

Shows » Dairy shows classifications

Guidelines for Competitive Dairy Shows in Canada

The following Canadian Dairy Breeds' Classifications for competitive dairy shows are offered to all fairs and exhibitions in Canada. They are printed to provide uniformity in definitions and age classes; updates by letter are issued as necessary.

Fairs and exhibitions are to follow these Classifications when planning competitive dairy competitions. They are not intended to interfere with federal, provincial, or local funding.

DEFINITIONS

Exhibit

An *exhibit* is interpreted as follows: a dairy animal qualifying for an entry into a class as specified in the Classifications. All registered animals, 87,5% or higher in purity, whether owned by one person or by more than one person (individually or jointly), are considered to be the production of the farm or breeding unit on which they are maintained.

All exhibits must be registered in the name of the exhibitor in accordance with the By-laws of their respective breed association.

Exhibitor

An *exhibitor* is any breeder or firm which presents animals for official placing by a judge at the time specified by the fair/exhibition for judging.

Dress Code

All exhibitors must be dressed in white shirts and trousers free of colors, letters, logos, or labels.

Checking of Entries

Checking of exhibits is the responsibility of the fair/exhibition adopting the Classifications. The fair/exhibition must exclude ineligible animals and those not positively identified before judging.

Split Classes

Classes may be split at the discretion of the fair/exhibition when the number of exhibits in a class exceeds 15 animals. If a class is split, a runoff must be held to declare one winner for the age category.

Meaningful Status Eligibility

Each breed must be shown separately and have at least three exhibitors and 24 exhibits to be eligible for *meaningful* breed association show status.

DAIRY CLASSES

Classes

A fair/exhibition should offer at least 10 classes for a meaningful dairy show. It is not necessary for each breed to offer the same age classes or the same number of age classes.

Number of Exhibits Per Exhibitor

A fair/exhibition may limit the maximum number of exhibits per exhibitor at its discretion.

Individual Age Classes		For 2021
1	Summer Calf (Royal Winter Fair)	June 1, 2021– August 31, 2021
2	Junior Calf	Mar 1, 2021 – May 31, 2021
3	Intermediate Calf	Dec 1, 2020 - Feb 28, 2021
4	Senior Calf	Sept 1, 2020- Nov 30, 2020
5	Senior Calf	Sept 1, 2020 – Feb 28, 2021
6	Summer Yearling	June 1, 2020 - Aug 31, 2020
7	Junior Yearling	Mar 1, 2020 - May 31, 2020
8	Junior Yearling	Mar 1, 2020 – Aug 31, 2020
9	Intermediate Yearling	Dec 1, 2019 - Feb 29, 2020
10	Senior Yearling	Sept 1, 2019 - Nov 30, 2019
11	Senior Yearling	Sept 1, 2019 – Feb 29, 2020
12	Milking Yearling	Sept 1, 2019 to Feb 29, 2020
13	Junior 2-Year-Old	Mar 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2019
14	Senior 2-Year-Old	Sept 1, 2018 - Feb 28, 2019
15	2-Year-Old	Sept 1, 2018 – Aug 31, 2019
16	Junior 3-Year-Old	Mar 1, 2018 - Aug 31, 2018
17	Senior 3-Year-Old	Sept 1, 2017- Feb 28, 2018
18	3 Year-Old	Sept 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018
19	4-Year-Old	Sept. 1, 2016 - Aug. 31, 2017
20	5-Year-Old	Sept 1, 2015 - Aug 31, 2016
21	Mature Cow	Born prior to Sept 1, 2015

22. Dry Cow

A cow shown in this class cannot be shown in any other class for single animals, but can be shown in the Breeder's Herd Class.

On day of show, cow must be at least 270 days since last calving. Cow must be recorded in the owner's record book as dry on day of judging.

SPECIAL CLASSES

23. Breeder's Herd (Junior & Senior)

Two options are offered:

1. A group of three animals limited to one exhibit per exhibitor. Exhibitor must have bred all three animals and own at least two of the group.
2. A group of three animals carrying the same prefix limited to one exhibit per exhibitor. Exhibitor must be the only owner of at least two animals of the group.

24. Progeny of Dam

A group of two animals out of the same dam. the exhibitor of the progeny of dam must be the breeder of two animals and the owner of at least one of the two.

25. Best Uddered Females

Depending of the show, the judge should declare a best uddered female in *each* milking class.

If desired, the best uddered female from each class may compete to declare the best uddered females (1,2 or 3) of the show.

OTHER

- a. Genealogical and official performance data should be displayed for each animal at a fair/exhibition.
- b. A Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor should be named according to respective breed association rules.
- c. A Premier Sire can be named according to respective breed association rules.

Also see: [Code of Ethics for Dairy Shows](#)