

Mason Fields

13 Years Old • Monadnock Regional Middle-High School
Farming interests: Beef Cattle, Dairy Goats, Farm Mechanics




Mason Fields became interested in agriculture after visiting his aunt and uncle's dairy farm in Chesterfield when he was five years old. Soon after, he began attending 4-H meetings as a "Cloverbud" (the name of the 4-H Club's youngest participants, ranging in age from five to eight) with the Switch 'n Horns 4-H Club; at the age of eight he transitioned to being a regular member of the Switch 'n Horns 4-H Club.

"I started out by showing dairy cattle for my aunt and uncle," says Field. He showed dairy cattle for Mike and Nancy Plante for two years, then made the transition to beef cattle, which he currently shows at several agricultural shows throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

"Most recently I have gained new interest in dairy goats," he adds. Again, the inspiration for his new farming interest was through his extended family. Fields helps his grandparents run Barrett Hill Dairy Goat Farm in Chesterfield, where they have about 60 goats. Fields says he has been helping make the goat farm "a success" by pitching in with daily chores and milking goats. Fields and his grandparents currently milk 25 goats two times a day, and together they have also started making goat milk soap (sold at P and J Discount store in Chesterfield), plus cheese and ice cream using the herd's milk.

Fields also keeps busy showing the Simmental breed of cattle for his aunt and uncle and hopes to attend Eastern States Exposition in the fall with his 4-H beef animals.

When asked what the future holds for this young farmer, Mason Fields says he hopes to attend college for farm mechanics, and also would like to continue helping on his grandparents' goat farm. "I would even like to have a farm of my own someday," he says. 

— Interviewed by Andrea Chickering Sawyer, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development, Cheshire County Cooperative Extension.
Photo: courtesy Andrea Chickering Sawyer



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