amador County Fair rules, “ALL CHAMPIONS SELL”.
- B. Non-champion Heifers that qualify for the sale are not required to sell but must inform the Jr. Livestock Office immediately following the Replacement Heifer show and pay a \$25 fee to be removed from the sale order. Champion and Reserve Champion Heifers cannot be removed from the sale.

REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT IMPORTANT DATES

- ✓ Must have ownership of Replacement Heifer project by October 31. A copy of the Bill of Sale or Consignment, Form 74-036 (yellow transportation slip), is required.
- ✓ Project Agreement Forms must be completed and returned to the Amador County Fair office or postmarked no later than **November 3, 2025.**
- ✓ Heifers must be bred to calve between September 1st, and October 31st. This requires that breeding **must** occur between November 23 and January 22.
- ✓ If proof of Calfhood Brucellosis and BVD-PI is not submitted with Project Agreement Form by November 1st, proof shall be submitted no later than the **first Monday in February of the Fair year.**
- ✓ Substitution requests must be made within two (2) weeks of health or breeding problems prior pregnancy check, or, if discovered on March date, no later than two (2) weeks, or **March 29, 2026.**
- ✓ Junior Livestock entry opening and closing dates will be posted on the Amador County Fair website and available through your club/charter leader/chapter advisor.
- ✓ The Sales Catalog Information form and digital photograph are due to the Fair between July 13-17, 2026. Please send the Sale Catalog Information Sheet & bio to entries@amadorcountyfair.com. Write “Heifer Sales Catalog” in the subject line.
- ✓ Ensure that you are aware of the Amador County Fair office hours and days of operation to meet required deadlines. Monday – Friday, 9 am – 4 pm excluding Holidays.
- ✓ All replacement heifers are required to be in place no later than Noon, Tuesday of Fair.
- ✓ Final Weigh-In, Preg Check and Brand Inspection will be Tuesday Afternoon of the Fair. Time will be posted in the premium book and livestock schedule.



**Amador County Fair Replacement Heifer Project
Vaccines & Recommendations by Timothy W. Perano, DVM**

8-way or 9-way Clostridial Vaccine (Bacterial)

Examples: Covexin 8, Calvary 9, Vision 8, Ultrabac 8 etc.

Administration: This vaccine should have been given to your heifer as a calf, and a booster should be given either pre-breeding or during pregnancy.

Note: If your heifer has never been vaccinated with this type of vaccine, then give a booster vaccination (2nd shot) 4-6 weeks later.

Viral Vaccines - Give one of the following types of viral vaccine (Either give modified live virus or killed virus vaccine).

Breeding animals should be vaccinated for Vibrio and Leptospirosis, which are bacterial diseases that cause abortion in cattle. (The examples below contain both of these, as designated by the VL5.)

Modified Live Virus: This vaccine is recommended, as it provides better fetal protection and does not require a booster. It must be given at least 30 days pre-breeding, so it does not negatively impact fertility. It cannot be given to pregnant animals (For pregnant heifers, use a killed virus vaccine).

Note: Always use your modified live vaccine within a couple of hours of reconstituting it.

Examples: Bovishield Gold FP5 + VL5, Vista 5 + VL5, etc.

Killed Virus Vaccine: Heifers that have not been previously vaccinated with this vaccine should receive a booster 4-5 weeks after their first vaccination. Ideally the final vaccination should be given 2-4 weeks prior to breeding. Safe for pregnant cattle.

Example: Virashield 6 + VL5

Pinkeye Vaccines - There are two different bacteria that cause pinkeye in cattle. They are Moraxella Bovis and Moraxella Bovoculi. There is not a commercially available vaccine that contains both, so to cover both bacteria you have to use two vaccines.

Pinkeye vaccines should be given in the spring (March or April) for the highest level of protection during fly season. Administer a booster dose one month later.

Moraxella Bovis

Example: Maxi/Guard Pinkeye Bacterin (By Addison Labs)

Moraxella Bovoculi

Example: Moraxella Bovoculi Bacterin (By Addison Labs)

Note: Heifers should still be monitored for pinkeye, as vaccinated cattle can have breakthrough cases. Vaccinated cattle tend to have pinkeye less often and breakthrough cases tend to be less severe.

Warts - No larger than a quarter and no more than 5

Skin Lesion - Must Be at least 50% haired in.



BEEF REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT AGREEMENT

This project agreement must be completed and returned with all required attachments and signatures to the Amador County Fair office by November 3rd, 2025, to be eligible to show a Replacement Heifer project at the 2026 Amador County Fair. The project rules should be read thoroughly before signing this agreement.

Note: All heifers must be owned by October 31st, 2025, and the Bill of Sale or Consignment, Form 74-036 (yellow transportation slip) must be reflected in this date. For Amador County Fair office days and hours, please contact the Fair or check their website. **All Fields on Project Agreement Form are Mandatory.**

Please print clearly or type. Forms that are not legible or are incomplete shall not be accepted.

Check Box if you attached Proof of Negative BVD-PI

Name of Exhibitor: _____

Club/Chapter: _____

Club/Project Leader/Advisor Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Parent Telephone Number: _____

Parent Email: _____

Name/Nickname of Heifer: _____

Breed(s) of Heifer: _____

Is the Heifer Registered? _____
If yes, provide registration number _____

Color and Markings of Heifer: _____

Date Heifer came under Ownership: _____
(Attach copy of Bill of Sale/yellow transportation slip)

Calfhood Brucellosis Ear Tag/Clip #: _____

Heifer Location (Physical Address): _____

Check Box if you are including Proof of Negative BVD-PI: ☐

SIGNED STATEMENT

We have read rules and attached information for the Replacement Heifer Project and by signing below, assert the above information as true and correct and agree to abide by the Replacement Heifer Project rules and State and local Fair rules. Project and exhibitor disqualification will result if the rules are not followed.

Exhibitor Name: _____

Exhibitor Signature: _____

Dated: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Dated: _____

Leader/Advisor Name: _____

Leader/Advisor Signature: _____

Dated: _____



BEEF REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT SALE CATALOG INFORMATION SHEET

NAME OF EXHIBITOR: _____

CLUB/CHAPTER: _____

Heifer Information

Breed: _____

Color & Markings: _____

Birth Date: _____

(Month and Year)

Is the Heifer Registered? _____

(If yes, provide signed papers)

Name of breeder and
address of where heifer
was purchased: _____

Breed of Heifer's Sire: _____

Breed of Heifer's Dam: _____

Breed of Bull Heifer was
bred to: _____

Heifer was bred by
(Please circle or check one):

Artificial Insemination (AI)

Natural

If AI, name of bull &
date of insemination: _____

If Natural, dates heifer
was exposed to bull(s): _____

Personal Biography

PLEASE ATTACH TYPED BIO INFORMATION, NO MORE THAN
120 WORDS, IN ARIAL 11-POINT FONT.

**Make sure to fill in page 1 & 2 in their entirety,
completely and accurately!!!**



REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT PREGNANCY CHECK INFORMATION

DATE	PREG CHECK RESULTS	WEIGHT

REPLACEMENT HEIFER PROJECT HEALTH RECORDS

List all medications (including wormer), treatments, vaccinations & antibiotics.

DATE	MEDICATION OR TREATMENT	REASON

This information is mandatory for the Beef Replacement Heifer Sale Catalog. Please complete the entire form and email to entries@amadorcountyfair.com. Upload the sale catalog Photo to Showworks within the window of the dates allowed by the Fair.