

BREEDING RABBIT (#228)**4-H PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

To complete a livestock project in 4-H, member must annually:

- Enroll in 4H Club by March 1
- Sign up for the project in 4Honline by March 1
- Be 4-H member in "Good Standing" by completing county and club requirements
- Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- Attend Quality Assurance Training (*NOT required for breeding rabbits*)
- Complete Livestock Skillathon

*NOTE: 4-H Members may also choose to exhibit their livestock at the Ross County Junior Fair.
Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project in 4-H.

1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS

- **PROJECT BOOKS:** First-year members will receive a **Rabbit Project/Record Book (#228)** and a **Rabbit Resource Handbook (#228R)**. Members must retain these books for use in future years. 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 (not required for Breeding Rabbits; is required for Market Rabbits):

- Exhibitors of Market and lactating Dairy projects must attend Quality Assurance training annually in order to show, exhibit and/or sell their animal at the county or state fair.

3. SKILLATHON

- All Ross County Jr. Fair Animal Project Exhibitors must complete an Animal Project Skillathon to exhibit, show and/or their animal(s). Exhibitors may complete either the Ross County Skillathon OR the Ohio State Fair Skillathon (if offered) for their species. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to submit proof of completion to the Extension office, if attending the OSF Skillathon.
- **Skillathon Dates:**
 - Location: Fairgrounds
 - July 9, 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - July 20, 9:00am-11:00am
- **Age Categories:** Members complete Skillathon according to their age (as of January 1).
 - Junior (8-11 years)
 - Intermediate (12 – 14 years)
 - Senior (15 – 18 years)
- **PREMIER SKILLATHON** (all ages): An optional contest 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*.

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JR. FAIR INFORMATION

→ *This is not a complete list of all Jr. Fair rules. Refer to Ross County Fair Book for all rules.*

To exhibit, show and/or sell an animal at the Ross County Junior Fair, exhibitors must:

- ☑ Enroll in 4-H Club and/or FFA Chapter
- ☑ Sign up for the project by March 1
 - 4-H members sign up through 4Honline
 - FFA members sign up with Ag Teacher
- ☑ Be 4-H/FFA members in “Good Standing” by completing county and club/chapter requirements
- ☑ Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- ☑ Attend Quality Assurance Training (*not required for breeding rabbits*)
- ☑ Complete Livestock Skillathon
- ☑ Submit online “Jr Fair Livestock Entry Form” by July 15
 - One form includes Market, Breeding, and Showmanship entries

*NOTE: Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project through 4-H or FFA.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1. ***Any exhibitor taking a market rabbit project is ineligible to show that same rabbit in breeding class, and vice-versa. An exhibitor may have a breeding rabbit project and a market rabbit project using different animals.***
2. *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.*

BEFORE THE FAIR

1. **NUMBER OF ANIMALS.**
 - A. Exhibitors may have one entry in each Rabbit Breeding class and Fancy Rabbit division, plus one Market Rabbit Pen of 2 entry.
 - B. Animals may be entered in one class/division only.
 - C. Exhibitors must use different rabbits for each class.
 2. Exhibitors **must own** their rabbits. **No** leased or borrowed rabbits.
 3. All Breeding Rabbits **must** be tattooed at the June weigh-in unless previously tattooed, for identification purposes.
 4. **JR FAIR LIVESTOCK ENTRY FORMS due July 15**
 - A. Exhibitors must submit an online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form to be eligible to exhibit at the Ross County Junior Fair.
 - B. Animals brought to the fair must match the entry form to be eligible.
 5. **JR. FAIR RABBIT EXHIBITS.**
 - A. **Breeding Rabbits:**
 - a. Exhibitors 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!
 - b. Exhibitors 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 Rabbits:**

- a. **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.
- b. Exhibitors may exhibit one rabbit in each division (example: 1 Junior, 1 Intermediate, and 1 Senior).
- c. 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

AT THE FAIR

1. 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.
2. **FAIR MOVE-IN.**
 - a. **First Saturday of the fair from 4:00pm - 9:00pm** – ALL rabbits (market, breeders, and fancy) must be weighed and caged by assigned club times to be eligible for show and sale.
 - b. **Check breeding rabbits in at the Breeding Rabbit Check-In Table.**
 - c. Rabbits must be checked in by the Rabbit Superintendent or assigned person.
3. **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.
4. **JUNIOR FAIR RABBIT BREEDING & FANCY SHOWS**
 - a. **Sunday of fair, 10:00am**
 - Guinea Pig Show and Showmanship Contest
 - Breeding Rabbit Show
 - Fancy Rabbit Show

RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP:

Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for complete rules (age divisions, fitting/showing rules, show order, etc.)

Showmanship Sign-ups

- a. **July 15** –Showmanship sign-ups (Beginner, Junior, Intermediate & Senior) are included in the online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form due July 15.