

Production Cattle

Production Cattle Superintendents: Wanette Davis and Red Miller

1. **Production Steers must meet all the requirements of the Junior Market Steer Project. Open to all steers/market heifers exhibited by Union County 4-H and FFA members that are current in Beef Quality Assurance training. To be current, training must be completed within the current year (or as determined by the board).**
2. **There is a 2 head maximum per kid that may be entered at the Union County Fair. The exhibitor can validate as many head of cattle, as wanted, during the Production Steer weigh-in.**
3. **All performance steers will be manageable. Each exhibitor will sign a disclaimer at Production Steer tag-in that the animal will be manageable at the Union County Fair. If the animal is NOT manageable at the Fair, the animal will be removed immediately.**
4. **All performance steers will be:**
 - a. **Must be halter broken and clean groomed.**
 - b. **To be eligible for the Junior Market sale, steer must be shown in the junior market steer show.**
 - c. **Required to be at the fairgrounds by 8 am on Wednesday. Steers will be scanned @ approximately 11 am or right after the weigh-in of all livestock.**
 - d. **Steers will not be required to be dry lotted for a period. Steers will be calculated at an industry standard rate of 4% shrinkage rate.**
 - e. **Weighed on the same date using the same set of scales for all weight measurements (NO exceptions). Steers will be weighed twice to estimate ADG:1) at designated required weigh-in date and 2) at weigh in for the fair. *Note: Management reserves the right to refuse entry to any steer if it does not appear thrifty or has a dishonest fill.***
 - f. **All steers will be scanned via real-time ultrasound to estimate carcass characteristics at fairgrounds by a qualified ultrasound technician(s). (All steers scanned on the non-show side of animal) parallel to and between the 12th and 13th rib and perpendicular to the 12th and 13th ribs to estimate ribeye area, back fat and intramuscular fat).**
5. **No grooming products allowed; steers will be shown clean and dry. Steers will be checked prior to entering the show ring.**
6. **Exam times will take place at a designated time . Study material will be distributed to exhibitors prior to the County Fair. Scores will be compiled by a 2-3-person board.**
7. **Contestants are required to participate in all parts of the contests to be eligible for awards.**

8. *Contestants are required to be New Mexico Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Certified to participate. BQA number will be used when entering for fair. If participants are not certified, they will be ineligible to participate in this program. Online, or if offered in person, BQA Certification is required, upon completion of course, exhibitor will receive a number that corresponds with the exhibitor. These will be validated and verified to allow exhibitor to participate. BQA certification is a 3- year program that individuals will need to stay on track and participate in CEU's to get credits towards the certification to keep current. CEU classes are generally offered through local county extension offices.*

9. Placing will be a combined index score including:

1. Average Daily Gain	42.5%
2. Grid Carcass Value	42.5%
3. Test	15%

10. Placing will be highest overall index score to lowest. Scores will be computed and verified by a three-person board. Overall Champion Union County Production Steer will be the steer with the highest overall score.

11. Ties will be broken in order on:

- a. Grid carcass value (Total dollar value; determined by ultrasound scan).
- b. Average Daily Gain
- c. Test Scores

12. Premiums will be based on the number of entries and donations received.

13. Overall Champion Union County Production Steer will receive a cash award and buckle.

14. Champion grid carcass value steer will receive a buckle.

15. Champion average daily gain steer will receive a buckle.

16. All general and special rules apply.

2023 Production Steer Winners

- Production Steer Winner- Conlan Arnett
- Grid Carcass Value Winner- Conlan Arnett
- Average Daily Gain- Conlan Arnett