

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Student Certification

This document includes:

- Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Student Certification Protocol

Website for more information:

<http://www.bqa.org/default.aspx>

Teacher study resources are obtained at:

<http://www.nccattle.com/ncbqaprogram.aspx>

(This is to help prepare teachers for the exam en lieu of attending the training session.)

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Student Certification

North Carolina Agricultural Education Courses with content in this certification area include Middle Grades Exploring Agriscience, Agriscience Applications, Agriculture Production I, Agriculture Production II, Animal Science I and Animal Science II.

The Certifying Agency

According to the BQA website, “Beef Quality Assurance is a nationally coordinated, state implemented program that provides systematic information to U.S. beef producers and beef consumers of how common sense husbandry techniques can be coupled with accepted scientific knowledge to raise cattle under optimum management and environmental conditions.”

One may go to the website <http://www.bqa.org/default.aspx> to find information on certification, programs, and research along with industry news and resources. The BQA program in North Carolina is administered through Mr. Bryan Blinson and the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. To receive more information call (919) 552-9111, e-mail Mr. Blinson at bryan@nccattle.com or contact their office at 2228 N. Main Street Fuquay Varina, NC 27526.

The Certification for Teachers

Teachers wishing to offer certification for their students must first take ***online or*** face-to-face training offered through the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. To obtain certification a teacher take the final exam upon completion of training to obtain a minimum of 90% correct score. Teachers may use the resources obtained at <http://www.nccattle.com/ncbqaprogram.aspx> to study and prepare for the exam en lieu of attending the training session. However they still must pass the exam with a minimum of 90% correct score. Teachers are certified for three years.

The Certification for Students

Teachers who are certified may use the above website to obtain and teach BQA materials to their students. Upon completion of training teachers will contact Mr. Blinson and the North Carolina Cattlemen’s Association for testing material. Each student who wishes to be tested for certification must pay a \$15.00 certification fee in advance of testing. Once testing is complete the teacher will grade each student’s test and return a list of students who answer 70% of the exam questions correctly to the North Carolina Cattlemen’s Association at the above address. Teachers will include the name and complete mailing address for each student who passes the test. Students will be mailed their certification through the North Carolina Cattlemen’s Association. In addition each student will receive one year of student membership in the North Carolina Cattlemen’s Association and receive a monthly magazine.

Certification periods vary based on where the student is in their age range but the maximum certification period is three years before renewal is required.