Master Beef—Pick Your Topic Possibilities

Stumped for ideas for Master Beef - Pick Your Topic? Not sure if your idea fits?

This fact sheet provides a list of potential topics for the Master Beef - Pick Your Topic project.

Technical Production Skills

ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services)

Breeding/Herd Development
- Genetics/genomics
- EPDs
- Heritage Breeds
- Improving a herd
- Selecting a new sire
- Looking for the perfect cross
- Calving problems
- Embryo transplants
- Artificial insemination
- Record Keeping
- New cattle Breeds
- History and Characteristics of a Specific Breed

Environmental Stewardship
- Soil Conservation
- Soil Health
- Water
- Ecology
- Manure Management
- Water, energy and carbon footprints of beef production
- Ecological Goods and Services
- Carbon Sequestration
- Carbon Credits
- Managing Riparian areas/watershed management

Agroforestry
- Shelterbelts

Equipment

Equipment Operating

Facilities
- Building Calf Shelters
- Comparison of Chutes
- Design a Calving Barn
- Design a Corral Handling System
- Open Housing System
- Alternate Watering Systems

Fencing
- Cross Fencing
- Electrical Fencing Systems
- High Tensile Fencing
- Temporary Fencing

Forages
- Grasses and Legumes for Pasture and Soil Types
- Fertility
- Cover Crops
- Annual Forage Options
- Extended Grazing Schedules
- Seeding Forages
- Harvesting Forages
Technical Production Skills continued

Herd Health
- Cow/Calf Health Management Program
- Calving Dystocia
- Newborn Management
- Colostrum
- Minerals
- Keeping the Herd Sire Healthy
- Hoof Trimming and Dehorning
- Immunizations/Vaccinations
- Pain Mitigation Strategies/new Standards
- Fly Control
- Deworming

Herd Production
- Economics, breeding and production strategies
- Finishing Feeder Management Program
- Backgrounder management Program
- Weaning Strategies

Holistic Management/adaptive management planning

Meat Science
- Carcass Evaluation
- Grading
- Understanding Meat Quality
- Novel Cuts and Cooking Methods

Nutrition and feeding
- Creep feeding
- Feeding Silage
- Rotational Grazing
- Swath Grazing
- Self Feed vs Hand Feed
- Making a Feed Ration
- Making a Ration with computer Software
- Custom Feeding
- Custom Grazing

Record Keeping
- Computer record keeping
- Verified Beef Production
- Environmental farm Plan

Safety
- Livestock safety
- Chemical Safety
- Equipment Safety
- Emergency Preparedness

Science and Technology
- Selection and Judging

Showmanship
- Grooming
- Showmanship
Business Management Skills

Entrepreneurship

Economics
- Costs of Production
- Budgeting
- Record Keeping
- Heifer Retention vs. Purchasing

Outside Influences on Return
- BSE
- NAFTA
- Consumer Trends

Marketing
- Auction System
- Rail Grading
- Local Markets
- Value Added
- The Consumer
- International Markets
- Niche markets
- Direct Farm Marketing
- Farmers Markets

Running a Small Business
- Premises ID

Leadership and Career Skills

Communication

Advocacy

Career Exploration
- Veterinary
- Veterinary Assistant
- Ag Accountant
- Food Science
- Heavy Machinery Repair
- Nutritionist
- Scientist
- Research Assistant
- Agronomist
- Extension Agent

Critical Thinking

Education
- Degree
- Diploma
- Certificate
- Post Graduate Programs
- University
- Community College
- College

Food Safety and Food Preparation

Food Security

Industry Organizations/ Government
- CFIA
- MBP
- CCA
- Canada Beef Inc
- Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef

Meeting Management

Mentee Opportunities

Mentor Training
Resources on the Internet and Social Media

The internet can be an excellent source of information whether in print or video format. Be sure to always look for reputable and credible sources when using online resources. Examples of good resources would be sites posted by government or educational agencies. Companies may also post credible information but be aware that they could be promoting their own products and you may wish to find a second opinion.

Pinterest – The Visual Discovery Tool
Pinterest is a social media bulletin board for you to virtually pin pictures of things that interest you to your own personal boards – Pin-Explore-Discover! 4-H Manitoba has a Pinterest account. Each project series has a board full of fun and interesting ideas. There are also boards for 4-H Awesome, Community Service, Volunteers, Communications and Building Blocks. Check it out at www.pinterest.com/4hmanitoba/.

When you are doing a search for beef information on the internet be sure to be specific about what you want to find out - just entering “beef” will yield too many results for you to check and not all of them will relate to what you want to know. For example, try “rotational grazing for beef cattle” , “preparing for a 4-H livestock show” or “judging 4-h beef steers”.

YouTube  https://www.youtube.com/
YouTube is an American video sharing website. You can search YouTube for videos on a variety of topics including livestock judging, showmanship and agvocacy.

As with Pinterest, you will want to be specific in your search topics - this will decrease the number of results you find and increase the relevance of the videos you find.