

ACA and AMAA National Junior Heifer Show Quiz Bowl Study Guide

The Quiz Bowl Contest at the National Junior Heifer Show is a team competition. It is designed to gauge the depth of knowledge of youth relative to their beef project. Additionally, developing a team spirit and comradery, while having fun, are important aspects of the Quiz Bowl contest.

Following are 10 broad categories from which most quiz bowl questions will be developed. This is a comprehensive (although incomplete) list; new questions are added each year. While the topics are the same for each of the four divisions (Novice, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior) the questions become more specific and challenging for each age category.

Nutrition

1. How many nutrient groups are there?
2. What are the most important nutrient groups?
3. What are the different types of digestive systems?
4. When are nutritional requirements the highest?
5. When are nutritional requirements the lowest?
6. What are the major types of vitamins?
7. What are the major types of minerals?

Health

1. What are the major diseases that affect cattle?
2. What are the causes of the major cattle diseases?
3. What types of vaccines can be used to treat cattle?
4. When and how should those vaccines be used and administered?
5. What are the different types of injections?
6. How and when should different types of injections be administered?

Reproduction

1. What hormones affect reproduction?
2. What methods can be used to regulate estrus?
3. In general terms, understand how reproduction works in cattle.
4. Be familiar with the number of days that are required for different reproductive functions (i.e. estrus, estrous, gestation)
5. Articulate a basic understanding of the processes and techniques used with AI, ET, heat synchronization, etc.

Showmanship

1. What specific pieces of equipment are needed and how are they used?
2. What are the proper procedures used in showmanship?

Breed History

1. Where did the breeds originate?
2. How did the breeds get their names?
3. What were the original purposes and functions of each breed?
4. When did the breeds first arrive in America?
5. How did each breed first arrive in America?
6. When was each association formed?

Animal Physiology

1. Understand how the major body processes function (i.e. digestion, reproduction)
2. What are the major structural components of the reproductive system in both the cow and bull?
3. What are the major structural components in the cow's digestive system?
4. What is "normal" for major bodily functions (temperature, heart rate, breaths per minute, length of estrus cycle, length of gestation period, etc.)

Terminology

1. Be prepared to identify and / or define all major names and acronyms used with purebred cattle, and, in particular, with these breeds.
2. Be able to define commonly used words and phrases in purebred beef cattle production.

Meat Sciences

1. Understand the different types of meat grades used on beef carcasses.
2. What factors determine each type of beef grade?
3. What are the names of the different beef grades?

Genetics

1. What are the two different gene types?
2. Which traits are most highly and least heritable?
3. Demonstrate a basic understanding of EPDs and how they can be used in mating and selection decisions.

General Animal Husbandry

1. What type of daily care should be provided to your show heifer?
2. In what ways can you improve growth and performance?
3. In what ways can you promote hair growth?