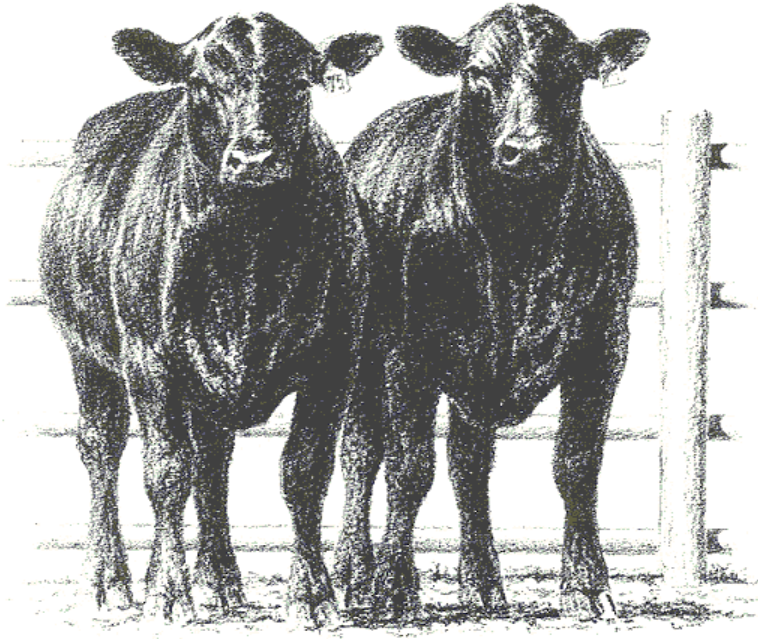


Desoto County Fair



Beef Rules

Desoto County Fair Association
PO BOX 970
Arcadia, FL 34265

2008 Desoto County Fair Beef Rules

2008 Beef Calendar of Events

August 6, 2007	8pm	Turner Exhibit Hall - Mandatory Meeting
August 18, 2007	8-9am	Arcadia Stockyard - Initial Weigh-In
December 1, 2007		3 Original Buyers Letters Due
January 19, 2008	8-9am	Breeding Check-In
January 19, 2008	8-9am	Arcadia Stockyard - Final Weigh-In
January 19, 2008	10am	All Steer/Breeding Record Books Due (Regardless of conflict of another Fair)
January 19, 2008	6pm	Steer Screening at Fairgrounds
January 20, 2007	8-9am	Breeding Check-In for animals coming from South Florida Fair
January 20, 2007	2pm	Grooming Contest
January 20, 2007	4pm	Beef Breeding Screening
January 22, 2008	7pm	Steer Show
January 24, 2008	7pm	Beef Breeding Show
January 25, 2008	12pm	Beef Breeding Released
January 25, 2008	5pm	Livestock Awards
January 25, 2008	7pm	Steer Sale
January 27, 2008	7am	Steers Released
January 27, 2008	10am	Mandatory Clean Up & Buyer's Thank You Letters Due

General Fair Rules

On behalf of the Desoto County Fair Association, you are invited to be a part of the Youth Beef Livestock Exhibit at the 2008 Desoto County Fair.

The Management of the Desoto County Fair Association reserves the right to amend, add, or/and interpret the following rules and regulations, to arbitrarily settle and determine all questions and difference in regard to, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the Fair.

The Desoto County Fair and Livestock Committee assumes no responsibility for the safety, loss or well being of exhibits. However, every reasonable precaution will be observed.

The owner or custodian of the property of any kind brought to the Fairgrounds, either for exhibit or for other purposes, assumes as a condition of its admission to the grounds, all risk and/or responsibility for its loss, damage, or theft. The Fair or its Officers cannot and will not accept responsibility and liability for any damage or injury resulting from theft, fire, elements, accidents or other conditions or causes. Whether the exhibits, property of the Exhibitor, vehicles on the grounds and articles left there or any other property of any nature whatsoever.

Exhibitors must reside in Desoto County and be currently enrolled and actively attending a Desoto County Elementary, Middle or High School program. Exhibitors must be a bona fide member of a chartered 4-H or FFA program and be 8 years of age and no older than 19 years of age as of Sept. 1, 2007. The Fair Board and Livestock Committee will reserve the right to ask for proof of school attendance. 4-H and FFA will furnish an attendance record to the Livestock Chairman on January 3, 2008. Each Exhibitor must meet the requirements of the 4H or FFA to be eligible to participate at the Fair.

Exhibitors and Parents should not be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol.

