

2025-2026



*Bradford County Fair
February 26 – March 8, 2026*

Exhibitor Information

BOARD MEMBERS

- ❖ President – Robert Broome – inastand@gmail.com
- ❖ President Elect- Clay Whitehead – jacobwhitead@ufl.edu
- ❖ Vice President – Kevin Thompson – ktthompson1983@yahoo.com
- ❖ Secretary - Kimberly Griffis secbuyss@gmail.com
- ❖ Treasurer – Jessica Lee treasurerbucss@gmail.com

Facebook page – Bradford-Union Youth Show & Sale *Please follow for up-to-date information.*

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, October 4, 2025	Weigh-In (8:00 AM–10:00 AM) – Bradford County Fairgrounds
Thursday, November 13, 2025	Meeting (6:00 PM) – Bradford County Fairgrounds
Thursday, December 11, 2025	Meeting/Heifer Check-In (6:00 PM) – Bradford County Fairgrounds
Thursday, February 12, 2026	Meeting (6:00 PM) – Bradford County Fairgrounds
Monday, March 2, 2026	All animals arrive (8:00 AM - 10:00AM) Final Steer weigh-in
Wednesday, March 4, 2026	Steer Show (6:00 PM) Showmanship will follow Show
Thursday, March 5, 2026	Heifer Show (6:00 PM) Showmanship will follow Show
Friday, March 6, 2026	Buyers Dinner & Sale (4:00PM – 5:30PM)
Friday, March 6, 2026	Sale (6:00PM)
Saturday, March 7, 2026	Awards Luncheon & Ceremony (Noon)

***** All dates and locations subject to change*****

Exhibitors are required to attend 1 meeting. We advise that exhibitors try to attend all meetings due to important information that will be discussed.

EXHIBITOR ELIGIBILITY/MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Exhibitors shall be qualified 4-H or FFA members in good standing in Bradford or Union County at the time of 2nd weigh in. Exhibitors must be living in or attending a school in Bradford or Union County, Florida Virtual or homeschool. A parent or guardian of each exhibitor shall be a member of the Bradford-Union Cattle Show and Sale. Annual dues of \$55 (per family) are due and payable no later than the first weigh in. Each animal entered shall be owned by the exhibitor and a \$35 entry fee (for first animal and \$20 for each additional animal) paid at the first weigh in. All exhibitors must meet all requirements of the BUCSS.

WORKDAYS **NEW**

Exhibitors are required to attend 2 MANDATORY workdays or pay \$250 fine. One before fair and one after fair. Any exhibitor 14 years and younger must be accompanied by an adult. If exhibitor does not attend both workdays and fails to pay fine, money will be deducted from exhibitors check. Dates will be announced.

SUBSTITUTION

NO substitution of animals after the animal has been weighed and tagged in at first weigh-in.

LIABILITY

The exhibitor assumes liability in case of death or injury of an animal until sold. No official may be held liable for the loss of any animal.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

In order to comply with the health requirements of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industries, all animals must be accompanied by a valid health certificate from an accredited veterinarian. (health papers are valid for 90 days and must be valid thru the last day of fair). All animals must have USDA required **Scannable RFID tag INCLUDING STEERS!** <https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Livestock/Cattle-Bovine/Florida-Cattle-Identification/Florida-Livestock-Identification-Premises-Registration-FAQ>

BUCSS WILL NOT PUT RFID TAGS IN ANIMALS EARS.

RECORD BOOKS

Each exhibitor shall maintain a record book for the steer/breed project. The book must be turned into the exhibitors 4-H/FFA Advisor by the date that set by the 4-H/FFA Advisors. The 4-H/FFA Advisor must check in all the record books to the Bradford/Union County Extension Office.

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

All animals shall be properly trained to be manageable by the exhibitor while in the barn or show ring. Any animal deemed to be unsafe for exhibition may be disqualified at any time by the discretion of the BUCSS Board Members and shall be removed from the barn.

