



## RABBITS

Please refer to Purdue Extension Indiana Website: [www.extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages) for exhibit guidelines and <https://www.in.gov/boah/> for exhibition requirements.

### Project Description

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The 4-H Rabbit Project provides youth a fun and hands-on learning experience that develops life skills, as well as teaches valuable information about properly caring for their animal. Subjects such as general care, nutrition, housing, and health care are presented in the curricular materials, through workshops and activities such as Rabbit Ambassadors and in preparation of an exhibit. Youth also have the opportunity to develop responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communication skills through active participation in the 4-H Rabbit Project.

### Exhibit Guidelines

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Animals DO NOT have to be a winner at the County Fair to show at the State Fair. Visit the Indiana State Fair website for more information.

**Rabbit enrollment** is done at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com).

**Project guidelines for completion:** All rabbit project members must answer a 10 question worksheet and complete information in Green Folder / Recordbook before rabbit check in. The questions are available from the 4-H office or online

#### **Level 1: Grades 3, 4, & 5**

##### Exhibit Guideline Options

- ✂ Rabbit Educational Poster
- ✂ Rabbit Illustrated Talk/Action Display
- ✂ Showmanship
- ✂ Exhibit one or more rabbits owned and cared for since May 15
- ✂ Complete the 10 County Rabbit Questions
- ✂ Contact County Extension Office for enrollment information and form(s)

## **Level 2: Grades 6, 7, & 8**

### Exhibit Guideline Options

- ✂ Showmanship
- ✂ Rabbit Educational Poster
- ✂ Illustrated- Rabbit talk/Action Display
- ✂ Complete the 10 County Rabbit Questions
- ✂ Contact County Extension Office for enrollment information and form(s)

## **Level 3: Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

### Exhibit Guideline Options

- ✂ Showmanship
- ✂ Rabbit Educational Poster
- ✂ Illustrated- Rabbit Talk/Action Display
- ✂ Complete the 10 County Rabbit Questions
- ✂ Contact County Extension Office for enrollment information and form(s)

1. **Two classes** in each category: One for bucks and one for does.
2. **Two general classes** are provided for all breeds under 9 pounds senior ideal weight. This group is considered “Four Class Rabbits.” The following are requirements for senior and junior rabbits of either sex.
  - SENIOR – Rabbits 6 months of age or older or over maximum Junior weight on day of show.
  - JUNIOR – Rabbits under 6 months of age and under maximum Junior weight on day of show.
3. **Three classes** are provided for all breeds having 9 pounds or over ideal senior weight.
  - SENIOR – Rabbits 8 months of age and older or exceeding maximum Intermediate weight on day of show.
  - INTERMEDIATE – Rabbits from 6 to 8 months of age or exceeding maximum Junior weight on day of show. (No animal over 8 months is eligible to show in an Intermediate class).
  - JUNIOR – Rabbits under 6 months of age and not over maximum Junior weight limit of breed on day of show. (No animal over 6 months of age is eligible to show).
4. **Meat Pen** – Three rabbits of the same breed and same variety weighing between 3 and 5 pounds and not over 69 days of age on day of show. Babies may not be born before 69 days before day of the show.
  - Rabbit Meat Pens may sell in the Livestock Auction. Requirements are:
    - A. Three rabbits of the same breed and same variety weight up to 5 pounds and not over 69 days old the day of the show.
    - B. A Meat Pen will count the same as another animal in the auction.

5. **Showmanship Classes:** 4-H member's grade will be determined as of January 1 of current year. Showmanship will be judged on posing the animal and explaining good/bad points. If you exhibit a rabbit, Showmanship is required.
  - a. ROOKIE Any first time Rabbit Showman, regardless of age.
  - b. JUNIOR Grades 4-8 as of January 1 of current year. Winner of Junior Class will be required to show in Senior Class the following year.
  - c. SENIOR Grades 9-12 as of January 1 of current year. Winner of Senior Class will be required to show in Master Class the following year.
6. Members should be present during judging or a 4-H member substitute approved by livestock committee.
7. All rabbits, including meat pen bunnies, will be required to be tattooed. ARBA requirements will be followed.

ARBA remark cards will be provided. They must be completed by 4-H member and turned in with the proper information when rabbits are checked in.

Barns are not air conditioned. No "FOR SALE" signs on cages or in barns.

Rabbits will not be released from the Fairgrounds before Sunday morning.

**NOTE:** Only rabbits entered in the rabbit project are allowed on the fairgrounds.

For grooming rules, see Livestock Rules regarding clipping and grooming assistance under General Livestock Rules and Regulations contained in this Handbook.

**No smoking in or around barns at any time.**

### AUCTION

1. **Auction** -A non-refundable auction fee of \$25.00 and form must be paid for each animal placed in the auction. (limit 3 animals). One indoor project must be submitted at project check in to participate in auction. Make check payable to the **Floyd County 4-H Corporation Board, Inc.** and mail to P.O. Box 6805, New Albany, IN 47151 by May 15. No fees or forms will be accepted after livestock check-in.
2. ONCE AN ANIMAL IS ON THE SALE BILL, IT MUST SELL. Exception to be made by Livestock Committee or animal not meeting weight requirements.
3. **PICTURES** - A picture of the 4-H member and their poultry animal will be taken for Auction purposes on a date and time to be announced during the Fair. **DRESS CODE** - 4-H T-SHIRT or nice show shirt & SHOW BLUE JEANS. No tank tops, flip flops, or open shoes will be allowed in the show ring. These pictures are mounted on signs to be given to buyers at the auction to display at their business.

4. Animals sold in auction will become property of the buyer, however, the 4-H member will be expected to maintain and deliver animal upon buyer's request at the close of the livestock barns.
5. **No Auction checks will be distributed until barns and fairgrounds are cleaned and closed up on Sunday.**
6. 4-H member give a thank you note to their buyer to trade for check.

**ALL STALLS MUST BE CLEANED BEFORE THE ANIMALS  
LEAVE THE FAIRGROUNDS.**

Standards for individual breeds are listed in the ARBA Condition Standard shown on the following two pages.