MARKET BEEF

First Edition of the MALC Memo Board publication

First of all we would like to say thank you for supporting our 4-H youth at the Bonner County 4-H Market Animal Sale in the past.

The purpose of this newsletter is to educate the general public about the work and dedication of our local 4-H members and second to keep you informed of what is happening.

We will be letting you know about the commitment that our youth are making to complete their projects to raise quality meat products for the consumer.

We are very proud of our youth, their dedication and commitment and we will be highlighting that in the following quarterly newsletter.

For more information we may be contacted at BCMALC@gmail.com or contact Kevin at 208-290-4457 or Nancy at 208-263-8511

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please send your email address to BCMALC@gmail.com

Mission Statement

4-H Empowers Youth to Reach Their full potential through working and learning in partnership with caring adults.

The Market Beef (Steer) Project.

This project typically starts in October or November with the purchase of a 7 to 8 month old steer calf that weighs anywhere from 400 to 600 pounds. The process begins the first time the 4-Her takes the animal home to the barn. In the first few months the 4-Her will work on getting the steer slowly switched over to a feeding program that will work for both the steer and the 4-Her, they will also be working to halter-break (teach the steer to lead).They must also be able to handle and work around the steer. This is not a quick process as the steers have their own minds. The next milestone for these 4-Her's is the weigh-in which was held Saturday, March 20th. The 4-Hers are required to bring their animals to the fairgrounds to establish a beginning weight and to be de-wormed and vaccinated. The 4-Her must be able to lead their animal through the weigh scale or they will not be allowed to continue their project. At this time the steers should weigh between 800 to 900 pounds. The maximum weight allowed at the spring weigh-in is 1050 pounds. The 4-Her's will use the current weight of their animal to formulate and adjust their feeding program. As the steer grows the feed amounts need to be increased so that the steer continues to grow and will be ready for market in about 150 days. In addition to the daily chores of feeding, watering, cleaning, brushing and making sure that all is well continues. The 4-Her's are required to attend 2/3rds of their club meetings and 2/3rds of their project meetings. 4-Her's must keep detailed records of their feeding program, costs associated with caring for their animal and veterinary care that may be necessary. The 4-Hers learn to express what they want to learn by setting goals and assessing their achievements. The 4-Her must also complete a project demonstration for the other club members, learn how to judge other livestock and help with a community service project. The market animal projects teach the youth how to care and feed an animal, the financial importance of record keeping and the business aspect of buying and selling an animal.

Upcoming Events – 2010

April 17*- County Demonstration Day- Sandpoint Nazarene Church*

April 24*- Bonner/Boundary County Tack & Livestock Equipment Swap 9-3*

April 26*- Gold N' Grouse Beef Club 4-H Meeting 6 Pm*

May 4-9th*- Spokane Jr. Livestock Show, Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds*

May 8*- Market Swine Weigh- IN (at the fairgrounds)*

May 12*- Market Animal Livestock Committee Meeting at the Extension Office 7PM*

May 16*- Gold N' Grouse 4-H Club General Meeting- Pack River Cemetery Clean-up 2PM*

May 24*- Gold n' Grouse Beef Club 4-H Meeting 6 PM*

June 5*- Livestock Education Day, Fairgrounds*

June 26*- Market Sheep & Goat Weigh-In Fairgrounds*

June 14*- Market Animal Livestock Committee Meeting at the Extension Office 7PM*

August 17*- Interview Judging Day- Last Name Letters Q-Z, Fairgrounds*

August 22-28 Bonner County Fair See you there ☺

August 27- Market Animal Sale, Bonner County Fair

Market Animal Sale Information

For those of you who might not know about the sale or have not been to or participated in this type of auction, we would like to present you with some information that may help.

The first step in this type of auction is the competition. The youth present their animals to a judge that has been selected for his knowledge of the livestock industry. The steers are placed according to the judges' opinion. This all takes place during the county fair. The fair will be held August 22-28th 2010 at the Bonner County Fairgrounds. The youth are judged in two separate categories, one is the quality and finish of the animal, the second is on their presentation and handling of that animal. The judge sets the order in which the animals will sell within their species. This process seems fairly simple on paper, but you should see what the judges have to go through to get to this point. (We will have show times for you in the next newsletter.) Now that we have made it to the sale here are some things that you need to know.

Definitions:

Turn Price- this is the actual Market Value. This price is established by calling local area livestock buyers to receive a quote on the price for the market animals on a given day.

Blue Sky- represents the amount of money bid above and beyond the turn price paid for the animal. This is the portion of the price bid that is eligible as a tax benefit to 4-H Supporters.

Why purchase an animal from our youth.

- ✓ **Top quality beef, pork, lamb, goats, poultry and rabbits.**
- ✓ **Quality Assurance**
- ✓ **Supporting your local youth**
- ✓ **Tax Deductible Advertising for your business**

Ways to buy at the Sale:

- ✓ **Custom Process-** the majority of buyers prefer having their purchased animal processed and packaged by a local processor of their choice. The buyers are responsible for the fees charged by the processor (butcher).
- ✓ **Turn (Resale) -** If you choose to purchase an animal but do not want the finished product, you will turn the animal. You are responsible for the amount of money between the turn price and the final bid price. (This is often used by companies to show their support of our youth but do not wish to take the animal home or have it taken to the processor.)
- ✓ **Live Animal-** Buyers must arrange for delivery of their purchase to their home or to the processor of their choice.
- ✓ **Joint Purchases-** you may not wish to purchase a whole animal. You may make arrangements with family members, friends or other companies to share the purchase. For Example: Joe purchases ½ of a beef and Ed purchases the other ½ the costs and advertising are then split accordingly.
- ✓ **Purchase and Donate-** you can buy and donate to your favorite charity. If the charity qualifies your purchase may be fully tax deductible. Check with your tax accountant for the latest information.

We will have more information in our following newsletter

Thanks again for taking the time to read this publication ☺