Physical conditions of Exhibitors which management considers to be a problem in the show or sale may result in the management not accepting any entry or allowing the entrant to participate in the show or sale.

Each Exhibitor must assume all liability in case of death or injury to his/her animal until the end of the fair or until the animal is removed from the fairgrounds. At which time, market animals become the liability of the purchaser.

The Livestock Committee reserves the right to reject or require removal of any animal because of health, unmanageability or inferior quality, **at any time during the fair.**

All protest must be in writing, stating plainly the complaint, be accompanied by a fee of \$50, which shall be forfeited to the Fair, in case the protest is not sustained and must be delivered to the Fair Management within 24 hours after cause of protest.

Any persons who knowingly violates any of these rules and provisions forfeits all rights, privileges and premiums.

Age determination of showmanship, grooming and record book awards shall be based on the Exhibitors age as of September 1, prior to the fair. Awards shall be divided into two classes, Junior and Senior. See specific Committee Rules.

All market animals will be weighed on scales provided by the Livestock Committee only.

Premiums will be paid on the basis of the judging reports.

The Livestock Show Categories are Market Steer, Heifers, Market Swine, Poultry, Rabbits and Goats. Entry by Exhibitor expressly implies their willingness to accept the decision of all judges

There will be a non-refundable, registration fee of \$25 due at the mandatory meeting. The fee will entitle a week fair pass for Exhibitor and 2 parents. Additional passes may be purchased. This fee does not include a Fair Membership as in the past years.

General Beef Rules

All Exhibitors in this division are governed by the General Rules of the Desoto County Fair Youth Livestock Show.

Upon acceptance into the Fair, Exhibitors are under the supervision of the Desoto County Fair Youth Beef Livestock Committee. At the discretion of the Youth Beef Livestock Committee, any unbecoming conduct on the part of an Exhibitor will result in disqualification, immediate removal of their animals from the Fairgrounds and the loss of any premium or awards.

All Exhibitors must be able to safely handle animals by themselves at all times, while at the Fair

All Exhibitors must show all entries unless otherwise approved by the Livestock Board

All animals must conform to all State of Florida Health Rules.

All property entered at the fair for any purpose shall be subject to the control of the Livestock Committee.

Tampering with any animals entered, such as filling with foreign substances, etc. is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers on show animals or possession of the same after arrival to the fair will be considered as a form of tampering. Tampering will result in immediate disqualification of the animal. No chemicals are to be administered within 30 days of show date unless administered by a veterinarian and accompanied by a letter from him or her.

Animals must be under the control of Exhibitor at all times. All Livestock must be doubled tied with halter/chain and neck ropes at least 1/2" diameter. Halters must be clean and in good condition.

Shots or medications may not be given to animals while at the fairgrounds, except with permission of the barn superintendent and under supervision of a veterinarian.

Each Exhibitor must have an official health certificate upon arrival at the fair. No animals will be allowed inside the fairgrounds until a health certificate has been reviewed and approved by the state inspectors on duty. All trailers hauling livestock to the fair must be cleaned and disinfected prior to arrival according to state rules and regulations.

FFA and 4H chapters can only enter one market animal per year. Individuals may show and sell only one market animal.

Exhibitors should care for and feed animals while at the Fair with minimal assistance from parents and leaders. Parents and Leaders may assist when safety and education are involved, but entrants must be present when parents or leaders are performing any grooming or related duties or Exhibitor shall forfeit their premium money.

All vehicles used to service animals (such as feed) must take place between livestock gate opening and one hour before fairs open to the public. All vehicles must be moved outside the fence one hour before the fair opens to the public.

Any exhibit not receiving proper feed, water, etc. will be cared for by show management. The Exhibitor shall be assessed \$50 per feeding for such care from the premium or sale money due. Any Exhibitor not attending to the cleaning and care of the animal and stall area may be assessed noted by the Livestock Committee.

Age determination of Showmanship, Grooming and Record Book Awards shall be based on the Exhibitor's age as of September 1, 2007, prior to the fair. Awards shall be divided into two classes: Junior Ages 8 - 12 and Senior Ages 13-19.

All Exhibitors who receive a trophy are required to write a Thank You letter to the Trophy Sponsor. There will be a label on the bottom of each trophy with their address.

Limitations of entries may occur in any class if Livestock Committee determines it necessary.

No joint ownership of animals will be accepted to entry.

