

**4-H RABBIT DEPARTMENT**

**4-H Rabbit Team**

**Superintendent** - Beth Wilkinson, Elkhart

**Assistant Superintendent** - Becky Stock, West Des Moines

**SCHEDULE:**

**Wednesday, August 19**

- 1:30 p.m. Rabbits and posters may arrive - Poultry/Rabbit Building (N.E. corner of Fairgrounds)  
Rabbits and posters check-in; sign up for showmanship and presentations
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Educational Presentations Judging
- 6:00 p.m. Rabbits and posters must be in

**Thursday, August 20**

- 8:00 a.m. Exhibitor and parent meeting at the rabbit judging area
- 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Showmanship
- 9:00 a.m. Rabbit Show - Divisional judging show order will be posted at each judge's table
- 10:00 a.m. - Noon Poster judging  
Rabbit Skillathon
- Noon - 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- After Rabbit Judging Presentation of Showmanship, Poster and Educational Presentation ribbons and awards
- 5:00 p.m. Rabbits and posters check-out
- 6:00 p.m. Rabbits must be out

**ENTRY DEADLINE - JULY 1 through FairEntry (4hOnline)**

**RULES**

1. GENERAL - General Livestock Rules and Regulations, 4-H General Rules and Regulations and 4-H Livestock Rules and Regulations apply in this department.
2. FEES - An entry fee of \$2 per rabbit class, \$2 per meat class must be paid at time of entry. There will be no entry fees for Showmanship, Premier Breeder Award, Educational Poster or Presentation classes. **No refunds.**
3. LIMITATIONS - Exhibitors are limited to five standard bred rabbit entries, one meat rabbit pen, one single fryer rabbit and one roaster rabbit entry for a maximum total of eight classes. Each animal may only be exhibited in one class (i.e. single fryer may not be pulled from meat pen).
4. IDENTIFICATION - All rabbits (commercial, fancy and market) must be identified in 4hOnline by July 1. All rabbits must be permanently identified with a tattoo in the left ear prior to check-in. Sex, Variety (Color) and Tattoo in animal must match the 4hOnline ID.
5. SUBSTITUTIONS - Substitutions are allowed during check-in as long as the animal was properly identified in 4hOnline by July 1.
6. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS - All rabbits will be examined by the official show check-in assistants. An official show veterinarian will also be available upon arrival. A veterinarian inspection fee is part of the registration fee. Animals must be disease free. Any animal found with any communicable disease(s) will not be allowed to remain in or around the Rabbit Building. The sick animal is the sole responsibility of the owner. The owner is responsible for locating a place to put the animal for the duration of the Rabbit Show.
7. CHECK-IN PROCEDURE - Check-in procedure will include checking class entries, health check by check-in assistants, rabbit tattoos and distribution of exhibitor numbers and t-shirts. You will complete your check in paperwork and rabbit health exam before you are allowed to put animals in coops.
8. COOPING -
  - a) Each exhibitor will be assigned cages for each rabbit entry. Meat Pen entry will share one coop. Assigned cooping may only be changed with permission of Department Superintendents. Wood shavings will be provided for bedding. The provided bedding has solid bottoms. No floor risers will be provided but can be used if the exhibitor brings them. No water or feed containers will be provided. **Exhibitors MUST remove bedding from coops after the show as well as remove any tags or other items from the cages before leaving.** Keep your area tidy.
  - b) No locks that prohibit access to the animal are allowed in case of emergency. See the Superintendents with any concerns regarding your assigned cooping.
  - c) Cage decorations/County signs are allowed at the discretion of the Superintendents. All decorations must be safe for animals and people. Nothing that can be chewed or will interfere with judging or viewing will be allowed. No balloons will be allowed.
9. GROOMING SUPPLIES - No floor standing grooming tables are allowed in aisles. Please keep your carrying cages and other equipment under the cooping. Keep aisles clean and clear so visiting public can view exhibits and exhibitors can get their entries to the show tables.
10. NO SALES POLICY - Per Iowa State Fair Rules, 4-H exhibits are not allowed to be posted or offered "FOR SALE" during the Fair. There is a bulletin board where you may post business cards and/or rabbitry info. Remember to limit personal information for safety.
11. PREMIUMS AND RIBBONS - Ribbons will be awarded in this department. Each exhibit will be placed in a purple, blue, red or white award group and placed numerically within the class. Monetary premiums will be paid to the top 3 entries in each class. Premiums paid will be \$5, 4, 3.

**STANDARD BRED RABBITS**

**(Commercial and Fancy)**

1. Entries in these divisions (commercial and fancy) are limited to purebred rabbits of recognized breeds and varieties. For a list, visit [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/projects/rabbit](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/projects/rabbit).
2. Rabbits will be judged following the current American Rabbit Breeders' Association (ARBA) standards and rules.
3. Use show date as date to determine age for class entry.
4. Exhibitors are limited to a combined total of five rabbits in the commercial and fancy classes.
5. Awards will be given in each breed for Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex. Best Commercial, Best Fancy and Best in Show will be selected.

