BREEDING RABBIT (#225)
4-H & JR. FAIR PROJECT REQUIREMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

(This is not a complete listing of all Jr. Fair exhibit rules. Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for details.)

1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS
   - PROJECT BOOKS: Each first-year member will receive a Breeding Rabbit Project Book (#225) and a Rabbit Resource Handbook (#228R). Member must retain these books for use in future years. Replacement books can be purchased at the Extension office. Note: The Resource Handbook is given one per family and must be retained for future family members.
   - LIVESTOCK RECORD: Each member will receive a Livestock Record annually. Members are required to bring their completed Livestock Record to the Animal Project Skillathon with all information completed up to the date of the Skillathon.

2. QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA is not required for Breeding Rabbits. QA is mandatory for Market Rabbits): All Ohio Junior Fair Market & Dairy Exhibitors must complete a Quality Assurance Training to exhibit and/or sell their animals at County, Independent or State Fairs. All Jr. Fair Exhibitors shall successfully complete QA not less than 45 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition in which they will participate (ODA 1/2018).
   - June 1, current year: To register/exhibit at the State Fair, youth must complete QA prior to June 1.
   - June 24, current year: To exhibit and sell animals at the Ross County Fair, Jr. Fair Exhibitors MUST complete and submit proof of attendance by this date.
   - QA Opportunities: for dates/times, go to ross.osu.edu
     - In-Person (all ages): Offered in Ross County and other counties. Exhibitors may attend trainings at approved QA programs/clinics but must verify by the educator of the county where the program took place and submit to Ross County Extension office.
     - Test-Out (ages 15–18 as of January 1): Youth will complete QA for current year and will then take a test. Youth scoring 70%-100% will test out of QA for their remaining 4-H/FFA career.
     - On-Line (ages 15-18 as of January 1): Youth will use their 4-H online log-in information and has a fee of $12. This is NOT a test-out option but replaces the In-Person training.
   - Note: all other online courses do not meet the Ohio Youth Food Animal QA certification requirements (i.e. BQA, PQA, BEST, etc.) per Ohio Department of Agriculture.

3. ROSS COUNTY ANIMAL PROJECT SKILLATHON (mandatory): All Ross County Jr. Fair Animal Project Exhibitors must complete an Animal Project Skillathon to exhibit their animal(s). Exhibitors may complete either the Ross County Skillathon OR the Ohio State Fair Skillathon for their species. It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to submit proof of completion, if attending the OSF Skillathon.
   - Age Categories: Exhibitors complete Skillathon according to their age (as of January 1).
     - Junior (8-11 years)
     - Intermediate (12 – 14 years)
     - Senior (15 – 18 years)
   - Skillathon Dates/Times: go to ross.osu.edu
   - Skillathon Study Guides: go to ross.osu.edu

PREMIER SKILLATHON (all ages): This optional contest will be held during the Animal Project Skillathon. Participants will compete in a Premier Skillathon station in each specie area. Details will be in the May Family Hotline and Ross County Fair Book.

4. JR FAIR EXHIBITOR DRESS CODE: Exhibitors must adhere to the following dress requirements at all shows and sales at the fair: must wear nice jeans or slacks (no low-rise, no holes or tears); a shirt, blouse or polo with a collar and sleeves AND without slogans or advertisements (4-H club/member name is acceptable); no cleavage showing; no undergarments showing. Shoes must be closed-toe (no sandals or flip flops).

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BREEDING RABBIT PROJECTS

REMINDER: Any exhibitor taking a market rabbit project is ineligible to show that same rabbit in breeding class, and vice-versa. A member may have a breeding rabbit project and a market rabbit project using different animals.

FOR PROJECT COMPLETION:

Follow the Member Project Guide on page 2 of Project and Record Book. Breeding and Fancy Rabbits must be in exhibitor’s possession by May 1. Complete Quality Assurance (market). Complete Skillathon. Complete your Club’s requirements.

PROCEDURE FOR EXHIBITING AT THE FAIR:

1. PRE-FAIR - - - in order to be eligible to show at the fair
   A. **NEW IN 2020 ON-LINE FORM! Non-Market Livestock Fair Entry Forms due July 15**:
      a. Members must submit an on-line NON-MARKET LIVESTOCK FAIR ENTRY FORM for each Breeding Rabbit by July 15 to be eligible to exhibit at the Ross County Junior Fair.
      b. If you do not submit a Non-Market Livestock Entry Form, you cannot show at the fair.
      c. Animals at the fair must match the entry form to be eligible to show.
   B. Members may have one entry in each Rabbit Breeding class and Fancy Rabbit division, plus one Market Rabbit Pen of 2 entry.
   C. Animals may be entered in one class/division only.
   D. Members must use different rabbits for each class.
   E. Members must own their rabbits. No leased or borrowed rabbits.
   F. All Breeding Rabbits must be tattooed at the June weigh-in unless previously tattooed, for identification purposes.