Dress Code for all Exhibitors will be black jeans with white collared long sleeve shirt, with buttons or snaps. Exhibitors are encouraged to wear their FFA/4H Jackets. Shirts must be tucked in pants, with belt and closed toed boots.

No parents will be allowed in the show ring at any time during a show or contest. Only appropriate Livestock Committee Members.

In order to insure animals will be on display for the duration of the Fair, animals will be release only at the times designated in the Calendar of Events.

Each Livestock Club is responsible for cleaning the exhibit area immediately following show or use of the arena and bleacher area. Steer Exhibitors are responsible for Sunday and Tuesday. Heifer Exhibitors are responsible for Sunday and Thursday. Swine Exhibitors are responsible for Wednesday. Steer and Swine Exhibitors will clean up on Saturday Morning from the sale the night before. Goat Exhibitors are responsible for Monday.

Failure to submit all required forms, documentation and pre-entry/registration fee at the required time will result in not being accepted as an Exhibitor. There will be no exceptions.

If any Exhibitor is charged with any criminal offense including criminal traffic charges, he or she will not be eligible to participate in the Fair.

All steer and heifer record books must be turned in at the mandatory Exhibitor meeting at the Livestock Pavilion on January 19, 2008 at 10am. If record books are not turned in by 10am, the Exhibitor will be disqualified from participating in the Fair. It will be necessary that the Exhibitors animal be immediately removed from the Fairgrounds. Exhibitors that will be participating at another fair must turn in their Record Book prior to this date, unless someone will be at the meeting to turn it in for them. This is necessary due to having the record books judged.

All Exhibitors must be present at the Awards Ceremony on January 25, 2008 at 5pm.

All Exhibitors will receive their Fair Identification Pass, you are required to wear you pass at all times when on Fairgrounds.

Exhibitors will be responsible for having animal prepared and ready for entry into show ring. Only immediate family members can assist in animal preparation. Professional fitters or any other persons not in the Exhibitors immediate family may not groom or help.

Market Steer Rules

In order to enter a steer, the animal must be bred and born in Desoto County. The breeder must sign a statement attesting to this fact on an approved form, along with a Bill of Sale. These forms must be completed and attached to entry form, which will be turned in at the initial weigh in on August 18, 2007. All Exhibitors must show and sell, including 4H/FFA scholarship animals. However, 4H/FFA steers are not eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion.

All Livestock Exhibitors and one parent/guardian must attend the Mandatory Registration Meeting on August 6, 2007 at 8pm at the Turner Exhibit Hall.

All Exhibitors are limited to weighing, showing and selling one steer.

Each Steer Exhibitor must attend all mandatory weight-ins to be eligible for show and sale. Exhibitor must have prior approval from the Livestock Committee for an excused absence. School Functions or Death in Family are acceptable excused absences.

Each Exhibitor must attach two color pictures to the entry form, one of each side of steer. Pictures must be clear and the animals must be clearly identifiable. All entry forms must be turned in at initial weigh-in.

Livestock Committee will weigh all steers and apply ear tags. No vaccinations, implants, worming, castration or dehorning will be done at initial or final weigh in by anyone. However, it is encouraged for all beef animals to be given their appropriate vaccinations.

All animals must be polled or dehorned, completely healed, before entering the Fairgrounds. Regrowth must not be longer than 2 inches from scalp.

All steers must gain 2 pounds per day from initial weigh in to final weigh in and weigh a minimum of 1000 pounds. This will be a total of 155 days on feed.

It is recommended that steers weigh between 650-800 pounds at the initial weigh in.

You may ask for your steer to be reweighed once only. The steer is not to leave the scale area, while a zero balance on the scale is confirmed.

Steers may be mouthed at initial or final weigh in for age verification. A Certified Veterinarian will mouth any steer of questionable age. The vet will write a statement concerning the age of the steer in question.

Steers cannot be older than 24 months at time of fair.

Steers must be halter broken. No nose leads or other training devices, such as breaking halters will be allowed at Fairgrounds.

Each steer Exhibitor will go through the handling committee at the Fairgrounds. Failure to control animal will result in disqualification to the Fair. This rule is to protect everyone involved, from the Exhibitor, parents to the general public.

Exhibitors will only be paid up to 1300 pounds.

Steers will be shown by weight, they will be classified upon arrival at Fair.

Each steer Exhibitor must bring their buyers thank you with a self-address stamped envelope to the Mandatory Clean up on January 27, 2008 at 10am. Failure to comply with attendance and/or letter will be subject to a \$50 fine for each offense and will be deducted from sale proceeds.

