



Beginner
Bucket Bottle
Project

Pre 4H

1st, 2nd & 3rd Graders

Show - Friday July 31st, 2026

5PM

Dates To Remember...

Registration Due:

May 15th to the ISU Extension office

Please do not entry into the 4H Fair Entry Program

Record Books Due:

July 10th to the ISU Extension office

Des Moines County Fair Ground Tour:

Sunday July 26th - 6PM

Do Not Bring Animals

Interview Times:

Thursday July 30th

In the Activity Tent in South Parking Lot And will begin at 9AM

Show Time:

Friday July 31st at 5PM

General Rules

- Project is open to youth who have completed 1st,2nd,3rd grade of the current school year.
- Any newborn/orphan animal born in the current year between the following dates
 - Calf – March 1st, 2025, to April 30th, 2025
 - Lamb/Goat – October 1st, 2024, to May 5th, 2025
- Animals must be purchased and in the possession of their youth within 2 weeks of their birth.
- Animals will be identified on the Bucket Bottle ID form.
- Lamb/Goats must have a scrapie tag to show at the fair.
- All male Lamb/Goats must be banded or castrated (No Clamping) by May 1st
- All Lambs must be shorn prior to arriving to the fair.
- The exhibitor may identify up to 3 animals per species (i.e., 3 lamb, 3 goats, 3 calves) but are limited to showing ONLY 1 animal per species at the fair.
 - Identifying more than one gives the exhibitor options of which animal to bring

Bucket Bottle ID Forms must be to the ISU Extension Office by May 15th

Record Books

- All forms intended for use are available online at desmoinescountyfair.com or Contact the Des Moines County Fair Office at 641-295-3194 if you need them mailed.
- Completed record books need to include
 - Project questions
 - Feed records
 - Need to be in a 3-prong folder (no 3-ring binder or loose paper)

Record Books Due to the ISU Extension Office by Noon Friday JULY 10th

Pick Up on Saturday August 1st at the Des Moines County Fair Office on the Fairgrounds between 9AM and 3PM.

At the Fair

Sunday JULY 26th 6PM - Come Check out Your Barn and the Fair Before all the Hustle and Bustle of Fair Starts – Don't bring any animals

- Animals must meet all the Health Requirements listed in the Des Moines County Fair book.
- Lambs/Goats need to go through Sheep/Goat check in at 10:30AM – 12:30PM on Tuesday July 28th for Vet Inspection before stalling.
- Calves need to be stalled by 7PM Tuesday July 28th for Vet Inspection in the Bucket Bottle Barn
- Get your stalling cards at the Des Moines County Fair Office on Tuesday any time
- Get your t-shirt at the Des Moines County Fair office
- No Grooming chutes, butt fans, kickboards or posts driven in the floor of the hoop building.
- Animals can ONLY be shown in the Beginner Bucket Bottle Show.
- Animals will be shown with a halter or collar.
- All Lambs must be shorn prior to arriving to the fair.
- Classes may be divided depending on the number of entries and at the discretion of the superintendent.
- This animal will not be sold at the Livestock Auction.
- Animals will be released on Sunday. Please see schedule for times

Interviews

- Interview Location: Activity Tent in the South Parking Lot on Thursday July 30th and will begin at 9AM
- Times will be posted on the Des Moines County Fair Office door, Scale House West Door, and the White communication boards located in the livestock barns no later than Monday July 27th at Noon.

Show Day

- DAY – Friday July 31st
- TIME – 5PM
- Please wear T-Shirt that was provided
- Show schedule will be...
 - Beginner Bucket Bottle Lamb – In order of 3rd, 2nd, 1st grade
 - Beginner Bucket Bottle Kid Goat - In order of 3rd, 2nd, 1st grade
 - Beginner Bucket Bottle Calf - In order of 3rd, 2nd, 1st grade

Judging

- Will be based on
 - 40% Records
 - 40% Interview
 - 20% Showmanship (how you present yourself in the arena)
- What the judge is looking
 - What you have learned about care and raising your animal
 - Your knowledge in the general health, condition, and management of the animal
 - How complete your record book is (pictures are helpful but not required)
 - The fitting or the grooming of your lamb according to species guidelines.
 - The showing of your animal with emphasis on what you have learned.
 - The confirmation or quality of your animal will not be considered since your purchase should not be made on this basis.

After Fair

- 3rd grade exhibitors have additional options available to show their animals at next year's fair; to explore these options please contact the ISU Extension office who oversee those opportunities.

Des Moines County Beginner Bucket Bottle Questions

Name _____ Age _____

Animals Name _____

Tag # _____ Date of Birth (if known) _____

Date Purchased/Selected _____

Actual/Estimated Value when obtained _____

Color of Animal _____

Breed of Sire _____ Breed of Dam _____

Was the Animal: Purchased _____ Born on Farm _____ Other(describe) _____

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Describe facilities where you housed your animal

Describe the feeding program you followed the first 3-4 days that you got your animal (type of feed, amount per day, etc.)

Describe the feeding program for the next 3-4 weeks (kinds, amount per day, etc.)

Describe the feeding and management after you had the animal a month

Did your animal have any health problems (describe what they were and what you did to treat)

What did you do to prevent health problems

What management practices have you followed to help your animal to be healthy and to grow

What have you enjoyed and learned through this project

What was the biggest problem you had and what did you do to solve it

Any other comments

Des Moines County Beginner Bucket Bottle Feed Records

<u>Feed Given</u>	<u>Amount Feed</u>	<u>Dollars Spent</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
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Milk Replacer

Starter

Hay

Other Feeds

Final Costs

<u>Bedding</u>	<u>Amount Used</u>	<u>Dollars Spent</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
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Final Costs

<u>Medications</u>	<u>What You Used</u>	<u>Dollars Spent</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
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Final Costs

<u>Veterinarian</u>	<u>Dollars Spent</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
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Final Costs

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Amount Purchased or Value at Start

Final Feed Costs

Final Bedding Costs

Final Medication Costs

Final Veterinarian Costs

Total Investment

Des Moines County Fair Beginner Bucket Bottle Program

T-Shirt Order Form Due with your Record Books

Exhibitor Name: _____

Exhibitor Shirt Size: _____

Please Specify Youth or Adult

Shirts will be available in the Des Moines County Fair Office
On Set Up Day or Any time after