

# Rabbit

<b>Manual:</b>	4-H 228 R - Rabbit Resource Handbook
<b>Record Sheet:</b>	(Complete and put in your Green Record Book) Montgomery Co. Livestock Record Sheet 4-H -528 - General Record Sheet for Poster Exhibit
<b>Exhibit Options:</b>	Enter animal, OR Display an educational poster about rabbits, OR Interactive Demonstration

## **Rabbits health requirements:**

### **SEE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SPECIES.**

Subject to health inspection on the grounds.

**No rabbit may be exhibited showing signs of infectious or communicable disease.**

**No rabbit may be exhibited showing signs of external parasite infestation. (lice or mites)**

## **Rabbit Identification: Tattoo**

### **Rabbit Rules:**

1. A 4-H member may enter and show and maximum of 6 entries with (1) entry per class, plus a meat pen, which makes a total of 7. One meat pen per member, which is made up of 3 rabbits of the same breed and same variety. Meat pens will be housed in one cage. They must weigh between 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds and they may not exceed 10 weeks of age at show date. There is a limit of 2 breeds per 4-Her. **ALL RABBITS SHOWN MUST BE PUREBRED!** Pedigree papers will be checked when animals are checked in.
2. All classes will be judged according to ages and weights as established by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc.
3. It is not necessary for a rabbit exhibit to have been a county champion or a selected winner to enter and compete at the State Fair.
4. **Substitutions after pen assignment deadline will only be accepted if they are within the same class.**
5. 4-H Rabbits sold or purchased privately or offered for sale at public auction after May 15 and prior to the County 4-H Fair shall not be eligible to show.
6. All rabbits, except meat pens, must be owned and tattooed prior to May 15th.
7. 4-H Rabbits shown at other shows after May 15 under different ownerships will not be allowed to show.
8. Any Rabbit showing signs of disease will be barred from the show!
9. **ALL RABBITS MUST BE TATTOOED! THE TATTOO MUST BE IN THE LEFT EAR! NO EXCEPTIONS!**
10. All 4-H members will carry only their own rabbits to and from the judging table on the day of the show. The only exception allowed is to show other livestock at the same time. **ONLY EXHIBITORS** will be allowed in the show arena area.
11. 4-Hers must clean and water Rabbits **TWICE DAILY.**
12. **EACH MEMBER WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UNDER THEIR RABBIT CAGES TWICE DAILY.**

## **Rabbit Ambassador Contest:**

**Novice** – 4-H member in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year

**Junior** – 4-H member in the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year

**Intermediate** – 4-H member in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year

**Senior** – 4-H member in the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10 grade on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year

**Master**- 4-H member in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade or above on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year

**Supreme**- 4-H member who has won Master but is still 4-H eligible.

### **Requirements:**

1. 4-Hers must have shown in and been nominated from their respective county to go on to the State Fair level. 4-Hers with special needs must indicate the need for accommodation on their Rabbit Ambassador Entry form.
2. Each county may nominate only five (5) contestants. Category winners are not eligible in the same category again. Winners are eligible to compete in the next higher category the following year. Winners of the Master division may come back in the Supreme division.
  - 1) **One Novice** - Grades 3 or 4
  - 2) **One Junior** - Grades 5 or 6
  - 3) **One Intermediate** - Grades 7 or 8
  - 4) **One Senior** - Grades 9 or 10
  - 5) **One Master** - Grades 11 or above
3. In the event that the nominated contestant is unable to participate, one
  - (1) alternate in each division may be substituted provided written or verbal confirmation comes from the County Extension Office to the 4- H Rabbit Show Manager at the Indiana State Fair.
4. No resource or reference material may be used during the contest by the participants. Contestants must provide a #2 pencil for writing purposes.
5. Questions for the contest will be taken from the following publications:  
For All Levels:
  - a. Ohio State Rabbit Resource
  - b. Standard of Perfection 2011-2115 (published by ARBA) Note: this is a new edition
6. Tie scores will be broken as follows:
  - a. Highest test score, then, if necessary,
  - b. Highest breed identification score, then, if necessary,
  - c. Oral test given by a committee of three (3) people appointed by rabbit ambassador chairperson.
7. Decision of the judges/Contest Committee shall be final.
8. In the event there is a conflict of information, the Standard of Perfection is considered the authority.

## **4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest Procedures:**

### **1. Test – 100 points**

- a. Questions may be true-false, multiple choice or a combination there of
- b. Answers are recorded on a scantron form (ours will probably be graded by hand)

### **2. Breed Identification – 60 points**

- a. Identify and classify ten (10) rabbits according to show room classification and class.
- b. Show room classification refers to the term used to enter the rabbit in a show thereby indicating how it is shown. Specifically, the Netherland Dwarf rabbit is shown by variety and should be identified by variety only. The Jersey Woolly breed is shown by groups and should be identified by group only.

### **3. Showmanship – 100 points.**

- a. Each contestant must furnish his/her own rabbit and bring the rabbit to the judge in a carrier. Rabbit must be tattooed.
- b. The rabbit should be in a solid bottom carrier.
- c. Contestants should refer to the 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest Showmanship Score Sheet as a resource. This form will be available in the Extension Offices or on the 4-H website. ([www.four-h.purdue.edu](http://www.four-h.purdue.edu))

4-H publications may be obtained from your County Extension Office or State 4-H Office, Purdue University, 615 W. State St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2053. ARBA publications may be obtained from ARBA, 8 Westport Court, Bloomington, IL 61702.

### **Classes offered will be:**

4 Class Rabbits: Sr. Buck, Sr. Doe, Jr. Buck and Jr. Doe.

6 Class Rabbits: Sr. Buck, Sr. Doe, 6/8 Buck, 6/8 Doe, Jr. Buck and Jr. Doe.

You May only show 2 breeds.

### **Awards will be:**

- Best 6 Class Reserve
- Best 6 Class
- Best 4 Class Reserve
- Best 4 Class
- Best of Breed
- Best of Opposite
- Breed Best of Variety
- Best of Opposite Variety
- Best of Show