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## **DIVISION: RABBIT**

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4-H'ers in a rabbit project may do one or both of the following:

- Participate in the rabbit show (details on this page).
- Prepare an Animal Study Exhibit (Division: Animal Science) for display in the 4-H Exhibit Building.

### **COVID-19 GUIDELINES:**

Ogle County 4-H will be adhering to the following guidelines developed by the University of Illinois, Illinois 4-H, and approved by the Ogle County Health Department. Changes to these guidelines will be sent to families if Illinois reaches Phase 5 or goes back to Phase 3.

1. Our office will only offer a virtual option if someone is not comfortable with attending in person judging. Livestock Virtual Judging request must be made by June 30<sup>th</sup> by completing the Reasonable Accommodation paperwork provided on our website.
2. Adhere to 50 people maximum in a defined space if in Phase 4, or 25 people maximum in a defined space in Phase 3.
3. Phase 4 Safety Protocols are as follows:
  - Face coverings are required for all youth, spectators, volunteers, and staff when within the defined 4-H event space (inside or outside).
  - Everyone in attendance will practice social distancing during the event, including maintaining six feet of separation (both indoors and outdoors) from those who are not in their households. To allow for social distancing, building and spectator capacity may be limited based on current public health department guidelines.
  - Handwashing and/or sanitizing stations will be provided throughout the venue.
  - Anyone who has experienced COVID-19 symptoms within the previous seven days is asked to stay home. COVID-19 symptoms include fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, or shortness of breath.

If any of these guidelines presents a challenge for you, please contact the Ogle County Extension office at 815-732-2191. We can discuss what accommodations are possible so that we can look for ways that all youth can safely participate in this event. Illinois 4-H reserves the right to adjust or cancel events in the case of identified risk, such as changes in local COVID conditions or known instances of non-compliance with safety guidelines.

### **RABBIT DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE**

Check-in – Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Judging – Thursday, July 29, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Check-out – Sunday, August 1, 2021 2:00 p.m. (*Families with last names beginning with E – L*)

Check-out – Sunday, August 1, 2021 3:00 p.m. (*Families with last names beginning with M – Z*)

Check-out – Sunday, August 1, 2021 4:00 p.m. (*Families with last names beginning with A – D*)

All animals out of barn by 6:00 p.m.

### **RABBIT COMMITTEE**

Lydia Zabran, Supt., Byron 815-985-3907

Mary Beth Overmyer, Oregon, Asst. Supt., 815-289-7236

Earl Hagemeyer, Esmond

Jordan Mingus, Oregon

Larry & Avolene Stengel, Mt. Morris

Deb Sweeney, Monroe Center

Bethany Kennedy, Davis Junction

Chelsea Eden, Oregon

## **RABBIT RULES**

1. All *General Rules* and *Animal Department Rules* apply.
2. Consult the *2021 Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements* for information about health papers.
3. **ATTENTION ALL 4-H'ers:** All 4-H'ers planning to exhibit in this department, must complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics certification once during their 4-H career in order to be eligible to show either a live animal or a poster. Certification must be completed by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. All rabbits will be inspected by a rabbit committee member before they are placed in cages. The rabbit committee reserves the right to reject any entry. Rabbits with colds, ear mites, or open sore hocks will not be accepted.
5. All rabbits must have either temporary or permanent ear I.D. markings.
6. All exhibits must be brought in from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., July 28, 2021, and will not be released until 4:00 p.m., August 1, 2021. Animals penned before check-in time or taken out before release time will forfeit their rights to ribbons, trophies, and premiums, unless agreements have been made in advance with the rabbit superintendent or assistant.
7. **Only one entry per class.**
8. Exhibitors must be present during judging.
9. Single fryers should be a minimum weight of 3.5 lbs. and a maximum of weight 5.5 lbs. and be 70 days old or less.
10. Cages will be furnished on a first-come, first-serve basis; if cages run out, 4-H'ers must furnish their own. Only members who help set up can reserve cages.
11. Exhibitors **must provide own feed and water dishes**. Exhibitors are responsible for feeding and watering their rabbits during the fair. The committee does NOT assume this responsibility. Cages will be checked twice daily for adequate food, water, and cleanliness. A list of care requirements will be listed in the barn. After second offense, premium will be forfeited.
12. The **Market Pen Rabbit class** includes 3 rabbits (each weighing minimum 3.5 lbs. and maximum weight of 5.5 lbs each and may not be over 70 days old). Rabbits will be weighed.
13. Entries for the **Dressed Rabbit Class** should be brought to the fairgrounds dressed. Dress with heart and liver intact. The committee will not be responsible for dressing. Exhibitors should plan to bring their own appropriate storage containers (coolers). Live weight of dressed animals should be 3 ½ - 5 pounds.
14. The **Pet Bunny Class** is designed for those 4-H'ers who have only a couple of pet rabbits at home. These may be outdoor or house bunnies, raised for enjoyment by the 4-H'er and his/her family, and not for production purposes. 4-H'ers may make one entry in this class. **Pet Bunny Class exhibitors may not enter any other rabbit class except the costume class and showmanship**. Pet Bunny Exhibits will be judged based on the 4-H'ers apparent care of the animal and his/her knowledge about the bunny.
15. All 4-H'ers must clean up after removal of the rabbits. Exhibitors will not be released until their cage areas have been checked, and signed off by a committee member.
16. Rabbits will be judged according to American Rabbit Breeders Association standards.
17. For the Costume Class both the 4-H'er and Rabbit must be wearing a costume to enter. Keep in mind this class is just for fun.
18. Jr. Rabbit classes are for rabbits, ages 6 month or less and Sr. Rabbit classes are for rabbits more than 6 months old.
19. Participants are required to leave a phone number where they can be reached daily.
20. Participants are required to care for their animals twice every day, and mark on a poster provided that they have completed this responsibility.
21. 4-H members are limited to receive one premium per class exhibited in premium-eligible projects.
22. Participants will not be allowed to sell animals in the barns for personal reasons.
23. No pets allowed in barns.

