

# DAIRY SHOW

## Feb 26 - Mar 1, 2026

*Sponsored by Grove Equipment Service, Inc.*



LIVESTOCK ARENA

**Chairperson:** Suzanne Churchwell (813) 956-4034

**Contest open to** see #1 below

**Application registration begins** Monday, November 1st, 2025

**Application deadline:** Friday, January 15th, 2026

**Applications also available at:** [www.flstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.flstrawberryfestival.com)

**Arrival of animals:** Thursday, February 26th, 2026 7:00a.m.

**Mandatory Meeting: Thursday, February 26th 2026, 4:00 p.m.**

**Dairy Contestant Judging Contest:** Friday, February 27th, 1:00 p.m.

**Showmanship:** Saturday, February 28th, 10:30 a.m.

**Show Judging:** Saturday, February 28th, 1:00 p.m.

**Adult Showmanship:** Sunday, March 1st, 11:00 a.m.

**Pee Wee showmanship:** Sunday, March 1st, 11:30 a.m.

**Costume ball:** Sunday, March 1st, 12:30 p.m.

**Release of animals:** Sunday, March 1st, 5:00 p.m.

Students from Hillsborough, Polk, Pasco, Manatee & Sumter Counties are eligible to participate in this show. In the event that more entry numbers are received than show management can accommodate, entries may be limited at the discretion of the show committee.

**LACTATING ANIMALS CAN BE SHOWN AT THE FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL THIS YEAR.**

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY: (A) Any youth actively enrolled in a Hillsborough, Polk, Pasco Manatee & Sumter County School not having graduated from the 12th grade may exhibit. (B) Exhibitors not exceeding 21 years of age, or students actively engaged in agricultural career or post-secondary education may exhibit animals, at the discretion of the committee.  
Post-grads are not eligible for some special awards.

1a. Entrants shall conform to the following standards in academics and conduct. "SUMMER SCHOOL" grades may not be calculated in GPA determination. An "Official" report card is acceptable evidence. **FINAL ENTRY:** At the time of final entry, Feb. 26, 2026, the exhibitor must have received a 2.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE FOR THE PRECEDING SEMESTER. Exceptions are:

Exhibitors in grades 7-9 may use cumulative grades beginning with grade 6 and exhibitors in grades 10-12 may use cumulative grades beginning with grade 9. SEMESTER EXAMS ARE CONSIDERED IN CALCULATING SEMESTER GRADES. **FAILURE OF MORE THAN ONE SUBJECT DURING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER OF 2025-2026 WILL DISQUALIFY THE EXHIBITOR.** An "Official" report card is acceptable evidence. SEMESTER report cards **MUST** be available for check-in.

1b. All exhibitors will be required to attend, or have attended, ethics training. **The Florida Strawberry Festival will provide training at the Festival on December 6th, 2025.** Completion of any Florida State Fair 2024-2025 ethics class prior to 2/1/25 will meet the requirements.

**Training must be completed by February 1st, 2026.** Training after that date will not be accepted. Training is good for 3 years. Currently verification of training can be found at <https://floridastatefairag.com/ethics/verify/>. Another site to use for help in locating and registering for workshops is <https://floridastatefairag.com/ethics/workshop/#>

**OWNERSHIP :** All Chapter or Club animals must be entered in an exhibitor's name in order to acquire tickets. The Registration/ Grade/Lease papers may be in the Chapter or Club name. Exhibitors must have ownership or official 4-H or FFA lease papers of animals by December 1, 2025.

Only female animals may be exhibited. They must show breed character of their respective breed(s).

They must be of five (5) major breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey. Registered and Grade animals will compete together. Each exhibitor may NOT show more than TWO animals in the same class.

