



Poultry

Description:

The 4-H Poultry program provides youth with educational information and experiences about different Poultry species.

Decatur County Expectations

Animal Livestock Record Sheets are to be completed and returned at check-in. Youth will have cared for and fed one (1) or more animals by May 15th. Any animal not officially enrolled by the enrollment date is not eligible to show at the county or state fair. Poster information can be found below and on the Poster Diagram Page.

State Fair Entries

An animal does not need to be shown locally in order to be shown at the state fair. If you do not show at the county level, the animal must still be registered by May 15th in 4-H Online. Only one poster from each level is eligible to participate in the Poultry Science Display Project.

Exhibit Guidelines

Tag/Banding Requirements: All poultry must be banded. All birds will receive a leg band at the verification meeting in May, for any poultry intended to show. Participating 4-H members will be required to list the breeds and tentative classes they intend to show in. It is realized that some birds may not make it to the show or be fit to show by show date, (there will be no penalty for bird(s) not coming to the fair, unless you don't fill all of the cages you reserved and paid for on the Cage Reservation form). There will be no birds added after the verification meeting, since possession is by May 15th; except Meat Pen birds.

Grounds Fee and Cage Requirements: Cages for exhibition will be furnished by the Decatur County Fair Committee. A 4-H member may not exceed their overall eight (8) cage limit, plus one (1) meat pen per youth. Unless otherwise specified in the class listings, one bird per cage. In the event of extra cages, the Project Leader(s) may divide the cages amongst youth. Ground/pen fee information can be found on the website, or by contact the Project Leader(s). All families with youth showing shall either sign up for a timeslot for Barn Watch, or Barn Clean-up, at the verification meeting in May in order for their 4-H'er to be eligible to show.

Division of Classes: It is required that 4-H members be present during the judging of their exhibit. All Poultry and Game Birds will be divided into the following classes and categories: Chicken-pullet, cockerel; Turkey-poult; Ducks, Geese, Guinea, Pigeons and Other Poultry-young bird, are less than one (1) year of age as of the day of the show. Ducks-hen, drake; Geese-geese, gander, Turkeys-hen,

tom; all other poultry-adult female, adult male, greater than one (1) year of age as of the day of the show. In consideration of the veterinarian, no entry/check-in will be permitted in the barn past 8:00pm.

All classes will be breeds and NOT hybrids, such as ex. Black Sex-link, Red Sex-link, Red Start Sex-link, Golden Comets, etc. Please sign up for the Classes and Categories that you will be participating in, upon checking your birds in. If you are unsure of what to sign up for, please ask an older project member or the 4-H Livestock Project Leader(s).

General Poultry Rules: Participating 4-H members may enter and show only one entry per class, except “Other Poultry” which can enter and show two (2). Each bird must have been raised by the owner as part of the participating 4-H members project, and in possession by May 15th, except for Meat Pen birds. The Meat Pen birds will be ordered by the 4-H Poultry Project Leader. Each member is required to furnish feed can care for the animals whole on exhibition at the fair.

If you have purchased chicks from a hatchery and have a **Statement of Origin for Poultry Exhibition Certificate** (many times this is part of your invoice) from a hatchery that participates in NPIP then these young birds will not have to be blood tested. Bring the original and a photocopy for the Project Leader(s) to retain during the show. Reminder: if your birds are older than one year, or were raised (hatched locally; not an active participant in NPIP) then they have to be tested again.

During the judging of poultry, only the 4-H poultry member, whose animal is being judged at the time, and the Project Leader(s) are admitted in the designated area. Birds will be judged according to the *American Standard of Perfection* (latest addition available) by the American Poultry Association.

It is expected that all animals, except animals to be sold in the sale, will be removed promptly on clean-up and release night. For information on YQCA or Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care please refer to the general livestock rules listed on the website. Additional questions and situations will be handled by the species livestock Project Leaders, 4-H & Youth Development Extension Educator, and the 4-H Council President.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Description of Birds: The following terms mean less than one-year old day of show: Pullet, Cockerel, Poult, Keet, or young bird.

Commercial Chickens – Large Fowl

Dual/General Purpose breeds typically are medium or heavy breeds that are suitable for egg and meat production. Please contact the Project Leader for a list of breeds.

Class I: Primary Purpose – Egg Production

Two (2) pullets

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class II: Primary Purpose – Dual/General Purpose

Two (2) pullets

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Meat Production

The only birds that can be shown in this class are ones procured by the Poultry Livestock Project Leader(s). All of these chicks shall come from the same hatch and the same hatchery. Orders will be taken in early May. Chicks will arrive for pickup approximately six (6) weeks prior to the show.

You will be expected to pick up your chicks for this class on the day that they arrive between the hours of 8:30am and 11:30am at the Decatur County Extension Office, Large Meeting Room. If you cannot take off work, you will need to find someone that can come pick up the chicks for you. If chicks are not picked up in this timeframe, you forfeit entry into this class.

The meat pen class shall not qualify for the Best-in-Show Award. Participating 4-H members are encouraged to focus on raising breeding stock to further their interest and help build their business reputations as quality breeders.