ANIMAL CARE

Animals must be fed and watered daily thru Saturday. If animals are not fed and watered daily, the exhibitor will be disqualified from showing and be removed from the barn and may be disqualified for the following years show.

ANIMAL TYPE

Only beef breeds may be entered. Horned animals shall be dehorned 30 days before the show. However, scurs and secondary growth of horns four (4) inches or less will be accepted.

BARN CAPACITY

Exhibitors may enter one steer and as many heifers to barns capacity @ BUCSS Boards discretion.

SHOW EQUIPMENT

Stall dividers, water buckets and feed pans may be brought into the barn and set up in the exhibitors area on Saturday before final weigh-in. Time to be determined.

FOREIGN SUBSTANCES

Tampering with any animal entered, such as filling with foreign substances, etc. is prohibited. The use of tranquilizers or any substances that alters the animal's behavior after arrival at show will be construed as a form of tampering. No weight enhancement of any kind will be allowed.

HOME GROWN

Animals eligible for homegrown contest must be born & raised in Bradford or Union County. This excludes calves resulting from Embryo Transfer from a dam that is not owned by a breeder from inside the county and calves resulting from a dam that was purchased after the time of conception.

BRED and OWNED **NEW******

Animals eligible for the Bred and Owned contest: Progeny must be by animal that is OWNED by the exhibitor.

HERDSMAN

Herdsman is the responsibility of each exhibitor

- Animals should always be clean with proper grooming, bedding and care apparent.
- Animals are to be properly tied, fed and watered per rules of the barn.
- Stalls are clean and neat. Bedding is clean and fresh. Feed pans and buckets clean.
- Exhibitor Educational Poster will be hung up in a designated area.
- Exhibitor's share of the alley way should always be kept clean and free of equipment.

All Exhibitors are eligible to participate in the herdsmanship Award. Scoring rubric is determined by the Livestock Agent.

OVERALL PERFORMANCE AWARDS

Exhibitors may compete for the Overall Performance Steer and Breed Award. This Award was created and sponsored by the Hamilton Family. Exhibitors must take the Practicum & Quiz for Herdsman to qualify for the Overall Performance Award. These awards are based on four areas of competition:

- Steer or Heifer Show placing
- Herdsman
- Showmanship

SHOWMANSHIP

Steer exhibitors may participate in showmanship classes following the Steer Show. Heifer exhibitors may participate in showmanship classes following the Heifer Show. The age of the exhibitor preceding the show.

- Juniors – ages 8 to 10
- Intermediate – ages 11-13
- Seniors – ages 14 to 18

SHOW RING ATTIRE

Each exhibitor must wear an Official 4-H or FFA Dress while in the show ring and at the Awards Ceremony.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

All complaints will be addressed in writing to the BUCSS Board. At any time the BUCSS Board reserves the right to address any issue concerning the safety and welfare of exhibitors and the general public at any time. All Placings by the judge or show official are final.

STEER SHOW & SALE

INITIAL WEIGH-IN

Initial weigh-in of steers will be on the first (1st) Saturday of October at the Bradford County Fairgrounds. No minimum weight on Steers at initial weigh-in.

FINAL WEIGH-IN

Final weigh-in of steers will be Monday preceding the Sale. (8:00AM – 10:00AM) at the Bradford County Fairgrounds. Time subject to change due to sonogrammer schedule.

WEIGHT AND GRADE

Steers must gain 1.75 pounds per day from Initial Weigh-in to Final Weigh-in. Steers must have a minimum weight of 1,000 pounds at the final weigh-in **AND** Steers must Grade USDA Select, Choice or Prime to show and sell. Grade will be based off intermuscular fat which will be determined by Ultrasound. Maximum sale weight will be 1,350 pounds. Any animals in question will be re-evaluated by a committee for final approval.

WEIGHT GAIN CONTEST

All steers will be entered in the weight gain contest. Weight gain will be determined by the difference between the initial weigh-in and final weigh-in weights.

CLASSES

Steer classes will be determined by weight.

