

Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition

2026 Open Dairy Cattle

- Division: See Specific under Classes
- Department 920
- Entry Fee: \$35 per entry

Entries Close:	Monday, August 10 th
Begin Arrival:	Thursday, September 3 rd at 12:00 noon
In Place:	Thursday, September 3 rd at 5:00 pm
Open & Jr. Cow Show:	Friday, September 4 th at 9:00 am
Open & Jr. Heifer Show:	Friday, September 4 th at 11:00 a.m.
Showmanship	Friday, September 4 th at 2:00 p.m.
CO Dairy Youth Foundation Awards:	Following Supreme Selection
Begin Release:	Friday, September 4 th following show
All Out:	Saturday, September 5 th at 12:00 noon

Competition Requirements

1. All entrants must have read and be familiar with the General Competition Requirements, Livestock and Small Animal Competition Requirements, Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct, Animal Welfare Policy, and Livestock Health Requirements. When applicable, all Association rules shall apply. All Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA) Competition Requirements and the Show Ring Code of Ethics will be enforced.

2. All entrants for livestock exhibited in Open, Breed, or Market competitions must provide a premises identification number (PID) at the time of entry. To obtain a PID, contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-869-9130 or click on the following link:
<https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>

3. Bedding: Exhibitors are responsible for their own livestock bedding. Entry into competition at the Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition (“State Fair”) does not include bedding.

Exhibitors may pre-order bedding and shavings through the official bedding vendor or bedding will be available to purchase on-grounds from said vendor upon arrival. The phone number and order portal will be posted on the Fair’s website.

Straw may only be used for dairy cattle, dairy goats, breeding sheep, and open breeding cattle tie-outs. All other uses of straw are prohibited.

Outside bedding for livestock exhibitors is permitted.

4. Original registration papers on all registered animals must be available for inspection at the show.
5. Substitutions and add-ons must be made upon arrival and check-in. No exceptions. No substitutions will be accepted at the time of the show.
6. To be eligible for competition, animals must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor. Registration papers/ownership papers and legal transfer forms must be in the exhibitor’s name before showing. Transfers not formalized by the respective national breed association before the show will be picked up by the superintendents and mailed to the appropriate breed association.
7. Owners/farms and families will be limited to 20 animals they may enter in individual classes. Unless otherwise specified, no more than two premiums will be awarded to any one owner in individual classes.
8. Animals owned in a partnership may be shown in the name of the partnership only, except that at the time of entry, a determination shall be made that such animals will be shown in the name of one (but not both) partners.

9. The exhibitor is considered the owner or member of the partnership owning the animal. Members of the same family or different families owning animals housed as one herd on the same farm will be considered one exhibitor.
10. The breeder is considered the dam's owner at the time of service.
11. ENTRY NUMBERS: Each entry will be assigned a number. Entry numbers will be provided to all exhibitors. The exhibitor must display these numbers when the animal is in the show ring.
12. Exhibitors should wear white shirts and white pants as appropriate show ring attire. Shorts are not allowed. Names or emblems are not allowed on animals or exhibitors.
13. In keeping with the basic philosophy of the PDCA, ethics are the individual responsibility of the owner of each animal shown. All exhibitors must maintain a reputation of integrity and present a wholesome and progressive image of dairy cattle in the proper care of and management of those animals at all times. All animals must be in a sound, healthy state and presented in the show ring in a respectful manner. Violations of this code are subject to the disciplinary provisions of the appropriate dairy breed association and Authority officials.
14. Misrepresenting the age or milk status of any animal for the class in which it is shown will be reported to the respective breed association and show management, resulting in the animal and exhibitor being immediately disqualified.
15. Criticizing or interfering with the judges, Authority officials or other exhibitors while on the fairgrounds, or any other conduct detrimental to the breed or show, will result in immediate dismissal from the grounds and disqualification.
16. 1st through 6th place ribbons will be awarded in show classes.

Age Classifications (All Breeds):

Spring Heifer Calf	born after 02/29/2026 and over 3 months by show
Winter Heifer Calf	born 12/01/2025 to 02/29/2026

Fall Heifer Calf	born 09/01/2025 to 11/30/2025
Summer Yearling Heifer	born 06/01/2025 to 08/31/2025
Spring Yearling Heifer	born 03/01/2025 to 05/13/2025
Winter Yearling Heifer	born 12/01/2024 to 02/28/2025
Fall Yearling Heifer	born 09/01/2024 to 11/30/2024
Dry Cow	3 years and over (born before 09/01/2023)
Unfresh 2-Year-Old Cow	born 09/01/2024 to 08/31/2024
Junior 2-Year-Old Cow	born 03/01/2024 to 08/31/2024
Senior 2-Year-Old Cow	born 09/01/2024 to 03/01/2024
Junior 3-Year-Old Cow	born 03/01/2023 to 08/31/2023
Senior 3-Year-Old Cow	born 09/01/2023 to 02/28/2023
Four-Year-Old Cow	born 09/02/2022 to 08/31/2022
Aged Cow – 5 Years and Older	born before 09/01/2021

