Welcome to the 4-H Market Steer program for Fryeburg Fair. Raising a market steer is a valuable learning and life skill building experience for youth in the 4-H program. In this packet are the important forms you will need to participate in the program and deadlines you need to know to have all your paperwork done on time.

Raising a market steer is a huge responsibility for the 4-H member. The project usually starts in the fall when the child buys a steer, continues through the winter, spring, and summer. There are some county fairs with classes for market steers where 4-Hers can show their steer but do not have an auction. The Fryeburg market steer class, however, terminates with an auction where the animal is sold.

The child must be able to adequately house the animal nearby to care for the steer, and be able to financially support bedding, veterinary fees, and feed for the animal through the year. Feed can cost anywhere from $550 to $650 a year to raise a steer to market weight. All projects must be the work of the 4-H member. The Market Animal project must be raised on your home premises or within a 30-35 mile radius. Projects outside of this radius must receive an exemption from the local Extension Office and the fair where the animal is entered.

Included in this packet are two important forms and a list of the 4-H rules governing market animal projects. Youth wishing to participate in 4-H market animal class at Fryeburg must be enrolled 4-H members by December 31. Youth also need to submit an “Intent to Participate” form to their county office by November 1. This form is in this packet and is also found at http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/4-h-projects/animal-science-resources/beef/. This form needs to be filled out by all youth wishing to participate in the Fryeburg show, even if their steer was already tagged in the fall as a Scramble Calf or at a fall calf sale.

The Intent to Participate form will advise the State 4-H Office which steers need to be tagged. Verification that the 4-H member was enrolled or re-enrolled with their local county Cooperative Extension office by December 31, and is eligible to participate in the class will be confirmed prior to an approved animal approval form is issued. An enrollment/re-enrollment form is also included in this packet. The enrollment form can also be found at http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/how-do-i-join/. An embossed Market Steer Approval Form will be mailed to you in mid-March. You must have this approval form at the fair when you check-in with your animal.
If the animal loses a tag, the 4-H member will be required to contact UMaine Cooperative Extension to have a tag replaced. Animals for Fryeburg Fair contact Donna Flint at 207-324-2814. **If both tags are missing or have been tampered with the animal is automatically disqualified unless the 4-H member is willing to pay for a DNA test and can prove the animal is the same animal.** At the time the second set of hair is taken for the DNA test, the new ear tags will be replaced at the member’s expense. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and the West Oxford Agricultural reserve the right to administer the DNA test at any time.

Please consult the Fryeburg Fair premium book at [www.fryeburgfair.com](http://www.fryeburgfair.com) for specific rules pertaining to Fryeburg. The entry form for the Fryeburg Fair Beef Steer Show is due in early August.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Maine State 4-H Office if you have any questions about the market steer project.

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Attachments:  
4-H Enrollment Form due in County Extension office by December 31  
4-H Market Steer Intent to Participate Form due in County Extension office by November 1  
Regulations for Market Steers and Market Lamb to be sold at fairs open to 4-H members statewide