

2024 RABBIT

**Junior Fair Superintendents – Gabrael Cochran, Grace Cochran, Gretchen Criswell,
Makenzae Eager, Adrian Starcher**

Senior Fair Board Superintendents – Ryan Criswell

Department Advisors – Kyle Brown, Danielle Cochran, Amanda Eager, Joanna Starcher

Important Dates:

- April 16 – Rabbit Tattoo and Health Check – 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Fairgrounds
- April 27 – Rabbit Tattoo and Health Check – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Rabbit Barn
- May 13 – Rabbit Tattoo and health check – 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Rabbit Barn
 - All breed rabbits **must attend one** of the above tattoo and health check dates
- May 14 – Rabbit Fair Entries Due
 - NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED
 - Must complete entry accurately – proper classes and tattoos
- June 1 – Jr Fair and Livestock Royalty Applications Due
- June 6 – Livestock Skillathon – 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- June 9 – Livestock Skillathon – 2:00 – 5:00 PM
- June 17 – Livestock Skillathon – 5:00 – 8:00 PM
 - Need to attend one Skillathon to show at the Marion County Fair
- June 15 – Rabbit Royalty and Husbandry Selection Night - 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- June 23 – Rabbit Barn/Pen Set Up – 3:00 p.m.
- June 26 – Make up Skillathon – By appointment only
- July 7 – Rabbit Barn/Pen Tear Down – After Release

Quality Assurance Dates:

- February 19 – River Valley High School at 6:30 PM
- March 5 – Evers Arena at 6:00 PM
- March 19 – Test out option – Extension Office at 6:00 PM
 - Register for Test out by contacting the Extension Office by March 15
- April 11 – Elgin at 6:30 PM
- May 15 – Evers Arena at 5:30 PM
- **May 17 – LAST DAY FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE ELIGIBILITY**

Fair Dates:

- June 30 – Rabbit Check-In at the Marion County Fairgrounds - 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- July 1 – Mandatory Rabbit Exhibitor meeting - 10:00 a.m. – Market Rabbit Weigh-ins will follow
- July 1 – Rabbit Showmanship Clinic - 2:00 p.m.
- July 2 – Showmanship followed by Market Rabbit Show - 9:00 a.m.
- July 2 – Pee Wee Showmanship – 4:00 p.m.
- July 3 – Breed Rabbit Show – 9:00 a.m.
- July 7 – Release Date/Time from the Marion County Fair – 9:00 a.m.

RABBIT PROJECTS:

228 - RABBIT PROJECT AND RECORD BOOK

PROJECT: *Learn* how to raise, care for, manage and keep records for one or more rabbits. The member is required to be physically involved daily in watering, feeding, decision making and care of their project animal.

EXHIBIT: Enter and exhibit animal(s) raised and carried in the respective 4-H rabbit project in as many classes as they are eligible including showmanship. Do not bring litters to the fair!

REQUIRED RESOURCE BOOK FOR RABBIT PROJECTS

228R Rabbit Resource Handbook for Market and Breeding Projects - Order only once and use for several years. This is an excellent resource for skillathons. There is a cost charged to the member for this quality resource book.

SKILLATHON:

Youth are required to attend and participate in at least one skillathon to complete their project and be eligible for exhibition at the Marion County Fair. To exhibit at the Ohio State Fair, all county requirements must be met.

An alternative completion option is available for those that cannot attend the appropriate skillathon by contacting the Extension Office to set up an appointment. Those who participate in the alternative completion option will be ineligible for Outstanding Market Exhibitor.

To be eligible for Outstanding Market Exhibitor, youth must participate in the challenging senior division skillathon for each desired specie. For example, if Chris Clover wants to be eligible for both market lamb and market swine OME, she must participate in both the sheep and swine skillathon.

GENERAL RULES FOR MARION COUNTY FAIR RABBIT SHOW

1. No litters permitted.
2. Exhibitors must provide their own crocks for feed and water, feed, and bedding (wood chips or straw, no cedar shavings). **NO CEDAR CHIP PERMITTED!**
3. All pens will be assigned by the barn committee in cooperation with the junior fair board superintendents.
4. Pens must be cleaned daily by 10:00 a.m. except on show days when pens must be cleaned by 9:00 a.m. Water must always be available for animals.
5. There must be at least 5 entries and 3 exhibitors to make a breed class.
6. Four entries or less in a breed will be placed in an "other breeds" class.
7. Limit of two entries per variety per class
8. No more than 14 breeding rabbits per exhibitor.
9. All classes are subject to change, depending upon entries.
10. The Breeding Pair class will consist of one buck and one doe of the same breed. This is open to all breeds recognized by the ARBA. The rabbits must be a minimum of six months of age. These rabbits may also be shown in their breed classes.
11. All breed rabbits must be at least 6 weeks old by possession date.

