



NORTHERN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION  
(406) 256-2495 ♦ FAX (406) 256-2494 ♦ www.thenile.org ♦ P.O. BOX 1981 ♦ BILLINGS, MT 59103

## **2011 MERIT HEIFER (LIVE ANIMAL SPONSORSHIP) NILE STOCK SHOW & RODEO**

### **LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ agrees to serve as sponsor of the NILE Merit Heifer Program for 2010-2011 through the donation of a weaned heifer calf to a youth, (aged 13-17) selected via merit. The program is designed to encourage deserving youth to start or augment their personal cattle herd therefore; the heifer will NOT be sold prior to project completion. In the event that a heifer recipient does not fulfill their contract: NILE reserves the right to retrieve the heifer from the recipient and will make arrangements to either return the heifer to the donor or sell it with the proceeds being returned to the donor.

Details of understanding:

- ✓ Winners are selected by Merit through written applications.
- ✓ Each winner is awarded a heifer calf suitable for breeding.
- ✓ The recipient is responsible for physical & financial management of the heifer and is required to report to the NILE and donor on a monthly basis.
- ✓ Farm visits are done through out the year by officers from Northwest Farm Credit Services.
- ✓ Breeding: Youth have full control and authority to breed heifer as they desire, however they are encouraged to work with donors on a breeding program. Genex will donate up to two straws for breeding.
- ✓ Feeding: Youth are given a handbook with advice and suggestions on feeding programs through Westfeeds of Billings, Mont.
- ✓ Recipient is required to enter heifer in the 2010 NILE Merit Heifer bred replacement competition.
- ✓ Two contests will be held at the NILE Stock Show for Merit Heifers:
  - Phenotype: The phenotype contest will be based off the evaluation of the heifer's physical attributes as a bred heifer.
  - Showmanship: The Showmanship contest will be based off the evaluation of the participant's knowledge of the program and their heifer and their showmanship abilities.
  - **Herdsmen Award**: This contest is the ultimate and true winner of the NILE Merit Heifer program for the year. The contest consists of three components being Showmanship, Record Keeping, and an Interview. The winner will receive a specially designed bronze just for the NILE Merit Heifer Program.

The NILE has cooperative agreements with other livestock shows to host a NILE Merit Heifer Show, based on phenotype, those being: the Jr. Beef Expo in Lewistown (June), and the Yellowstone Classic in Billings (June). Each show is given extra premium money for the first three places at each show. These shows are NOT a requirement for participation.

**Merit Heifer Calcutta:**

During the Yellowstone Classic in June of 2011, a Calcutta Auction will be held. The Calcutta is associated with the Phenotype class that will be held during NILE, as describe previously. The proceeds from the auction will be put into a Jackpot and paid out to the buyers of the heifers based upon the placing of the top four heifers in the class. NILE will receive 25% of the total proceeds that will go towards youth scholarships with the remaining amount paid out as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> is 40%, 2<sup>nd</sup> is 30%, 3<sup>rd</sup> is 20%, and 4<sup>th</sup> is 10%.

**NILE Merit Heifer Donor/Sponsor will provide:**

- A suitable heifer calf of any breed, calf hood vaccinated, and weaned for at least 30 days prior to **December 1<sup>st</sup>** delivery. All heifers to be delivered or picked up no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010.
- Information and support to the youth. Donor must be accessible and willing to communicate with the participant through the duration of the program.

**NILE Merit Heifer Donor/Sponsor will receive:**

- Two Purple Reserved Tickets for each performance of the 2011 NILE PRCA Rodeo.
- Sponsor recognition in the cattle display area during NILE week.
- Monthly progress reports from the recipient of your donated heifer.
- Full year’s recognition via News Releases, Newsletters, and the NILE web site.
- Satisfaction of perpetuating livestock agriculture through your community’s youth.

I have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions as set out above:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, St, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed of Heifer Donated: \_\_\_\_\_