**Health rules are in accordance with state requirements.**

1. In the event of government or Florida Strawberry Festival® imposed quarantine of animal(s) entered for exhibit or sale of the Florida Strawberry Festival®, the Florida Strawberry Festival® accepts no responsibility for financial, or other, loss by the exhibitor incurred as a result of the inability to exhibit and/or market the animal(s). Government refers to any City, County, State, or Federal Agency with the legal power to impose such quarantine. The preceding statement pertains to the entire time period (prior to, or after the exhibit days) of the show and/or sale. Financial or other loss refers to financial loss due to the inability to market the animal at the Festival and to the loss of premiums and awards due to the inability to exhibit the animal.
2. All animals will be checked by state inspectors upon arrival with health certificates and trailer certificates on Thursday, Feb. 26, 7 a.m. Animals will be released on Sunday, March 1, 2026 at 5 p.m.
3. Showmanship will be at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, February 28, 2026 followed by Classes at 1:00 p.m. **All contestants must show their own animals in the showmanship class.** This excludes PeeWee Showmanship.
4. BEDDING: Official bedding will be on sand. Straw may be used by exhibitors, but it must be removed from the beds before animals can be released on Sunday March 1, 2026.
5. Feed, hay and straw brought into the barns will be limited to a one-day supply due to limited space.
6. Exhibitors will supply all ~~other~~ needs of their animals. Exhibitors will be required to see that their animals are attended to and kept clean. All stalls and animals will be presentable by 10 a.m. The Superintendent and his assistants will insist on this.

7. Any stalls/animals not presentable, as determined by the Dairy Committee, by 10 a.m. will be red tagged. Two red tags will result in a \$25 deduction in premiums. Every additional red tag will result in an additional \$5 deduction in premiums.
8. CONDUCT: Unbecoming conduct on the part of an exhibitor or anyone associated with the exhibitor will, at the discretion of the management, result in the disqualification of the exhibitor, removal of animal and loss of premium(s), awards, and show privileges. Presence of exhibitors without permission in the exhibit area or on the fairgrounds during the hours when the exhibit is closed will be considered unbecoming conduct.
9. A picnic area with picnic tables will be provided for lunches for exhibitors. Coolers can be stored in the picnic area. Absolutely no food or drinks will be allowed in the livestock areas. This includes exhibitors and their families as well as visitors. Any exhibitor or their family member(s) caught with food or drink in the livestock areas will result in the disqualification of the exhibitor, removal of animal(s), loss of premiums, and loss of show privileges.
10. Only exhibitors with permission will be allowed in the exhibit area or on the fairgrounds during the hours when the exhibit is closed.
11. Management reserves the right to not accept an animal for entry into, or for participation in the show due to its physical condition.
12. Exhibitors with lactating dairy cows need to bring their own milking machines. The animals must be milked in the grooming area. If there are special circumstances, the Festival milking machine can be used. It is advised that in the case of the use of the Festival milking machine, the teat cups be sanitized between animals being milked.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EXHIBITOR TO PROVIDE ANY VETERINARY CARE OF  
THEIR ANIMAL.

Letters will be sent two weeks prior to the show to detail how and where to enter the Festival grounds. This is also your confirmation of receipt of your entry. If there are questions prior to this time, please call Suzanne Churchwell, (813) 956-4034.

Check-in time will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Feb. 26, 2026. Do not leave the grounds until your animals are checked-in by the Dairy Committee.

**Anyone participating in this contest by way of entry, hereby agrees and consents to the use of any picture of contestant in any or all publications, TV, publicity brochure, Internet, etc., that the Florida Strawberry Festival® may desire.**