Class III: Meat Fryers

Two (2) cockerels

Exhibition Chickens – Large Fowl

Class IV: American Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class VII: English Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class V: Asiatic Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class VIII: Mediterranean Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class VI: Continental Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Class IX: All Other Large Fowl

One (1) pullet

One (1) hen

One (1) cockerel

One (1) cock

Exhibition Chickens - Bantams

Class X: Modern Game Bantams

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Class XI: Old English Bantams

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Class XII: Single Comb Clean Legged Bantams (other than Game Bantams)

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Class XIV: All Other Combs Clean Legged Bantams

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Class XIII: Rose Comb Clean Legged Bantams

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Class XV: Feather Legged Bantams

One (1) pullet
One (1) hen
One (1) cockerel
One (1) cock

Exhibition Other Poultry – Ducks

Class XVI: Heavy Weight Ducks

One (1) young bird (either sex)
One (1) hen
One (1) drake

Class XVIII: Light Weight Ducks

One (1) young bird (either sex)
One (1) hen
One (1) drake

Class XVII: Medium Weight Ducks

One (1) young bird (either sex)
One (1) hen
One (1) drake

Class XIX: Bantam Ducks

One (1) young bird (either sex)
One (1) hen
One (1) drake

Exhibition Other Poultry – Geese

Class XX: Heavy Weight Geese

One (1) young bird (either sex)

One (1) goose

One (1) gander

Class XXI: Medium Weight Geese

One (1) young bird (either sex)

One (1) goose

One (1) gander

Class XXII: Light Weight Geese

One (1) young bird (either sex)

One (1) goose

One (1) gander

“Exhibition Other Poultry – Guineas – Turkeys”

Class XXII: Turkeys

One (1) poult (either sex)

One (1) hen

One (1) tom

Class XXIII: Guineas

One (1) keet (either sex)

One (1) Guinea hen

One (1) Guinea cock

Pigeons

Classes will be determined by the Poultry Livestock Project Leader(s). There will be no classes for Peafowl, Pheasants or quail, as we are not equipped to safely handle these species. Other classes will be added as needed.

Poultry Poster Contest

Any 4-H poultry project member may enter one (1) poster on commercial or exhibition chickens. Posters will be judged in three (3) levels. All ages/grades are as of January 1st of the current year. Level One – Grades 3-5, Level Two – Grades 6-8, Level Three – Grades 9-12.

Theme for the poster project will be breed identification, classification, something that you have learned while taking this project, or anything pertinent to the poultry industry. The purpose of the poster will be to visually demonstrate your 4-H poultry knowledge to others. Posters must be made during the current 4-H year. You may NOT bring a poster to be judged that has been exhibited in a previous year.

Poster size will be 22” x 28”; displayed horizontally with a stiff backing. It must be covered with plastic. Please put your name on the back of the poster. A name tag will be placed in the lower right-hand corner and will include your name, level, club and county. It is required that all posters include a reference list indicating where the information was obtained. This reference list should include any

website links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. used to create your poster. This reference list should be attached to the back of the poster. The poster will be judged on:

Content and Information: 50 Points

Neatness and Appearance: 25 Points

Originality: 15 Points

Purpose: 10 Points

Egg Contest

Any poultry member can enter eggs in one class, entry time is 30 minutes prior to Judging Time. Eggs should be clean and free of any fecal material. Eggs being shown can be fertilized, but should show no sign of chick development. Eggs will be judged on shell quality, cleanliness, and uniformity. Classes include: Crossbred, Commercial, Commercial Dual General Purpose, White Shell (6 eggs), Brown Shell (6 eggs), and Specialty (6 eggs).

Poultry Showmanship Contest

Any 4-H poultry member may enter the showmanship contest. All showmanship participants must register through the Fair Entry system by May 15th. Showmanship will be judged using the following criteria: poultry knowledge and proper handling and care. Poultry Showmanship will be broken into the following categories/classes:

Beginner Showmanship: Grades 3-5

Intermediate Showmanship: Grades 6-8

Senior Showmanship: Grades 9-12

Poultry Illustrated Talk Contest

Each 4-H Poultry member may enter and complete one (1) illustrated talk. The purpose of the illustrated talk is to communicate knowledge both visually (posters) and through a presentation/discussion. Each illustrated talk should last 5-7 minutes. Judges will deduct points for each talk under or over the given time constraint by 30 seconds. Additional props and/or media outside of the members poster are allowed ONLY with prior approval from the Poultry Livestock Project Leader(s). All illustrated talk participants must register through the Fair Entry system by May 15th. All ages/grade levels are as of January 1st of the current year: Illustrated talks will be judged in the following three categories (correspond to the poster contest levels):

Level One: Grades 3-5

Level Two: Grades 6-8

Level Three: Grades 9-12

Test & Breed ID Tests

The Poultry ambassador Contest is broken into three distinct areas. Members receive point totals in each area, those points are added for a grand total, which determines placings and awards. The contest is divided by the following grade and age levels (all age/grade levels are as of January 1st of the current year):

Novice: Grades 3 & 4

Junior: Grades 5 & 6

Intermediate: Grades 7 & 8

Senior: Grades 9 & 10

Master: Grades 11 & 12

The Poultry Ambassador Contest consists of three distinct parts: test, breed identification, and showmanship. The following dictates points and question amounts:

Test: Questions may be true/false or multiple choice. Test will be timed and completed at a special poultry meeting prior to the fair so that scores are available on the day of judging.

Novice & Junior: 25 questions

Intermediate, Senior, and Master: 50 questions

Breed Identification: Breed specifics taken from the *American Standard of Perfection* (latest edition available) by the American Poultry Association. Breed identification will be completed at a special poultry meeting prior to the fair so that scores are available on the day of judging.

All levels will identify ten (10) chicken breeds – 50 points

Showmanship: Scores from the stand-alone Showmanship contest will be used for calculation. Members must sign up for Showmanship on the Fair Entry system by May 15th.

All levels – 100 points

Mini 4-H Show

To be eligible to show in any Mini 4-H animal show, the Mini 4-H'er (K-2nd Grade) must enroll in Mini 4-H on the 4-H Online system by May 15th. Participation ribbons will be awarded.