SALE & COMMISSION

All steers shall be consigned to the Sale. Payments made on animals sold at the fair must be made directly to the BUCSS. A 5% sales commission will be deducted from gross sale receipts for each steer or heifer sold. Add-ons will be accepted for all sale animals at the time of the sale. Any across the board add-ons will be announced at the sale. **No commission will be deducted from add-ons.**

MARKETING AND BUYER "THANK YOU" LETTERS

Marketing is the most important responsibility an exhibitor must do to finish a successful show steer project. All steer exhibitors will be responsible for marketing their own steer. The BUCSS strongly recommends that each exhibitor personally visit potential buyers prior to the Show and Sale and secure a buyer commitment for their steer. Exhibitors must bring across the board add-on Thank you letter, addressed and with postage stamp to pick up check.

****exception****

If the exhibitor wants to hand deliver letter they must have a form signed by the donor/business owner.

BREED SHOW

INITIAL CHECK-IN

Initial check-in of heifers will be on the first Saturday of October, 2025 (8:00 AM -10:00 AM) at the Bradford County Fairgrounds or at the December meeting. ALL ANIMALS MUST BE PRESENT FOR WEIGH-IN. All heifers must be signed up by October 4, 2025. Heifers must have a USDA Scannable RFID Tag or brands (fire or freeze). These numbers will be verified at final check-in.

FINAL CHECK-IN

Final check-in and weighing of heifers will be on Monday, March 3, 2026 (8:00AM – 10:00AM) at the Bradford County Fairgrounds. Time subject to change due to sonogrammer schedule.

BODY CONDITION SCORE

All heifers should have a Body Condition Score (BCS) of at least a 6. Cows with calves should have a BCS of at least 5.

AGE

Animals must not be more than 36 months old.

SALE COMMITMENT

If an exhibitor wishes to consign their heifer to the Sale, they must do so upon final check-in 5% will be deducted from the total sale of the animal to cover show expenses. Payments made on animals sold at the fair must be made directly to the BUCSS. Breed animals are to sell according to how they place in their class the night of the show.

COMMERCIAL and AMERICAN INFLUENCE HEIFER CLASSES

All classes will be determined by weight.

- Cow/Calf pair can be shown up to 36 months of age of cow. If the calf is born before October Sign-Ups, and the calf is signed up as individual to be shown in its own class, then the calf can be shown in both cow/calf and as individual calf.
- American Influence must have 10 animals to have a show.

All Grand animals will compete for a Supreme Champion Heifer

BULLS

All Bulls must have a permanent ring in nose and lead rope attached when moving bull from stall and while in the show ring. Must not be more than 36 months old. Must have a USDA Scannable RFID Tag or brands (fire or freeze)

RELEASE OF ANIMALS

Heifers may be released after awards ceremony. All steers shall remain in the barn.

Bradford - Union Cattle Show Entry Form

Exhibitor Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent Phone # _____ Exhibitor Phone # _____

Parent/Guardian email address: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____ Date of Birth: _____

County of Residence: Bradford Union **Graduating Senior:** Yes No

Organization: Bradford-4H Union-4H Bradford-FFA Union-FFA

*****My signature below indicates I have received and acknowledge all rules of the BUCSS*****

Exhibitor's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

EXHIBITOR					BUCSS	
ANIMAL	BREED	HOME-GROWN	HG BREEDER	EID/BRAND	TAG#	WEIGHT
STEER		<input type="checkbox"/>				
<input type="checkbox"/> HEIFER <input type="checkbox"/> COW/CALF PAIR		<input type="checkbox"/>				
HEIFER		<input type="checkbox"/>				
HEIFER		<input type="checkbox"/>				

Exhibitor T-Shirt Size (Circle One)		
Youth Sizes	Adult Sizes	
YS	AS	AXL
YM	AM	AXXL
YL	AL	

DUES	(\$55)	\$ 55
1 st Animal		\$ 35
2 nd Animal	(\$20)	\$ _____
3 rd Animal	(\$20)	\$ _____
Total Amount Due:		\$ _____
Pmt:	Cash _____	Check # _____ CC _____