## CLASSES

- a. Junior Heifer Calf, born after September 1, 2025.
- b. Intermediate Heifer Calf, born June 1, 2025 - August 31, 2025.
- c. Senior Heifer Calf, born March 1, 2025 - May 31, 2025.
- d. Winter Yearling, born Dec. 1, 2024 - Feb. 28, 2025.
- e. Junior Yearling, born September 1, 2024- Nov. 30, 2024
- f. Intermediate Yearling, born June 1, 2024- August 31, 2024
- g. Senior Yearling, born March 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024  
\*Yearlings in milk will be shown as two-year old's.
- h. Junior Champion – Rosette/Award
- i. Reserve Junior Champion – Rosette
- j. Two-Year-Old, born March 1, 2023- February 28, 2024
- k. Three-Year-Old Cow, born March 1, 2022- February 28, 2023.
- l. Cows Four Years Old and Older, born before March 1, 2022.
- m. Senior Champion – Rosette/ Award
- n. Reserve Senior Champion - Rosette
- o. Grand Champion - Rosette/Award
- p. Reserve Grand Champion - Rosette
- q. All Breeds Grand Champion - Jacket
- r. Premier Exhibitor - Director's Chair
- s. Junior All Breeds Bred-by Exhibitor (Classes 1 thru 7) - Trophy
- t. Senior All Breeds Bred-by Exhibitor (Classes 10 thru 12) - Trophy

**NOTE: Classes subject to change by management, if needed, to facilitate a better show.  
Only Blue-Ribbon Winners will be eligible for Champion Competition.**

## PREMIUMS ON MODIFIED DANISH SHOW

Blue - \$50.00

Red - \$40.00

White - \$30.00

All exhibitors will receive \$5.00 per animal per day they exhibit plus premiums. Lactating cows will receive an additional \$20.00.

## SHOWMANSHIP

Novice Showmanship - (any age may participate, first year showing dairy)

1st Place Trophy / Rosette

1st - \$25.00      2nd - \$20.00      3rd - \$15.00      4th - \$10.00      5th - \$5.00

Junior Division - (10 and under)

1st Place Trophy / Rosette

1st - \$25.00      2nd - \$20.00      3rd - \$15.00      4th - \$10.00      5th - \$5.00

Intermediate Division - (11 to 13 years old)

1st Place Trophy / Rosette

1st - \$25.00      2nd - \$20.00      3rd - \$15.00      4th - \$10.00      5th - \$5.00

Senior Division - (14 and over)

1st Place Trophy / Rosette

1st - \$25.00      2nd - \$20.00      3rd - \$15.00      4th - \$10.00      5th - \$5.00

**HERDSMAN** - *Senior Division*

1st Place Trophy

1st.....\$25.00      2nd.....\$15.00      3rd.....\$10.00

**HERDSMAN** - *Junior Division*

1st Place Trophy

1st.....\$25.00      2nd.....\$15.00      3rd.....\$10.00

**SPECIAL AWARDS**

***Premier Exhibitor Award:*** A winner will be determined at the end of the Dairy Show. Premier exhibitor is based upon points earned from the top five animals from each exhibitor and placing in showmanship.

***Premier Showmanship Award:*** 1st place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmen will compete for the Premier Showmanship Award. After Premier Showmanship is awarded, the other two showmen will receive show halters.

**The Richard Kahelin All-Breeds Champion Award:** The five Grand Champions will compete for this award.

**Grand Champion:** Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey and Jersey and Holstein Grand Champions will receive an award.

**Charlie Hunter Memorial Sportsmanship Award:** Individuals showing good sportsmanship both in the show ring and in the barn, setting forth an example of exemplary conduct and assisting Dairy Show management will be considered for this award.

**Junior All Breeds Bred-by Exhibitor Award:** Animals of all five breeds entered in Classes 1 - 7, owned and bred-by the exhibitor will compete for this trophy.

**Senior All Breeds Bred-by Exhibitor Award:** Animals of all five breeds entered in Classes 9 - 12, owned and bred-by the exhibitor will compete for this trophy.

