



## **POULTRY**

**PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT:** April Geltmaker, aprilgeltmaker@gmail.com

**STATE FAIR ENTRIES:** All livestock for STATE FAIR must be properly identified and enrolled. Refer to indianastatefair.com for entry information.

### **Project Description:**

#### **Levels:**

**Junior Grades 3-5**

**Intermediate Grades 6-8**

**Senior Grades 9-12**

#### **Project Guidelines:**

- To exhibit at the county and state fair 4-H members showing beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and swine, must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program or the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). The purpose of this program: Youth will be more prepared to be ambassadors for animal agriculture in their role as youth livestock exhibitors; Animals from youth livestock programs are treated with the utmost care; 4-H members are contributing to a safe, wholesome food supply. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. More information about this program will be provided from the Extension Office.
  - To participate in the auction youth must exhibit at least one indoor project and participate in the auctioned animal's showmanship competition.
- It is recommended to complete a record sheet.

### **Exhibit Requirements:**

Animal exhibitors also have the option of exhibiting a poster in place of, or in addition to exhibiting an animal. The posters and demonstration should cover a topic of one (1) of the activities or learning experiences in the completed grade level of the project manual.

Posters must follow poster rules, page 30, #14. All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list that indicates where information was obtained, giving credit to original author. A Champion poster will be chosen in each level (Junior, Intermediate, Senior) for each animal species (Example: Dog, cat, goat, sheep, etc.) A Grand Champion animal poster will be selected from all eligible Champion animal posters.

Poultry exhibitors in Indiana will be required to provide documents to the superintendent that the bird(s) originate from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) official Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock or have had a negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within ninety (90) days preceding exhibition. If bird originates from certified flock, no test is needed for the first year. However, once the bird is one (1) year and older it must be tested each year even if it originated from a certified flock. The NPIP documentation should be received from the source of the poultry. Either the NPIP certification or the blood-testing results must be a part of that child's report. Representatives of the Indiana State Board of Animal Health will be at the county fairs to check paperwork, including the Indiana County Fair Poultry



Superintendent's Report. **All birds one (1) year of age or older must attend identification day for testing. NPIP certification for birds less than one year old must be shown at identification day. Waterfowl and pigeons are not tested.**

#### **4-H POULTRY:**

##### **Ownership deadline- May 15**

4-H Fair:

- All 4-H poultry must originate from a National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) official Pullorum-Typhoid Clean flock or have had a negative Pullorum-Typhoid test within ninety (90) day preceding exhibition. If bird originates from certified flock, no test is needed for the first year. However, once the bird is one (1) year and older it must be tested each year even if it originated from a certified flock.

#### **GENERAL RULES:**

- Exhibitors must be present at the time of judging, exhibitors not present at the time of judging will not have their bird judged.
- Classes are provided for all types of poultry listed in this section.
- To be shown as a cockerel, pullet, young bird, the bird must be hatched on or after September 1, 2024.
- For competitive purposes, it is recommended that all exhibition poultry be hatched no later than April 15, 2025.

All Exhibition birds will be judged according to the American Standard of Perfection as authorized by the American Poultry Association (APA).

All Commercial birds will be judged with special attention given to growth, development, and production qualities.

Each 4-H member may enter up to twenty-nine (29) entries of poultry total (twelve (12) exhibition chicken, five (5) commercial chicken, four (4) pigeon, six (6) waterfowl, two (2) turkey.

Cages are furnished but each exhibitor is responsible for care, feeding, and watering. Feed is not provided.

All waterfowl with the exception of Grand and Reserve Grand Champion and waterfowl going through to auction will be released upon completion of judging by project superintendent.

Only birds shown in commercial meat classes are eligible to sell in the Livestock Auction and must meet weight and age requirement defined below:

Commercial Chicken - Chickens to be sold in the Livestock Auction must meet weight and age requirements. Chickens must be at least 5 pounds and between 7 and 8 weeks of age.



Commercial Waterfowl - Ducks to be sold in the Livestock Auction must meet weight and age requirements. Ducks must be at least 8 pounds and 8 weeks of age.

Commercial Turkey - Turkeys to be sold in the Livestock Auction must meet weight and age requirements. Hens must be at least 14 pounds and 14 weeks of age. Toms must be at least 26 pounds and 16 weeks of age.

### **Chicken Division:**

#### **Exhibition Chicken Classes (Standard and Bantam)**

- All bantams and standard breed cockerel and cock birds will be shown as exhibition birds.
- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. within a breed, one (1) cockerel, one (1) pullet, one (1) cock, one (1) hen could be exhibited for a total of four (4) entries.
- 4-H members may enter up to twelve (12) entries for a total of twelve (12) exhibition chicken entries standard or bantam.

