4-H Dairy Individual Animal Record

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4-H Dairy
INDIVIDUAL ANIMAL RECORD

by Dennis A. Hartman
Extension Animal Scientist, 4-H
Virginia Tech

SUGGESTIONS TO DAIRY CLUB MEMBERS

1. Study this record book carefully and keep your records up to date at all times.
2. If you start with a purebred calf, be sure the animal is registered and transferred in your name as soon as you buy the calf. Transfers must be made before May 1 if you wish to exhibit in state competition.
3. Show this record book to your mother and father so that they will understand what you are doing in your 4-H dairy project.
4. Practice teaching your calf to lead as soon as you get it. Training for the show ring is much easier if taught to lead when young. She will then be easier to handle when she becomes a cow.
5. Attend all your club meetings and take part in every meeting, particularly the business session.
6. Show your calf at your county dairy show each year. You will enjoy and learn from this experience.
7. Give a dairy demonstration every year. This experience will be valuable to you as an adult.
8. Ask questions of your 4-H leader at any time.

POINTS TO CONSIDER IN USING THIS BOOK

1. Complete the "Pedigree of my Animal" section when the animal is transferred to you.
2. Measure the heart girth of your calf and record it each month. Make these measurements on approximately the same day each month.
3. Keep the record completed monthly. Have your project leader check this record every other month.
4. Take some pictures of your animal. You will enjoy them even more later.

"TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER"

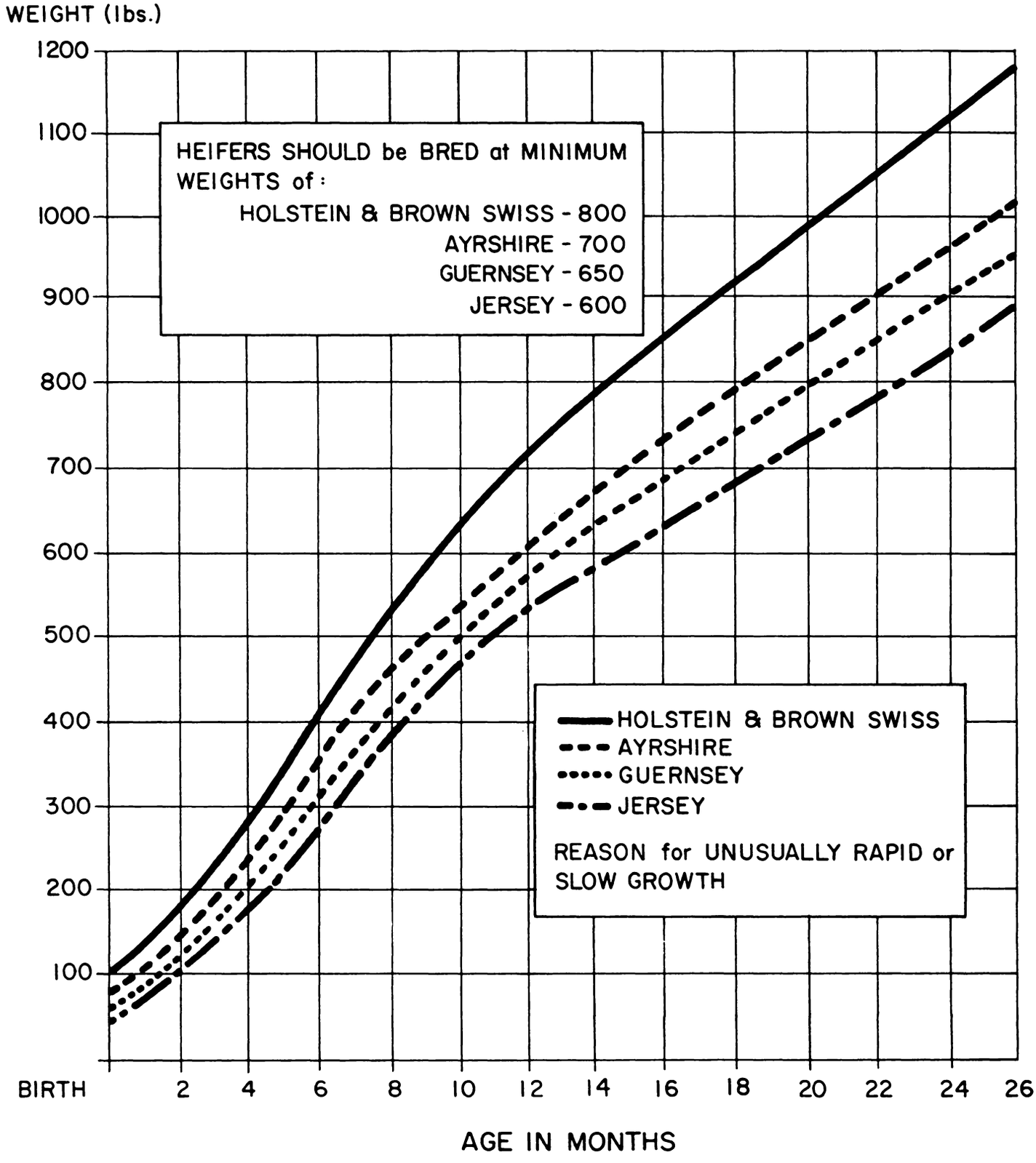
NAME OF CLUB MEMBER _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