**ENTRIES CLOSE:**      **JANUARY 15, 2026**

**ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [WWW.FLSTRAWBERRYFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.FLSTRAWBERRYFESTIVAL.COM)**

MAIL ALL ENTRY FORMS TO:      SuzanneChurchwell  
4851 Dixon Acres Trail  
Plant City, FL 33567  
(813) 956-4034

**ABSOLUTELY NO COOLERS, FOOD OR  
DRINK IN THE LIVESTOCK PAVILIONS  
OR ARENA**

**DAIRY COSTUME BALL**  
Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. Livestock Arena

Costume Ball registration forms will be handed out when registering animals on Thursday, February 26, 2026. They will be completely filled out and returned to the Dairy Committee by Saturday, February 28, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

## **DIVISIONS**

1. Overall, 2. Funniest 3. Prettiest 4. Most Original 5. Most Colorful

**DAIRY CONTESTANT JUDGING CONTEST**  
**ENTRY FORM REQUIRED FOR CONTEST**

**Located in the**



**Livestock Arena**

**Chairperson: Suzanne Churchwell (813) 956-4034**

**Contest: Friday, February 27th, 2026 1:00 p.m.**  
**Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., on the day of contest**

**ABSOLUTELY NO COOLERS, FOOD OR**  
**DRINK IN THE LIVESTOCK PAVILIONS OR**  
**ARENA**

1. Open to student teams and/or individuals.
2. Registration is at 10:30 a.m. on the day of the contest
3. Individuals judging in 4-H: Ages for juniors are 13 years and under as of 9/1/2026 and ages for seniors are 14 years and over as of 9/1/2026.

**AWARDS**

Team Competition -

FFA Division: Middle  
School Division: 1st  
Place Trophy

4-H Division:

Junior Division:  
1st Place Trophy

Senior Division:  
1st Place Trophy

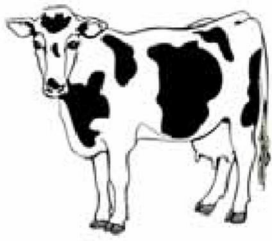
Senior Division:  
1st Place Trophy

High Individual FFA Division - Senior Division:  
1st Place Portfolio

Middle School  
Division: 1st Place  
Portfolio

High Individual 4-H Division - Senior Division:  
1st Place Portfolio

Junior Division  
1st Place Portfolio



# 2025 FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL® DAIRY SHOW

Located in the  PATTERSON  
COMPANIES Livestock Arena

Application registration begins Saturday, November 1, 2025  
DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: Thursday, January 15, 2026

Late entries cannot be guaranteed tickets for the show

**\*SUBSTITUTIONS ARE ALLOWED\***

EXHIBITOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ EXHIBITOR'S AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip) (As of 9/1/25)

CHAPTER/CLUB NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADVISOR/LEADER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Postgraduate \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_ Other

T-SHIRT SIZE: Y \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ ETHICS CLASS # \_\_\_\_\_

USE ONE LINE PER ANIMAL BELOW - PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION LEGIBLY  
INCOMPLETE ENTRIES WILL BE RETURNED FOR COMPLETION

Name of Animal	Breed (A, B, G, H, J	D.O.B.	RFID #	Class #
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

**ABSOLUTELY NO COOLERS, FOOD OR DRINKS IN THE LIVESTOCK PAVILIONS OR ARENA**

I have read and understand these rules and by signing this application, I agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the Florida Strawberry Festival® Dairy Show.



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(Signature of Exhibitor)

(Date)

**MAIL ENTRIES TO: Suzanne Churchwell  
4851 Dixon Acres Trail  
Plant City, FL 33567**

**Do not send Registration papers or Report Cards. Use an additional form if needed for more entries.**

## SAFETY RULES CONCERNING LIVESTOCK AND PLANT AREAS

The following rules govern all livestock shows including the plant show. It includes all areas in the festival deemed as agricultural and all locations on the Festival grounds where animals are housed.

The rules concern all participants, their families and any visitors to these areas.

These rules are based on The Center for Disease Control Guidelines for the safe operation of livestock shows.

