



With the increased popularity of becoming food self-sufficient, more and more people are considering raising Dexters for beef and/or dairy. As a new Dexter owner, there may be topics you wish you would have considered before starting your Dexter herd. There also may be information you would like to glean from prospective buyers before selling your own animals in the future. Using this questionnaire with interested buyers can spark discussion and help avoid selling to someone who is unprepared or unable to provide a safe and healthy environment for the animal.

*This questionnaire was adapted from one that is used by Mary Jane Phifer at SteelMeadow Farm.*

## Prospective Buyers Questionnaire

1. Do you currently own livestock?

Yes

No

If yes, please list type and number

2. How comfortable are you handling, walking and working with small and/or large livestock?

Very comfortable

Somewhat comfortable

Not very comfortable

No experience

3. Will your livestock have access to pasture?

Yes

No

If yes, how many acres and is the pasture divided into sections to allow rotation?

4. How often will your livestock be on pasture?

A few hours a day

During daylight hours only

24 hours a day

Not sure



5. Do you have a secure perimeter fence around your property?

Yes

No

If yes, what type? If barbed wire, how many strands?

6. How will you water your livestock?

Pond or stream

Self-filling trough

Manually filled trough

7. Will you be feeding hay?

Yes

No

If yes, grown on your own property or purchased?

8. Will you have your hay tested?

Yes

No

Not sure

9. Will you provide minerals and salt to your livestock?

Yes

No

If yes, loose or block form?

Loose, free-choice

Block form

Not sure

10. Will your livestock have access to shelter? Check all that apply:

Trees or wooded area

Barn

3-sided shelter

Lean to

Other

11. Do you currently have a large animal veterinarian that you use or do you know of one in your area?

Yes

No

Unsure



12. Will you be able to secure your animal safely during situations requiring doctoring, tagging or veterinary procedures?

Yes

No

If yes, what type?

Chute/head gate

Stanchion

Barn stall

13. How will you diagnose illness in your animals? Check all that apply

Have vet come to farm

Take animal to vet

I feel comfortable with my experience to diagnose and treat livestock

14. If recommended by a vet, will you give antibiotics to your livestock?

Yes

No

Not sure

15. Will you be able to confine and/or isolate your livestock during periods of illness?

Yes

No

16. Are there any contagious outbreaks of disease of livestock in your area?

Yes

No

Not sure

17. Will you be giving vaccinations to your livestock? Check all that apply:

I do not believe in vaccines

My herd will be closed and require no vaccines

I will give needed vaccinations myself

I will let my vet decide which vaccinations are needed and administer them

18. Do you plan to deworm your livestock?

Yes

No

Not sure



***How familiar are you with the following?***

19. Heat cycles, breeding and reproduction of livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

20. Pregnancy and gestational stages of livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

21. Normal birthing stages in livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

22. Abnormal birthing situations in livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

23. Normal newborn behavior in livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

24. Abnormal newborn behavior in livestock

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar

25. Do you currently own or plan on purchasing a livestock trailer?

- Yes
- No

If no, do you have access to borrow or rent one?

- Yes
- No