Each Exhibitor must mail their buyers letters to the Desoto County Fair Association, PO BOX 970, Arcadia, FL 34265. Postmarked no later than December 1, 2007. Failure to submit letters will result in a \$50 fine per letter.

Heifer Rules

There will be only females, no bulls due to lack of participation in the past.

Heifer Exhibitors may enter no more than two animals in any individual class. There must be at least two entries to constitute a class. Each Exhibitor is limited to 4 Heifer entries.

Heifer entry forms must be complete, one picture of each side attached. Breeders certificate, Release Form and \$10 registration fee per animal due on October 1, 2007. All forms must be mailed to the Desoto County Fair Association, PO BOX 970, Arcadia, FL 34265.

All heifers must have a tattoo, freeze brand or fire brand for identification purposes.

Heifers must be owned by Exhibitor by October 1, 2007 and must be certified by the Breeder.

Heifer classes will be assigned by age.

Barn Rules

Morning feeding times are 5:45 to 7:30am. Afternoon feeding times are 3:00 to 7:00pm

Do not leave cattle unattended in feeding area. If there is feed that your animal has spilled please clean up, keep your area clean. If Livestock Committee has to tend to your animal there will be a \$50 fine

No feeding in the barn. However, you can have hay provided it is a hay bag.

Exhibitors are to wear closed toed shoes in the barn at all times. No Flip Flops or Sandals, you will be sent home to change shoes.

No climbing on gates or bleachers. Children are to be kept under control by their parents.

Each Exhibitor must furnish feed, water and care of their animal while at the fair. Each Exhibitor is required to maintain clean and attractive quarters at all times. An Exhibitor showing neglect of their animal shall forfeit all prize money

All Exhibitors, leaders and parents are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous, professional, positive and sportsmanship like manner at all times or they will be dismissed from the Fair and will be banned from participating in future Fairs.

If for any reason an Exhibitor cannot attend barn clean up day, they must make prior arrangements in advance with the Livestock Coordinator. The Livestock Coordinator will assign Exhibitor cleaning duties to be performed at a different time. Failure to participate in barn clean up after fair will result in a \$50 fine.

Exhibitor are not to be in the barn for any reason during normal school hours, will be disqualified with the exception of their show/sale day after noon, this includes the Home School Exhibitors.

Judging

A modified Danish system of judging will be used. All decisions of the Judge are FINAL. No awards will be given and no premiums paid to any animal in any class that in the opinion of the Judge does not deserve that award.

Ribbons awarded for placement will be paid premiums as follows:

Blue	\$20
Red	\$15
White	\$10

Trophy Buckles will be awarded for Grand and Reserve Champions

Trophy Buckles will be awarded for Jr and Sr Showmanships

Eligibility for competing in Showmanship Classes will be determined by the Judge during the steer classes or heifer classes. Exhibitor has the option of competing. All Exhibitors are encouraged to compete.

Exhibitor can only show their own animals in Showmanship.

Weight Gain

Blue	\$20
Red	\$15
White	\$10

Grooming Contest

Exhibitors must register for the grooming competition on January 19, 2008 10am at the mandatory meeting. No late entries will be accepted.

Steers and Heifers are eligible to compete in the grooming competition. Exhibitors must groom their own animal.

Juniors have 1 hour 15 minutes to groom. Seniors have 1 hour to groom.

The event will be conducted in a controlled situation with no assistance from anyone.

The Grooming Contest is optional, but all Exhibitors are encouraged to enter.

Grooming Guidelines

- 1 Cattle must be brought into arena clean and wet. All calves will be wet by the Livestock Committee to ensure fairness
- 2 Each Exhibitor must provide their own equipment and grooming products.

- 3 No sharing will be allowed during competition. Grooming chutes and blowers may be borrowed prior to the competition and must be in place before calves enter arena.
- 4 All chutes and articles used must be in the arena no later than 1:30pm and must be removed from the show ring immediately. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- 5 No show boxes are allowed in arena.
- 6 No help or additional products will be allowed once the competition begins.

Spectators, 4H/FFA Advisors and parents must stay outside of arena and refrain from coaching. If problem arise, the participant should advise the judge and the problem will be handled. Livestock Committee will monitor competition.

Rookie, Junior and Senior Premier Exhibitor Awards

Cash awards will be given to the Premier Exhibitors.

Senior Premier	\$500
Junior Premier	\$500

To be eligible you must show steer and heifer

Awards are presented to encourage our Beef program Exhibitor participation and will be presented at the Awards presentation.