These rules have been made policy by the Board of Directors of the Florida Strawberry Festival® and as such will be strictly enforced to ensure the festival's continued ability to provide livestock exhibitions at the Florida Strawberry Festival® in future years.

1. Know that animals carry germs that can make people sick and have done so.
2. Any contact with animals should always be followed by washing of your hands.
3. **There can be absolutely NO FOOD or DRINK in any form in the livestock or youth plant show areas. This includes visitors, family and exhibitors.**
4. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to educate visitors and report food and drink violations to appropriate parties.
5. No animal can be fed anything but livestock feed in appropriate containers. If an exhibitor is feeding an animal food other than livestock feed, the exhibitor has already violated Rule #3.
6. No one but the exhibitor or his/her duly appointed designee can have direct contact with the animals.
7. All animal areas will be set up so that the general public cannot directly touch the livestock.
8. These rules may change from time to time. It is the exhibitor's and guardian's responsibility to verify the rules prior to entering the show.

**Each exhibitor and their legal guardian must sign a copy of these rules agreeing to be bound by them. These rules will be enforced uniformly and without exception. Any exhibitor not following these guidelines will be disqualified from the livestock or plant show and no one will be permitted to exhibit or sell the disqualified individual's plant(s) or animal(s) at the Florida Strawberry Festival®. If a disqualified individual is exhibiting in more than one event referenced above, the individual will be disqualified from all, from the point the infraction occurs and will forfeit premiums and awards.**

We have read and understand these rules and we agree to the following as stated above.

_____ Exhibitor's Signature	_____ Please Print Name	_____ Date
_____ Parent/Legal Guardian	_____ Please Print Name	_____ Date

Applications to exhibit plants or animals in the 2025 Florida Strawberry Festival® will not be accepted if this statement is not signed and attached to the application to exhibit.

## **Hold Harmless Agreement**

**In the event of an Emergency (defined below) that results in the Florida Strawberry Festival Board of Directors necessarily cancelling any show or sale considered a part of the “Livestock Area Events” (defined below), the Exhibitor agrees to hold the Festival harmless for any financial or other loss by the exhibitor that occurs as a result of the inability to exhibit and/or market the animal(s) or plant(s) at the Florida Strawberry Festival. The preceding statement pertains to the entire time period (prior to, during, or after the exhibit days) of the show and/or sale. Financial, or other loss, refers to financial loss due to the inability to market the animal at the Florida Strawberry Festival and to loss of premiums and awards due to the inability to exhibit the animal.**

**“Livestock Area Events” currently includes the Swine Show and Sale, the Steer Show and Sale, the Plant Show and Sale, the Dairy Cattle Show, the Sheep Show, the Poultry Show, the Rabbit Show, the Beef Breeds Show, and events associated with the aforementioned shows and/or sales.**

**“Emergency” refers to any National, State, Local occurrence or occurrences that results in the cancellation of Livestock Area Events normally taking place during the Florida Strawberry Festival. The cancellation may be dictated by National, State, or Local government agencies that have the authority to decree such cancellations to protect the safety of patrons and/or participants or quarantines necessary to protect animal and human health. The Board of Directors of the Florida Strawberry Festival also reserves the right to cancel all Livestock Area Events that, in the Board’s sole discretion, threatens the health and/or safety of the patrons or participant of the event.**

**Florida Strawberry Festival**  
**DAIRY SHOW**  
February 27 – March 2, 2025

**Important Dates/Times:**

**Entries Close on January 15, 2025**

**February 27, 2025:** Arrival 7am  
Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting 4pm

**February 28, 2025:** Judging Contest 1pm

**March 1, 2025:** Showmanship 10:30am  
Show Judging 1pm  
Pizza Party/Ice Cream Social 6pm

**March 2, 2025 :** Adult Showmanship 11am  
Pee wee Showmanship 11:30am  
Costume Ball 12:30pm  
Animal Release 5:00pm

Stay up to date!  
Join our Remind Group:  
Text @fsfdairy  
To 81010