

Fun Fact: There are 12.5 million head of cattle in Texas!

Texas 4-H Beef Project

Let's Get Started

Selection

Several factors such as age, weight, frame size, and breed type play a role in selecting a market steer or breeding heifer. Some breeds are better suited for specific climates. Communicate with your County Extension Agent or Agricultural Science Teacher to determine which breed may be best for you.



Average Cost of Beef Project

Purchase Price: \$3,288.50
Annual Feed Cost: \$1,917.52
Supplies: \$271.64
Animal Health Cost: \$215.13
Fees: \$106.68
Miscellaneous: \$161.59

Total Cost
(Per 1 Head)
\$5,961.06



Health Care

Consider having scheduled administration of vaccines, lice pour-on treatments, deworming and hoof trimmings. Prevention is crucial in health care and management.



Facility Preparation

- Electricity
- Ventilation
- Flooring/ Shaving Type
- Tie/Wash/Dry Area
- Storage
- Drainage
- Convenience
- Waste Disposal



Feed Questions

- Is the diet meeting the animal's requirements?
- Does this feed suit the animal's stage of life?
- Is the feed palatable?
- Can the diet be easily digested?
- Is your project a breeding heifer or market steer?

Average Project Length: Steers- Approximately 10 Months
Heifers- Up to 30 Months

Handling and Grooming

Handling begins initially by halter breaking a beef cattle project. Once the animal is halter broke, you can establish a daily grooming routine, practice setting them up, and walk them for exercise. It is important for the animal and exhibitor to interact every day. Daily routines should include washing the animal, combing/brushing, drying, walking, and showmanship practice.