Open Dairy Classes

Heifers - A	Div. 1- Ayrshire	Div. 2. Brown Swiss	Div. 3 Guernsey	Div. 4 Holstein	Div. 5 Jersey	Div. 6 Milking Shorthorn
Spring Heifer Class	1801a	1802a	1803a	1804a	1805a	1806a
Winter Heifer Class	1811a	1812a	1813a	1814a	1815a	1816a
Fall Heifer Class	1821a	1822a	1823a	1824a	1825a	1826a
Summer Yearling Heifer	1831a	1832a	1833a	1834a	1835a	1836a

Spring Yearling Heifer	1841a	1842a	1843a	1844a	1845a	1846a
Winter Yearling Heifer	1851a	1852a	1853a	1854a	1855a	1856a
Fall Yearling Heifer	1861a	1862a	1863a	1864a	1865a	1866a
Champion Jr. Female - Award A	1871a	1872a	1873a	1874a	1875a	1876a
Res. Champion Jr. Female – Award A	1881a	1882a	1883a	1884a	1885a	1886a

Cows-B	Div. 1- Ayrshire	Div. 2. Brown Swiss	Div. 3 Guernsey	Div. 4 Holstein	Div. 5 Jersey	Div. 6 Milking Shorthorn
Dry Cow, 3 Yrs. Old & Over	1891b	1892b	1893b	1894b	1895b	1896b
Unfresh 2-Yr.-Old Cow	1901b	1902b	1903b	1904b	1905b	1906b
Junior 2-Year-Old Cow	1911b	1912b	1913b	1914b	1915b	1916b
Senior 2-Year-Old Cow	1921b	1922b	1923b	1924b	1925b	1926b
Junior 3-Year-Old Cow	1931b	1932b	1933b	1934b	1935b	1936b
Senior 3-Year-Old Cow	1941b	1942b	1943b	1944b	1945b	1946b
Four Year Old Cow	1951b	1952b	1953b	1954b	1955b	1956b
Five Year Old Cow	1961b	1962b	1963b	1964b	1965b	1966b
Aged Cow - 6 Years Old & Older	1971b	1972b	1973b	1974b	1975b	1976b
Champion Sr. Female - Award A	1981b	1982b	1983b	1984b	1985b	1986b
Res. Champion Sr. Female – Award A	1991b	1992b	1993b	1994b	1995b	1996b
Premier Breeder - Award B	2001b	2002b	2003b	2004b	2005b	2006b
Premier Exhibitor - Award B	2011b	2012b	2013b	2014b	2015b	2016b

Awards

- Award A: Rosette in each breed by Colorado State Fair Authority
- Award B: Banner in each breed by Colorado State Fair Authority

Premium Schedules

Heifer Classes No. of Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	\$65	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	\$70	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3-4	\$75	\$65	\$55	\$45	\$0	\$0
5-6	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	40	\$0
7-8	\$85	\$75	\$65	\$55	\$45	\$35
9-10	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50	\$40
11-12	\$95	\$85	\$75	\$65	\$55	\$45
13 and Up	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50

Cow Classes No. of Entries	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
1	\$75	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	\$80	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3-4	\$85	\$75	\$65	\$55	\$0	\$0
5-6	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	50	\$0
7-8	\$95	\$85	\$75	\$65	\$55	\$45
9-10	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60	\$50
11-12	\$105	\$95	\$85	\$75	\$65	\$55
13 and Up	\$110	\$100	\$90	\$80	\$70	\$60

Premier Exhibitor

A banner will be awarded to the exhibitor winning the most points (not to exceed six animals owned and exhibited by him/herself in the open single classes). The scale of points will be as follows:

Placings	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Senior Females Points	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2
Junior Females Points	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Premier Breeder

A banner will be awarded to the breeder winning the most points (not to exceed six animals in the open single classes exhibited by him/herself and/or other exhibitors). The above-point scale will be used.

Open Dairy Special Awards

Dairy Herdsman Award

The Colorado State Fair Authority will present a special award and cash award of \$50.00 to the top Dairy Herdsman of the Open Show. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendents will consider the following to determine herdsman awards:

1. Number of animals exhibited.
2. Number of personnel working with the exhibit.
3. Neatness and cleanliness of stalls and surrounding alleys and other areas.
4. Cleanliness of animals throughout the show.
5. Promptness in presenting animals for judging.
6. Courtesy to judges, Authority Officials, visitors and other exhibitors.
7. Educational message and demonstration material.

Red & White Dairy Cattle Assn., 3805 S. Valley, Crystal Spring, PA 15536; provides a complimentary copy of The Red Blood, the official publication of the Red & White Cattle Association, to the Colorado State Fair Authority.

Thank You to All Our Award Donors for Your Support!