## **Showmanship Rules**

1. Junior Showmanship will be for youth ages 8 – 11 years old as of September 1, 2020.  
Intermediate Showmanship will be for youth ages 12 – 14 years old as of September 1, 2020.  
Senior Showmanship will be for youth ages 15 – 18 years old as of September 1, 2020.
2. All 4-H'ers are eligible for showmanship.
3. Pre-registration is required in Fair Entry to receive a premium. Last minute entries may not receive a premium.
4. When an exhibitor wins showmanship, they may continue to compete in future years in the same class.
5. 4-H'ers will be judged on how they care for their rabbits, how they take rabbits in and out of the cage, and on whether or not they help other 4-H'ers with their rabbits when needed. Exhibitors must wear their show numbers when exhibiting.

## **RABBIT CLASSES**

### **MEAT PEN**

- 101 Market Pen (Pen of 3)
- 102 Single Fryer  
(Minimum weight of 3.5 lbs. Maximum weight of 5.5 lbs.)
- 103 Production Class – Mother & Offspring – Meat Breed & Fancy Breed (3 babies required, not less than 4 weeks old & not more than 3 months old)
- 104 Jr. Doe Meat Breed
- 105 Jr. Buck Meat Breed
- 106 Sr. Doe Meat Breed
- 107 Sr. Buck Meat Breed
- 108 Dressed Rabbit

### **FANCY RABBIT**

- 109 Jr. Doe Mini Rex, Rex
- 110 Jr. Buck Mini Rex, Rex
- 111 Sr. Doe Mini Rex, Rex
- 112 Sr. Buck Mini Rex, Rex
- 113 Jr. Doe All Other Breeds
- 114 Jr. Buck All Other Breeds
- 115 Sr. Doe All Other Breeds
- 116 Sr. Buck All Other Breeds
- 117 Jr. Doe Lop
- 118 Jr. Buck Lop
- 119 Sr. Doe Lop
- 120 Sr. Buck Lop

### **CROSSBRED**

- 121 Jr. Doe
- 122 Jr. Buck
- 123 Sr. Doe
- 124 Sr. Buck

### **OTHER**

- 125 Jr. Pet Bunny Class  
(Exhibitor 8-10 years of age by 9/1/20)
- 126 Sr. Pet Bunny Class  
(Exhibitor 11+ years of age by 9/1/20)
- 127 Costume Class (see rule #16)

### **NOTE:**

**Rabbit Meat Classes are:** Californian, Flemish Giant, New Zealand, Palomino, and Satin.

**Rabbit Fancy Classes are:** Angora, Dutch, Havana, Jersey Woolly; Lionhead, Lop-Holland and Mini; Polish; Rex and Mini Rex; and Silver Marten.

Purebred = a rabbit that meets American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) standards.

Crossbred = more than one breed crossed.

### **RABBITS AWARDS**

Champion Jr. Showmanship  
Champ. Intermediate Showmanship  
Champion Sr. Showmanship  
Champion Production Class  
Champion Jr. Pet Bunny Class  
Champion Sr. Pet Bunny Class  
Champion Market Pen  
Champion Single Fryer  
Grand Champion Meat Pen  
Champion Dressed Rabbit  
Grand Champion Fancy Rabbit  
Grand Champion Crossbred  
Best of Show

Best of Show – Opposite Sex