

Note: Cowboy is headed to the County Fair. We hope to see you there. If all goes well Cowboy will be at the Gooding County Fair on Thursday August 14th so we hope you can come by and see us. The final show is the Open to the World Steer Show, at the Twin Falls County Fair, August 30th.

Title: See You at the Fair!

By Cindy A. Kinder, Area 4-H Extension Educator

Cowboy weighs 1180 lbs (7/18) and is gaining 3.76 lbs/day. This is just below the target of 3.9 lbs/day on the growth chart. I am still feeding Cowboy 5 scoops of 2-way grain (1180 lbs x 2% = 23.6 lbs per day) and 2 to 3 flakes of alfalfa hay (1180 x 1% hay/roughage= 11.8 lbs per day) per feeding. I also top dress the grain with Vigor Plus. Cowboy has gone off feed; meaning that he is not cleaning up all the feed I am feeding him. He is not scoured; and the water tank is kept cool and clean. I believe the heat has caused him to reduce his feed intake. I am also seeing fat patches in the tail head and cod areas so eating less could also mean he is close to market ready. So I have reduced some of the grain he is getting and hope he gets back to full feed soon.



Since the Camas County Jamboree last month we have been practicing with the show halter and show stick. I have noticed that Cowboy leads a lot better with the show halter than the rope halter. I have been showing Cowboy outside his pen; this lets him get used to more open space; so hopefully he will not run away with me at fair! In the evening, at chore time, I still tie up Cowboy to the top rail of the fence and I spray him down with water and comb his hair forward. His hair is looking good.



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4

I will be clipping Cowboy soon for the fair. I will shave his entire head close (except the inside of his ears)(picture 1). I will leave the hair long on the side of his neck but clip the top of the crest short and do some blending of the long and short hair (picture 2). I will also shave his brisket and between his front legs; making him look less wastey (picture 3). I will leave his body hair long since I shaved him this spring and all the dead hair is gone. I will trim up his sheath only and some really long belly hairs (picture 4). However, I will keep most of the belly hair long because Cowboy needs to have more depth.

When I fit Cowboy for show day I will use adhesive to pull his leg hairs up to show off his large bone and hindquarters. I will comb his body hair forward to make him look smoother and longer and I will pull up and trim square his tail head and fluff his tail switch for a natural look.

How is your project going? Here are some questions you can ask yourself.

- ✚ Is your animal getting fatter? How can you tell?
- ✚ Is your animal going to make his ideal MARKET weight?
- ✚ How are you practicing for the show?
- ✚ How are you clipping and fitting your animal?
- ✚ What is your animal telling you?

Good luck and see you at the Fair!!