MARKET RABBIT (#226)
4-H & JR. FAIR PROJECT REQUIREMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES
(This is not a complete listing of Jr. Fair exhibit rules. Refer to the current 'Ross County Fair Book' for details.)

1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS
   - PROJECT BOOKS: Each first-year member will receive a Market Rabbit Project Book (#226) 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 mandatory for Market Rabbits. QA is not required for Breeding 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 programsclinics but must get verification 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.

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.
   - 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.

3. 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).
MARKET RABBIT PROJECTS:

REMINDER: Any member 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 4-H PROJECT COMPLETION:


PROCEDURE FOR JR. FAIR EXHIBITION:

1. 4-H/FFA Members may take one market project to the Ross County Fair. A member may show and sell one Pen of 2 Market Rabbits.

   At the Pre-fair and Fair Weigh-ins: heavily soiled, oiled, or wet rabbits will not be allowed across the scales until the problem is corrected.

2. PRE-FAIR - - - in order to be eligible to show & sell at the fair
   A. Market Rabbit Tattoo & Weigh-in Dates/Times:
      a. Rabbits must be weighed and tattooed on either:
         Wednesday, June 24, 2020 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Fairgrounds or Saturday, June 27, 2020 from 9:00am - 12:00noon at Fairgrounds
      b. Market Rabbits will be weighed prior to tattooing, strictly by assigned club time.
      c. Members must own and have possession of their market rabbits by the June Weigh-in date. No leased or borrowed animals.
      d. Market rabbits may be does or bucks.

   B. Weight Requirements:
      a. Each exhibitor may weigh-in up to (4) rabbits at the June weigh-in
         NOTE: There will be NO "Family Rabbits". All rabbits will be weighed-in and assigned to one exhibitor.
      b. Rabbits should be approximately 5 weeks old at the June weigh-in.
      c. Only rabbits weighing between 1 lb. -- 2½ lbs. will be tattooed.
      d. Must weigh at least 1 lb. and not weigh over 2½ lbs. at the June weigh-in to be eligible to show in the Market Rabbit /Pen of 2 class or sell in the sale.

3. AT THE FAIR - - -
   A. Safety: Any animal found by the Rabbit Superintendents to be a risk to the health and wellness of exhibitors and/or fair goers 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. Weight Requirements:
      b. If one or both rabbits in the Pen of 2 weigh less than 4 lbs. or more than 6 lbs. at the August Fair weigh-in, then that pen will not be eligible to show for championship or sell.
      c. Exhibitors of rabbits that do not make Fair weigh-in requirements must meet with a superintendent for further instructions.
      d. Light-weight and Heavy-weight rabbits are allowed to participate in the Showmanship Contest.
      e. If member has one rabbit remaining at the August Fair weigh-in, it will be considered a light-weight.
      f. Pen of 2 rabbits that do not make weight requirements on Saturday of the fair will show in a special class for project grade and premium. The exhibitor is eligible to participate in Showmanship.
      g. Light or heavy-weight rabbits will NOT sell at the Fair Rabbit Sale; the animals must go to the packer. Light-weight and heavy-weight rabbits are NOT allowed to go home. The member is REQUIRED to continue to take care of their rabbits during the week of the fair.

   C. Fair Weigh-in Dates/Times:
      a. ALL rabbits (market, breeders, and fancy) must be weighed and caged by 4:00pm on first Saturday of the Fair.
      b. Market Rabbits must be weighed from 8:30am – 4:00pm on the first Saturday of the fair by assigned club time to be eligible for show and sale.
      c. No re-weighs.
      d. Exhibitors will be permitted to weigh in only two (2) market rabbits and only one time. Weight rulings are final.
         (NO ‘first scale’ at weigh-in. NOT weighing three and picking two from a first scale weight)
      e. Rabbits with an average pen weight of 4 - 5 lbs. will be classified as fryers; and pens with an average of 5 - 6 lbs. will be classified as broilers.
4. **“HOMEGROWN PEN of 2 MARKET RABBIT CONTEST:**
   A. To participate, the exhibitor must submit an online HOMEGROWN RABBIT CERTIFICATE by JULY 15, current year.
   B. 4-H/FFA Member must notify his/her Advisor that he/she is taking a Homegrown Rabbit. Advisor must confirm that the member owns at least one doe and one buck, bred the doe, and used offspring for their project.
   C. To qualify for this class, member must:
      (1) Own at least one doe and buck
      (2) Breed their doe(s)
      (3) Take the offspring from the doe(s) as a Market Rabbit project

5. An exhibitor taking a Market Rabbit Project is ineligible to show that same rabbit in a breeding class, and vice-versa. An exhibitor may take a breeding rabbit project and a market rabbit project using different rabbits.

6. **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 allowed on the pens.
   D. No feed, grooming supplies, carriers/crates are to be stored in rabbit barn.
   E. Livestock exhibitors must clean their stall/pen and aisle by 12:00noon Sunday after fair. Exhibitors not in compliance will be placed on a 1-year probation. If second offense occurs, the exhibitor will be ineligible to exhibit the following year.

7. **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: (1) Guinea Pig; (2) Breeding Rabbits; (3) Homegrown Rabbits; (4) Non-Homegrown Rabbits
   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.

8. **JUNIOR FAIR RABBIT SALE**
   A. Jr. Fair Steer, Poultry & Rabbit Sale is the last Saturday of the Fair at 9:00am
   B. Rabbits will sell immediately following the Poultry sale, approximately 11:00am
   C. Sale Order: Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Home-Grown Champion, Reserve Home-Grown Champion, Showmanship Place Winners, Division Winners, Reserve Division Winners, Class Winners, Class Placings

9. Only Ross County 4-H or FFA members can assist in showing and selling another Junior Fair exhibitor's project.

10. Market Rabbits will be released to the packer on Thursday night.

**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 & Guinea Pig 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 eligibility.

5. Members must be current Junior Fair Livestock members and must show their current project.

6. Each contestant must fit and show his 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.