#### **Commercial Chicken Classes**

- All commercial entries are pairs only and must be penned together.

#### **Commercial Meat Classes**

- Broilers—Two (2) birds of the same sex, six (6) - twelve (12) weeks of age and weighing over 5 1/2 pounds on show day.
- Birds will be weighed at check-in prior to judging.

### **Pigeon Division:**

- One (1) young cock or one (1) young hen or one (1) old cock or one (1) old hen constitutes one (1) entry.
- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. within a breed, one (1) young cock, one (1) young hen, one (1) old cock, one (1) old hen could be exhibited for a total of four (4) entries).
- 4-H members may enter up to four (4) entries for a total of four (4) pigeon entries.

#### **Waterfowl Division (Standard and Bantam)**

Waterfowl Classes will be divided into two (2) groups, commercial and exhibition. 4-H members may enter up to six (6) entries for a total of 6 waterfowl entries.

#### **Commercial Waterfowl Class**

- One (1) old drake/gander or one (1) old duck/goose or one (1) young drake/gander or one (1) young duck/goose of a recognized production breed constitutes one (1) entry.
- Must be an American Poultry Association (APA) heavy weight duck breed.



- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. within a breed, one (1) old drake/gander or one (1) old duck/goose or one (1) young drake/gander or one (1) young drake/goose could be exhibited for a total of four (4) entries.
- Birds will be weighed at check-in prior to judging.

### **Exhibition Waterfowl Classes**

- One (1) old drake/gander or one (1) old duck/goose or one (1) young drake/gander or one (1) young drake/goose constitutes in an American Poultry Association (APA) recognized waterfowl breed constitutes one (1) entry.
- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. within a breed, one (1) old drake/gander or one (1) old duck/goose or one (1) young drake/gander or one (1) young drake/goose could be exhibited for a total of four (4) entries).
- Runner ducks may be shown in a ring at the discretion of the judge.

### **Turkey Division:**

Turkey Classes will be divided into two (2) groups, commercial and exhibition. 4-H members may enter up to two (2) entries for a total of two (2) turkey entries.

### **Commercial Turkey Class**

- One (1) old tom or one (1) old hen or one (1) young tom or one (1) young hen of a recognized production breed constitutes one (1) entry.
- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. one (1) old tom or one (1) old hen or one (1) young tom or one (1) young hen would be a total of four (4) entries).
- Birds will be weighed at check-in prior to judging.

### **Exhibit Turkey Class**

- One (1) old tom or one (1) old hen or one (1) young tom or one (1) young hen of an American Poultry Association (APA) recognized breed constitutes one (1) entry.
- No duplicate entries within a breed in the same class (i.e. one (1) old tom or one (1) old hen or one (1) young tom or one (1) young hen could be exhibited for a total of four (4) entries).

### **Eggs**

Six (6) eggs displayed in a disposable carton, Eggs will be disposed of by the superintendent at the end of the 4-H show.

### **Classes**

Exhibition Standard Chickens: American  
English  
Asiatic  
Mediterranean  
Continental  
All Other Standard Breeds



Exhibition Bantam Chickens: Game Bantam  
Single Comb Clean Legged Bantam  
Rose Comb Clean Legged Bantam  
All Other Combs Clean Legged Bantam  
Feather Legged Bantam  
Commercial Chickens: White Egg Shell Pullets  
Broilers  
Commercial Waterfowl: Commercial Waterfowl  
Exhibition Waterfowl: Heavy Weight Duck  
Commercial Turkey: Commercial Turkey  
Exhibition Turkey: Exhibition Turkey  
Pigeons: Fancy  
Sport/Performance  
Utility  
Eggs: Brown shell chicken eggs  
White shell chicken eggs  
Duck eggs

### **SHOWMANSHIP RULES**

SHOWMANSHIP DIVISIONS: Grade in school on January 1 of the current year.

**Rookie**—All first-year showmen must participate as a Rookie Showman regardless of age and grade.

**Junior Showmanship** - All 4-H exhibitors in grades 4-7 are eligible. Once an exhibitor is the overall junior showmanship winner, the 4-H'er is only eligible to compete in the intermediate showmanship classes in future years.

**Senior Showmanship** - All 4-H exhibitors in the 8th grade or above are eligible (exception only for previous year's intermediate showmanship winners).

Updated 3-25-25