2. JR. FAIR RABBIT EXHIBITS - - -
   A. Breeding Rabbits:
      Members may make one entry per class (One Pen of 1; One Pen of 2; One Pen of 3). Animals may be entered on one class only!
      Members must use different rabbits for each class.
      - Pen of 1: Exhibit one doe or buck
      - Pen of 2: Exhibit one doe and one buck of same breed and age
      - Pen of 3: Exhibit Pen of Three – two does and one buck of same breed and age
      
      Rabbit Ages for Each Class:
      - Junior: Less than 6 months
      - Intermediate: 6-8 months
      - Senior: 8+ months

   B. Fancy Rabbit Exhibits:
      Health Risk! Fancy Rabbits that have been raised indoors may suffer heat stress at the fair. If you choose to exhibit them, then you assume the risk to the animal’s health and well-being.
      Members may exhibit one rabbit in each division (example: 1 Junior, 1 Intermediate, and 1 Senior). Fancy rabbits may not be shown in breeder rabbit class. Different rabbits must be used.
      - Juniors: Junior Doe: less than 6 months
       Junior Buck: less than 6 months
      - Intermediates: Intermediate Doe: 6 – 8 months
       Intermediate Buck: 6 – 8 months
      - Seniors: Senior Doe: 8+ months
       Senior Buck: 8+ months

3. AT THE FAIR - - -
   A. Any animal found by the Rabbit Superintendents to be a risk to the health and wellness of exhibitors and/or fairgoers will not be permitted to show or sell can be dismissed from the fairgrounds at any time.
   No livestock is permitted in the campgrounds.
   B. A member taking a Market Rabbit Project is ineligible to show that same rabbit in a breeding class, and vice-versa. A member may take a breeding rabbit project and a market rabbit project using different rabbits.

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Fair Check-in
   a. Rabbits are to be brought to the Fairgrounds from 8:30am - 4:00pm on the first Saturday of the fair. **ALL rabbits** (market, breeders, and fancy) must be weighed and caged by 4:00pm on first Saturday of the Fair.
   b. Check rabbits in at the Breeding Rabbit Check-In Table.
   c. Rabbits must be checked in by the Rabbit Superintendent or assigned person.

C. Animal Care: Junior Fair exhibitors are responsible for feeding, watering, and caring for their own rabbits.
   a. Exhibitors are responsible for furnishing their own feed.
   b. No straw or salt blocks will be allowed in the pens.
   c. No locks are allowed on the pens.
   d. No feed, grooming supplies, carriers/crates are to be stored in rabbit barn.

D. Junior Fair Rabbit Shows
   a. Rabbit Judging will begin at 8:30am on Wednesday of the Fair.
   b. A show schedule will be posted in the Rabbit Building on Tuesday evening.
      Tentative order is: (1) Guinea Pig; (2) Breeding Rabbits; (3) Homegrown; (4) Non-Homegrown
   c. Junior Fair exhibitors are responsible for weighing, showing, and selling their project animals. **All members are expected to be present during the judging of their animals.** If you need to make other special arrangements you must see a Rabbit Superintendent before start of show.

E. No one - except those assigned by the superintendent and Extension Educators - may assist with the judging or the official weigh-in.

F. Breeding Rabbits will be released from 6:00pm - 9:00pm on Friday of the fair. Members must remove their breeding rabbits at that time.

**RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP:**

**NOTE:** To participate in showmanship, member must register by 7:00pm on Sunday.
Pre-registration tables for showmanship sign-up will be at rabbit weigh-in on Saturday and until 7:00pm on Sunday.
Look for registration tables in the Small Animal Show Arena or the Rabbit Barn.

1. Rabbit Showmanship - Monday of the fair at 8:30am

2. Showmanship Clinic - Sunday of the fair at 6:00pm

3. Showmanship divisions (and age as of January 1 of current year) are:
   Senior Division (*15 years old and older)
   Intermediate Division (*12-14 years old)
   Junior Division (*8-11 years old)
   *Beginner Division (*8-11 years old, showing rabbits for the first time)
   *Master Division

   *Notes: a.) Any first-year showman meeting the age category has the option of entering the Junior Division and not the Beginner Division.
   b.) The Master Showmanship Contest is open to all Junior Fair Livestock members who are current or previous winners of a Junior, Intermediate, or Senior showmanship class.

4. A member may win a showmanship age division only one time. Once a member has won a particular division, he/she must compete in the next age division. Once a member wins a Senior age division showmanship, he/she is allowed to continue to show in Senior Showmanship throughout their 4-H/FFA eligibility.

5. Participants must be current Junior Fair Livestock exhibitors and must show their current project.

6. Each contestant must fit and show his/her own animal. During the course of the contest, the exhibitor may be asked by the judge to show some other animal.

7. The animal used for showmanship must be one entered and shown by the exhibitor in respective production or market class in the Junior Fair.