

Oklahoma Dexter Cattle Association Youth Heifer Program

The purpose of this program is to aid youth in getting started in the Dexter Cattle Business, by awarding heifer calves to program participants on the basis of merit, future goals, and ability to care for the animal. Any Oklahoma youth, ages 9-15, who is a 4-H or FFA member may apply. Previous winners of the ODCA youth heifer program and siblings living in the same household are not eligible to apply.

Each program participant will own their heifer jointly with the ODCA until completion of the program, at which time the participant will receive full ownership of the heifer and any future offspring.

Each program participant is responsible for raising the heifer, showing the heifer at predetermined shows as listed below, arranging for her to be bred, returning the first offspring to the ODCA, and provide an annual ORAL report about their heifer at the fall ODCA meeting in October for two years.

Return completed form to:

Charlotte Ballard
ODCA Youth Heifer Program

Email ODCA.OK@gmail.com

OKLAHOMA DEXTER CATTLE ASSOCIATION YOUTH HEIFER PROGRAM

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS:

Criteria:

1. Open to youth, ages 9-15, who reside in the state of Oklahoma.
2. Youth must be a member of 4-H or FFA and stay a member until completion of program requirements.
3. The heifer must reside in Oklahoma until completion of the program.

General Requirements:

1. All expenses for nutrition and health of the heifer are the responsibility of the participant.
2. Participant should follow all vaccination/deworming guidelines provided by the ODCA mentor.
3. Liability insurance is recommended, as any damage or injury caused by the heifer is the responsibility of the participant and/or their legal guardian.
4. A minimum of \$1,000 mortality insurance must be kept on heifer at all times until completion of the program.

Showing of Animal:

1. Participants in the program are required to show their heifer a minimum of 4 times per year as long as the heifers age allows.
2. They are required to show at The Oklahoma Youth Expo, The Tulsa State Fair and at least two other local, county, district or jackpot shows each year.
3. Participants are encouraged, but not required, to exhibit their heifer at additional shows. Including the ADCA National Show, known as the AGM and the Missouri Dexter Breeders Show.
4. Transportation and any other expenses associated with these shows will be at the participant's expense. Any and all awards, prizes or premiums will be the property of the participant.

Breeding of Heifer:

1. All heifers in the program must be bred or artificially inseminated (AI) to an ADCA registered Dexter bull.
2. All efforts will be made to secure donated bull services, but if none are available, the participant will be responsible to pay all breeding expenses.
3. Heifers should NOT be bred to calve earlier than two years of age.
4. After two artificial insemination attempts and two natural service attempts, or four natural service attempts, if the heifer is still unbred, the heifer will be considered a non-breeder. The participants' offspring obligations will be waived, but all other obligations will continue to complete the program.

Heifer Offspring:

1. The first offspring from the heifer will be given back to the ODCA when weaned at six months old.
 - a. If the offspring is a heifer, it will be passed on to another participant.
 - b. If the offspring is a bull, it will be sold, with the proceeds going to the ODCA to be used for the purchase of another program heifer.
2. Offspring feed and vet care will be the responsibility of the participant until the time of transfer to the ODCA.
3. Offspring will be, at least, halter broken before it is given to the ODCA.
4. Offspring may be shown by the participant up until time of transfer to the ODCA. Entry fees will be paid by the participant. Any awards or prizes will be the property of the participant.

Completion of Program:

1. Program will be completed when participant has completed the above-mentioned requirements.
2. Upon completion of the program, the heifer and any subsequent offspring become the property of the participant.

Early Termination of Program:

1. The participant will be responsible for the cost of replacing the animal in case of death at a value of not less than \$1,000. (required insurance mentioned in **General Requirements** 4.)
2. If the ODCA reclaims a heifer because the participant does not fulfill the requirements of the program, or if the participant is no longer able to care for, keep or wants to continue participation in the program, the heifer/cow or proceeds from the sale of said animal will be returned to the program.
3. Participants will NOT be reimbursed for any incurred expenses.

ODCA YOUTH HEIFER PROGRAM APPLICATION

1. Only complete and signed applications will be accepted for review.
2. Youth, parent and 4-H/FFA leader or ODCA mentor must sign applications.
3. The independent evaluation committee will review all completed applications.

Name:

Address:

Guardian:

Phone:

Birthdate:

Age:

Membership in: 4-H FFA Club name or chapter:

Where do you plan to keep this heifer?

Acres of pasture:

Do you or your family have other livestock?

If yes, what kind?

What vet do you plan to use or do you already have a vet?

Vet name:

Phone:

Do you have a water source? (circle all that apply) Creek, Pond, Tanks, or Other

Type of fencing: (circle all that apply) Barbed Wire, Woven Wire, Electric Fence, Wooden, or Pipe

Do you have transportation for heifer when needed?

List any other information that you think the committee should be aware of:

Write an essay that includes the following (minimum 1 page, maximum 2 pages)

1. Briefly describe yourself, hobbies, family, 4-H/FFA membership & activities, personal goals.
2. Why do you want to own an Irish Dexter heifer?
3. What care do you plan to provide for heifer (facilities, feed, etc.)
4. What do you hope to learn from this project?
5. How do you plan to use this animal after completing the program?

Please attach two letters of recommendation, one from your 4-H leader or FFA advisor and the other from an adult, who is not related to you, but knows you well enough to comment on your abilities and commitment.

Applicant: I have read the rules and agree to abide by them. I am a 4-H or FFA member in good standing. I am between the ages of 9-15, and I understand that I am responsible for the feed and care of this heifer, if awarded.

Applicant
signature: _____

As a parent or guardian, I give my permission for my child to participate in this program and have read and understand the rules and requirements of the ODCA Youth Heifer Program and agree to assist my child in any way necessary for the completion of the project. I acknowledge that there are inherent risks in working with cattle and that neither the Oklahoma Dexter Cattle Association, its officers or members will be held liable for injury or death from participating in this program. In the event my son/daughter does not fulfill his/her obligations and responsibilities under this agreement, I will certify that I will take no legal action nor make any claim against the Oklahoma Dexter Cattle Association.

Parent/Guardian signature:

Mentors' testimony: The facilities for raising a calf and the abilities of the applicant are adequate to successfully complete this project. The applicant meets the age and membership requirements set forth in the rules and regulations.

ODCA member or 4-H/FFA leader signature:

Phone: _____