COUNTY _____ CLUB _____

PROJECT YEAR _____

GROWTH STANDARD FOR DAIRY HEIFERS



INSTRUCTIONS: Tape measure your calf on approximately the same day each month. Place a large dot at the correct point on the growth curve to indicate her weight. Connect the dots with a heavy solid line each month so that you can compare the growth of your calf with the standard of its breed. If your calf drops sharply below the standard of the breed, perhaps you can determine the cause and correct it. A high growth curve should also reflect good management. The standard growth curve for Brown Swiss is nearly the same as for Holsteins.

PEDIGREE OF MY ANIMAL

Fill in as much of the information as possible, using ink. For grade animals, write barn name and eartag number. If the breeder furnishes a pedigree, copy it into this record. If not, the registration paper will furnish part of this information. Include proven sire information if available. Write in the records of the females. If a cow has daughters with records, list them. You may also include show ring winnings.

Name _____ Reg. No. _____

Health Treatments, Cost and Date _____

_____

_____

Was Animal Tattooed? _____ Date Brucellosis Vaccinated _____
month and year

Estimated Transmitting Ability (ETA) _____ Date of Birth _____

Breeder of Animal _____

Address of Breeder _____

Date Purchased _____ Date Transfer Was Made _____

Other Vaccinations _____ Date _____

Paternal Grandsire

Sire

PD Value _____

Paternal Granddam

Maternal Grandsire

Dam

Cow Index Value _____

Maternal Granddam

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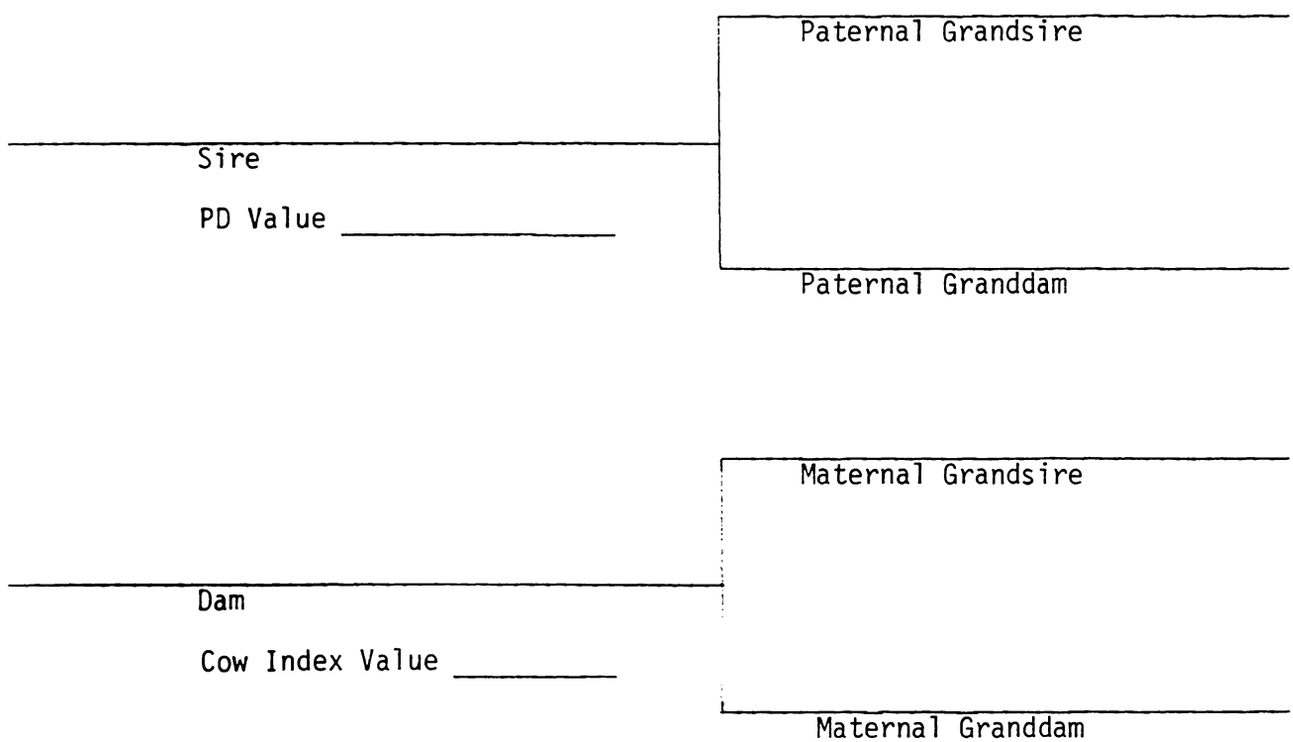