Points from the following categories will be used to determine our Premier Exhibitors

Class Placement	Blue	10 points
	Red	5 points
	White	3 points
Showmanship (1st Place)		10 points
Record Book (1st Place)		10 points
Weight Gain (1st Place)		10 points
Grooming Contest (1st Place)		10 points
Steer and Heifer Exhibits (Per Ani)		10 points
Club Perfect Attendance		10 points
Participation in Prospect Show		10 points

Record Books

All Exhibitors must use a Desoto County Fair Youth Livestock Record Book and must be completed and signed where applicable. Failure to submit a record book at acceptance of entry will result in disqualification of Exhibitor. Separate books for steers and heifers must be used.

All completed record books for steers that are turned in at the final weigh-in will be judged whether steer meets the required weight gain or not. Steers must be weighed at final weigh in for record book to be eligible for judging.

All record books must be signed by FFA/4H Advisor prior to Final Weigh-In.

Record Book Awards

All divisions of submitted record books will be judged on completeness, accurateness and neatness. Record books will be judged separately in two age divisions - Junior and Senior as determined by the Desoto County Fair Youth Beef Livestock Committee. Judging will be performed by qualified out of town judges. Judging and points assigned to record books are as follows:

Components of Books

Signatures and Date	2
Agreement	3
Purpose	8
Closing Inventory	8
Feed Expense	8
Non-Feed Expense	8
Weight Record	4
Health Record	4
Project Summary	15
Important Dates	8
Pictures	10
Project Story	15
Buyers Letters	5
Drug Statement	2
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Record Book Premiums

1st Place - each division	Ribbon, plaque and \$15
2nd Place - each division	Ribbon and \$10
3rd Place - each division	Ribbon and \$5

Steer Breeder Awards

The Breeders Award will be based on the following:

Grand Champion Steer	20
Reserve Champion Steer	15
Class Winners - Blue excluded if Grand/Reserve	10
Blue Ribbon - 2nd Place	9
Blue Ribbon - 3rd Place	8
Blue Ribbon - 4th Place	7
Blue Ribbon - 5th, 6th & 7th Place	6
Red Ribbon	3
White Ribbon	1

If a tiebreaker is needed it will be decided upon the number of calves.

Steer Sale

All steers accepted to show must sale. All animals must be removed Sunday morning

Steer Sale

All steers accepted to show must sale. All animals must be removed Sunday morning
No exceptions.

Two percent of sale proceeds from each Exhibitor will be deducted by the Desoto County Fair Association to help defray expenses. The two percent is not deducted from add-ons.

Steers will be sold in the following order:

Grand Champion
Reserve Champion
Blue Ribbon Steers - Heaviest to Lightest
Red Ribbon Steers - Heaviest to Lightest
White Ribbon Steers - Heaviest to Lightest

If Exhibitor has received an additional achievement, then they will be move to the top of the specific ribbon class. Such as:

Junior Premier Exhibitor
Senior Premier Exhibitor
Rookie Exhibitor
Senior Showmanship Winner
Junior Showmanship Winner
Senior Grooming Winner
Junior Grooming Winner
Weight Gain Winner

Each Exhibitor is responsible for being ready and in sale line up order. If you are not ready when called your steer will be sold at the end of the sale.

All re-sale steers will sell immediately after the last white ribbon calf at the end of the sale.

All steers will be dispatched to the processors with Buyers instructions after sale.

Steer Sale Checks

The Desoto County Fair Association, Board of Directors, Members, Beef Committee Chairman and members jointly and severally, specifically and irrevocably decline to and will not act as a agent for any Exhibitor of any event, including the Youth Steer Sale, for any legal action whatsoever taken or in the collection of proceeds of any bid rendered for purchase of any animals at the sale held at Desoto County Fair.

The Desoto County Fair Association and Beef Committee will make all reasonable effort in the normal billing process for collection of any bid rendered by individuals, companies, partnerships or corporations for the purchase of any animal offered for sale at the Desoto County Fair.

If no response is rendered and the Fair Association has determined that the account cannot be collected, the Exhibitor will be notified.

A \$30 fee will be charged to each exhibitor for the cost of the Buyers Plaques and picture.

Checks will be mailed to exhibitor after March 30, 2008 provided the Desoto County Fair Association has received payment from purchaser, Plaque receipt from Buyer and add-on monies have been paid and all other requirements have been fulfilled.

Add-on monies are only given to exhibitors whose steer made final weight, show and sale.