SHOWMANSHIP

	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Senior Showmanship (16+ years as of Jan. 1st)	5.00	4.00	3.00

2. Intermediate Showmanship (14-15 years as of Jan. 1st)	5.00	4.00	3.00
3. Junior Showmanship (11-13 years as of Jan. 1st)	5.00	4.00	3.00
4. Beginners Showmanship (8-10 year as of Jan. 1st)	5.00	4.00	3.00
5. Showman of Showmen	5.00	4.00	3.00
6. Parent/Advisor Showman of Showmen	No Premium		
7. Pee Wee Showmanship	No Premium		

- ❖ If an exhibitor wishes to compete for Outstanding Market Exhibitor they must show a commercial type breeding rabbit for showmanship Not from the market pen.

COMMERCIAL/MEAT PEN INFORMATION

Commercial/Meat Pen Rules

1. In order to show a meat pen, you *must* compete or have competed in showmanship
2. There will be four groups and four shows in this category.
 - Group A: Traditional: Meat Pen And/or Single Fryers** – Animals entered from litters bred, born, and raised at exhibitor's rabbitry, from buck(s) and doe(s) owned by the exhibitor. Exhibitor required to have at least one entry in the breed show.
 - Group B: Purchased:** Meat Pen and/or Single Fryers - Animals entered that were purchased by exhibitor and in his/her possession by June 1. In general terms, the possession date is approximately four weeks prior to the fair weigh-in date.
 - Group D: Roaster-Pen of 2** – Animals may be purchased by May 1, or born and raised at exhibitors rabbitry.
3. Group A and D animals will be eligible for the Sale of Champions.
4. Group A, B and D animals will be used in determining Outstanding Market Exhibitor.
5. All meat pens must be either bred or purchased. Purchased meat pens must be accompanied by a bill of sale with breeder's name and phone number. (Exhibitors may not purchase rabbits from a family member or themselves.) Purchased meat pen entries will not be permitted to show at the fair without a Bill of Sale.
6. Exhibitors may not show in both Group A and Groups B classes!
7. Two meat pens (pens of three), two roaster pens (pen of two) and two Single Fryers may be entered in either Group A , B or D, but only one may be sold. If you have a Grand Champion Pen, the others will be returned to the barn.
8. Rabbits in meat pen classes may not be shown in the breed classes.
9. The maximum weight of each rabbit in the meat pen cannot be over five and a half pounds with a minimum weight of three and a half pounds. The maximum weight of the roasters pen of 2 is nine pounds with a minimum of five and a half pounds. All rabbits in Roaster class must be under 6 months of age.
10. All rabbits in the meat pen must be the same color and breed and be representative of that breed.
11. All market rabbits will be ear marked at 6:30 p.m. after check-in. After the animals have been ear marked, they may not be switched from that order or pen.
12. Exhibitors must show their own meat pens unless prior department authorization has been granted. Exhibitor must be present to sell in the Livestock Sale.
13. Rabbit meat pen exhibitors must contact their buyer to arrange for transfer of animals after the fair according to the wishes of the buyer and the approval of the department superintendents.
14. Sale order will be: Grand Champion Meat Pen, Reserve Champion Meat Pen, Grand Campion Roaster Meat Pen, Reserve Champion Roaster Meat Pen and Outstanding Market Exhibitor for Rabbits, followed by a random selection of the rest of exhibitor's entries.

RABBIT MEAT PEN/MARKET CLASSES

226A - Meat Pen (3) Traditional
226B - Meat Pen (3) Purchased
226C - Single Fryer Class
226D – Roaster Class (2)

JUNIOR FAIR RABBIT POSTER EXHIBIT

Purpose:

1. To visually demonstrate Junior Fair Rabbit Project knowledge.
2. To stimulate an interest in Junior Fair Rabbit projects and the rabbit industry.

Rules:

1. Each poster must be made by the 4-H or FFA member currently enrolled in a rabbit project.
2. Posters must be turned in to the Rabbit Department no later than 4:00 p.m. on Check in Day
3. Posters must be made using a half sheet of standard poster board (11" X 15") displayed horizontally.
4. Poster must represent the topic assigned for the current year's exhibit. Topic for 2024 is the Exhibitor's Choice
5. Each poster must be clearly labeled in the lower right-hand corner, in a space no larger than 2" X 4" with the exhibitor's name, club or chapter and age as of January 1, 2024
6. Posters will be displayed in Junior Fair Rabbit building during the Marion County Fair.
7. Posters can be picked up at the Junior Fair Rabbit building after animal release on Sunday. Those not picked up at that time will not be returned.

All Rabbit Class Premiums: A - \$2.00 B - \$1.50 C - No Premium