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TABLE I. MONTHLY

Year 19____	For Calf Only									
	Milk or Replacer		Grain		Hay		Silage		Pasture	
	Lbs.	Value or Cost	Lbs.	Value or Cost	Lbs.	Value or Cost	Lbs.	Value or Cost	Lbs.	Value or Cost
September										
October										
November										
December										
January										
February										
March										
April										
May										
June										
July										
August										
TOTAL (End of Project Year)		(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)

*Total Feed Costs in Column 7 should equal the sum of Columns 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

For Cow Only

Bedding		Total Feed Cost	Milk Production				
Lbs.	Value or Cost	Monthly	Days in Milk	Lbs. Milk Produced Monthly	Avg. Test %	Butterfat Lbs.	Value of Product
	(6)	(7)					(8)

TABLE II. INVENTORY

Date Project Started _____ 19____	Estimated Value of Animal $_____
Date Project Ended _____ 19____	Estimated Value of Animal $_____

TABLE III. OTHER EXPENSES IN ADDITION TO FEED COSTS

Date	Item (trucking, entry fees, veterinarian, selling commission, yardage, breeding fees, insurance, etc.)	Amount
		$
	Total	$

TABLE IV. BREEDING AND CALVING RECORD

Date Bred	Name of Sire	Date Fresh	Sex Of Calf	Value Of Calf	Raised or Sold

TABLE V. RECEIPTS OTHER THAN MILK

Date Sold	Item	Sold To	Unit Price Per Lb.	Value
				$
			Total receipts other than milk	$

TABLE VI. RECORD AT FAIRS AND SHOWS

Date	Name of Show	No. Competing in Class	Placing or Award	Value of Premiums Won
				$
			Total value of premiums won	$

TABLE VII. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

RECEIPTS

1.	Value of animal at end of project (Table II)	$_____	
2.	Value of milk sold (Column 8, Table I)	$_____	
3.	Value of receipts other than milk (Table V)	$_____	
4.	Value of premiums won (Table VI)	$_____	
5.	Total Income (Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, Table VII)		$_____

EXPENSES

6.	Value of animal at start of project (Table II)	$_____	
7.	Total feed costs (Column 7, Table I)	$_____	
8.	Other expenses (Table III)	$_____	
9.	Total expenses (Add lines 6, 7, 8, Table VII)		$_____
10.	Net return from project (Line 5 minus line 9, Table VI)		$_____

Signature of Club Member _____

Signature of Project Leader _____

VISITORS (Leaders, Extension Agents, or Others)

Date	Name	Address

MY 4-H DAIRY PROJECT

(Photographs of your heifer. Have several pictures taken with you in the picture.)

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