



sponsored by the Ohio Cattlemen's Association

COVID-19 Plan for Ohio Beef Expo March 18-21, 2021

Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio – revised 2-26-21

The Ohio Beef Expo, coordinated by the Ohio Cattlemen's Association (OCA), is a cattle producer focused event that provides critical farm income for essential cattle farm families and rural small businesses that participate in it. The 2021 Beef Expo includes a reformatted schedule of cattle sales, a retail trade show and a youth cattle show. Several educational events have been discontinued to comply with state health orders. This plan will be strictly enforced to maintain a safe and healthy environment for Expo buyers and participants.

Attendance

- More than half of the people attending are outside and spread out along the viaduct area from 11th Avenue to 17th Avenue where cattle are exhibited. Much of the event takes place outside or in open, unheated barns. A variance is being requested in an accompanying letter.
- The show will be enforcing all state and local health orders.
- Exhibitors will be told to stay at home if they are sick, do not feel well or have exhibited any of the symptoms set by the CDC in the last 48 hours.
- No spectators will be permitted, and at-risk family members will be strongly discouraged from attending.
- The show will publicize the importance of a daily wellness check through its communications plan prior to the event and through daily texts to participants. ***(See #5 under General Procedures)***

Masks/Hand Sanitizing/Social Distancing

- Everyone (buyers, participants, vendors, exhibitors, and show staff and volunteers) will be required to wear a mask while in buildings or outside where social distancing cannot be maintained. This will be strictly enforced.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be provided that meet Ohio Department of Health and local boards of health recommendations throughout the facility. ***(See attached site plan for locations.)***
- A-frame signs will be posted around the grounds and frequent reminders will be made over the public address system and in the show ring, regarding instructions on hand washing/sanitizing, maintaining social distancing and discouraging congregating.

General Ohio Beef Expo Procedures:

1. The Ohio Beef Expo (OBE) will share extensive COVID precautions on its website at ohiobeefexpo.com and accompanying social media properties. During the show continuous announcements will be made to discourage congregating, socially distance and wear masks.
2. The OBE will require masks to be always worn inside a building by all attendees. Participants who fail to comply will forfeit their entry fees and the opportunity to exhibit and participate. Furthermore, OBE attendees failing to comply may be asked to leave the premises.
3. The OBE will prohibit spectators. Sales and shows will only allow buyers and the trade show will only allow participants/buyers.
4. A large portion of the OBE is outside. All available outdoor space will be utilized first before any indoor space is utilized.
5. The OBE has a site plan that outlines one-way traffic flow in buildings where possible. Signs, arrows, and floor stickers will be utilized to direct traffic flow in one direction. ***(See attached site plan for traffic flow.)***
6. The OBE will require all staff and volunteers to perform daily wellness screenings, wear masks, and routinely wash and sanitize their hands. Daily screenings will survey staff and volunteers in three different buildings to determine if they have experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 48 hours:
 - Fever or feeling feverish (chills, sweating)
 - New cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Sore throat
 - Muscle aches or body aches
 - Vomiting or diarrhea
 - New loss of taste or smell
7. The OBE will require grounds staff to clean and sanitize restrooms and empty trash at an increased frequency. The grounds staff will be instructed that high-touch areas be continuously cleaned and disinfected including restrooms, door crash bars, inside and out and handrails. Southeast Healthcare Services, Ohio Expo Center contractor, has submitted a cleaning schedule based on attendance numbers and event hours. It includes cleaning high touch areas every two hours during OBE event hours. This includes items such as railings, doorknobs, doors of restrooms, bathroom sinks and counters, ATM machines, etc. (cleaning schedule attached)
8. The OBE will monitor restrooms and post signs on each reminding participants to remember to practice appropriate distancing. The Ohio Expo Center will bag every other sink and toilet and/or put out of order signs in sinks and on stall doors.
9. The OBE will require any concessionaires and food vendors to follow the state guidelines for food establishments and eliminate self-serve stations including beverages and/or condiment dispensers. Concessions by Cox, Ohio Expo Center contractor, has their own COVID plan for safely operating concessions. Concessions by Cox has confirmed in writing to Ohio Expo Center staff that they will have physical plexi-glass barriers between customers and foodservice workers at every food stand they operate during the OBE.

J & J Steak Barn will install plexi-glass where necessary and use physical stanchions and floor tape to distance customers.

10. The OBE will work with the venue and designate a hot spot location to isolate suspected COVID-19 individuals, if identified. The OBE will re-trace the contact of the individual, including people and locations. Grounds staff will clean all areas they came in contact with. The OBE will isolate the sick person, refer to medical care, notify the local health department, and provide them with assistance in contact tracing.

11. The OBE will monitor and control all common areas, sale and show ring entrances and exits, hallways, etc. to maintain flow and prevent back-ups and congestion. *(See attached site plan for traffic flow.)*

12. The OBE will have online entries available prior to the event, therefore greatly reducing the face-to-face entries necessary upon arrival on the show grounds.

13. There will be no camping. All OBE participants will stay in area hotels.

Ohio Beef Expo Procedures for Sales:

1. The OBE will eliminate a sale ring and enlarge the remaining sale ring to provide distancing between buying groups/families.

2. The OBE has rescheduled the 7 sales over a two-day period that have previously taken place all in one day. This will reduce the number of people attending at one time.

3. The OBE will discourage breed sales from hosting pre-sale parades or shows.

4. The OBE will offer an online bidding services for those buyers who want to participate, but not attend.

Ohio Beef Expo Procedures for Retail Trade Show:

1. The OBE will eliminate all seminars and educational events in the trade show.

2. The OBE will place floor stickers throughout the show remaining participants to socially distance.

3. The OBC will discontinue all social hours in the trade show.

4. Retail trade show exhibitors are required to have sanitizer available in their booth. Each trade show exhibitor must clean their booth, including tables and display materials/equipment every hour, at a minimum. In addition, OBE staff will have sanitizer and have people assigned to follow-up with each exhibitor to check they are doing the sanitizing. If they are not, OBE staff will do it.

5. The OBE will provide hand sanitizers at all doors to the trade show and in the Ohio Cattlemen's Association booth.

Ohio Beef Expo Procedures for Junior Cattle Show:

1. Exhibitors will complete a pre-show form that will be collected upon their arrival at the show that certifies they have not exhibited any signs of COVID or been in contact with anyone who has tested positive, etc ...

2. Cattle check-in times for the OBE junior show will be spaced out over a longer period to minimize the number of people near the scales and cattle chutes.

3. The OBE junior show has rescheduled the show over a three-day period where previously it has taken place in 1 1/2 days. This will reduce the number of people attending at one time.

4. The OBE junior show will prohibit spectators and will utilize a service to live-stream the show.
5. The barn will be stalled with tack spaces separating each family exhibiting and will have all doors open.
6. The show ring will minimize heat to leave as many doors open for ventilation as possible.
7. Class size will be limited to a specific number of cattle to insure 6-foot social distancing and exhibitors will be appropriately distanced in the show ring.
8. Individual dedicated microphones will be available for both announcers and judges. Microphones will be sanitized after each person uses the microphone.
9. There will be no physical contact between the judge and the exhibitors.
10. Show Arena will be cleaned between shows, i.e. following showmanship, following the market animal show and before the heifer show.

Discontinued Events for the 2021 Ohio Beef Expo:

Livestock Judging Contest
Youth Quality Assurance Training
Youth Cattle Fitting Demonstrations
Lunch in the Trade Show
Social Hour in the Trade Show
All seminars

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