

Provincial Dairy Show mooves in with Summer Synergy



As the summer begins, most people are looking forward to relaxing on the beach, catching some sunshine and taking in the long hot days. But not for 4-H Dairy project members! Summer for them means the 64th Annual Provincial Dairy Show. Provincial Dairy Show brings together members from all over the province to compete in a variety of dairy-related activities. This year gave the Provincial Dairy Show a chance to be a part of Summer Synergy 2010. Summer Synergy is a new and exciting program that brings together all areas of livestock showcasing; along with the 4-H Provincial Beef Heifer Show, the Youth Draft Horse Show and various Junior Beef Breed Associations, this year's Dairy Show had a lot to interact with!

Dairy Show started on July 14 with judging. Here, members were given the chance to judge different classes of yearling and two milking cow classes. In the evening the team judging classes took place, where members had to work in pairs to judge a set of dairy calves. The top six from the judging competition were placed together once their scores had been tabulated. One person was the judge while the other was the ring man. The teams did very well and impressed the judges who were grading them on their judging.



After team judging, the Alberta 4-H Ambassadors were on-hand to get members energized with a scavenger hunt. Members were put into teams and had to run all around the Olds Agricultural Society grounds, collecting clues by doing various tasks. Every team member that participated got a prize, and said they had a lot of fun with the Ambassadors.

The next day it was down to business with the clipping competition. Members had about two hours to clip and prepare their dairy animal for presentation. It was amazing to see the concentration and how detailed-oriented they all were! In the afternoon, the members sat down to do their Dairy quiz. Every age category had



their own quiz, which tested junior, intermediate and senior member's knowledge on dairy health, housing and overall trivia of the dairy industry.



Throughout the afternoon, members were given a marketing scenario. Whether it was selling their heifer or convincing an investor to buy into the dairy industry, members all did a great job in showing their knowledge of the dairy industry.

On the final day, July 16, all clubs competed in the showmanship and conformation classes that took place in the Olds Agricultural Society's MegaDome. The members all took great pride in showing off their dairy calf or heifer. To end off the show, awards were given out to members for all of their categories.

"The show went pretty good," said Seamus Good, member of the Brooks and Area club, "I learned a lot about the dairy industry and how to judge dairy animals better."

Presenting Partner for Provincial Dairy Show is Gas Alberta Inc., and Partner Supporters are Alberta Dairy Industry, ATB Financial, Government of Alberta, Growing Forward, Kubota Canada Ltd. and Westgen Endowment Fund. Partner Host is Olds Agricultural Society.