**IOWA STATE FAIR \* AUGUST 13-23, 2026 \* 4-H RABBIT**

**COMMERCIAL RABBITS**

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Senior Buck</b>	<b>Senior Doe</b>	<b>Intermediate Buck</b>	<b>Junior Buck</b>	<b>Junior Doe</b>
American	27001.1	27001.2	27001.3	27001.5	27001.6
American Chinchilla	27002.1	27002.2	27002.3	27002.5	27002.6
Beveren	27003.1	27003.2	27003.3	27003.5	27003.6
Californian	27004.1	27004.2	27004.3	27004.5	27004.6
Champagne D'Argent	27005.1	27005.2	27005.3	27005.5	27005.6
Checkered Giant	27006.1	27006.2	27006.3	27006.5	27006.6
Cinnamon	27007.1	27007.2	27007.3	27007.5	27007.6
Crème D' Argent	27008.1	27008.2	27008.3	27008.5	27008.6
English Lop	27009.1	27009.2	27009.3	27009.5	27009.6
Giant Angora	27010.1	27010.2	27010.3	27010.5	27010.6
Giant Chinchilla	27011.1	27011.2	27011.3	27011.5	27011.6
Hotot	27012.1	27012.2	27012.3	27012.5	27012.6
New Zealand	27013.1	27013.2	27013.3	27013.5	27013.6
Palomino	27014.1	27014.2	27014.3	27014.5	27014.6
Satin	27015.1	27015.2	27015.3	27015.5	27015.6
Silver Fox	27016.1	27016.2	27016.3	27016.5	27016.6
Other Registered Standard Breed	27017.1	27017.2	27017.3	27017.5	27017.6

**FANCY RABBITS**

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Senior Buck</b>	<b>Senior Doe</b>	<b>Junior Buck</b>	<b>Junior Doe</b>
American Fuzzy Lop	27201.1	27201.2	27201.3	27201.4
American Sable	27202.1	27202.2	27202.3	27202.4
Belgian Hare	27203.1	27203.2	27203.3	27203.4
Britannia Petite	27204.1	27204.2	27204.3	27204.4
Czech Frosty	27205.1	27205.2	27205.3	27205.4
Dutch	27206.1	27206.2	27206.3	27206.4
Dwarf Hotot	27207.1	27207.2	27207.3	27207.4
English Angora	27208.1	27208.2	27208.3	27208.4
English Spot	27209.1	27209.2	27209.3	27209.4
Florida White	27210.1	27210.2	27210.3	27210.4
French Angora	27211.1	27211.2	27211.3	27211.4
Harlequin	27212.1	27212.2	27212.3	27212.4
Havana	27213.1	27213.2	27213.3	27213.4
Himalayan	27214.1	27214.2	27214.3	27214.4
Holland Lop	27215.1	27215.2	27215.3	27215.4
Jersey Wooley	27216.1	27216.2	27216.3	27216.4
Lilac	27217.1	27217.2	27217.3	27217.4
Lionhead	27218.1	27218.2	27218.3	27218.4
Mini Lop	27219.1	27219.2	27219.3	27219.4
Mini Rex	27220.1	27220.2	27220.3	27220.4
Mini Satin	27221.1	27221.2	27221.3	27221.4
Netherland Dward	27222.1	27222.2	27222.3	27222.4
Polish	27223.1	27223.2	27223.3	27223.4
Rex	27224.1	27224.2	27224.3	27224.4
Rhineland	27225.1	27225.2	27225.3	27225.4
Satin Angora	27226.1	27226.2	27226.3	27226.4
Silver	27227.1	27227.2	27227.3	27227.4
Silver Martin	27228.1	27228.2	27228.3	27228.4
Standard Chinchilla	27229.1	27229.2	27229.3	27229.4
Tan	27230.1	27230.2	27230.3	27230.4
Thrianta	27231.1	27231.2	27231.3	27231.4
Other Registered Fancy Breeds	27232.1	27232.2	27232.3	27232.4

### MARKET RABBITS

#### MEAT PEN

1. Meat pen will consist of three rabbits of the same breed and variety. Age limit not over 10 weeks and weight limit of 3.5 to 5.5 pounds each.
2. This division allows crossbred rabbits; however, they must be of the same variety.
3. Each exhibitor may enter one meat pen.
4. Champion and Reserve Champion Meat Pen will be selected.

#### CLASS

- Meat Pen

#### SINGLE FRYER

1. Single Fryer consists of one rabbit not over 10 weeks of age and weight limit of 3.5 to 5.5 pounds each.
2. This division allows crossbred rabbits.
3. Champion and Reserve Champion Single Fryer will be selected.
4. Each exhibitor is limited to one Single Fryer entry. The fryer **must not** be pulled from meat pen.

#### CLASS

- Single Fryer

#### ROASTER

1. Roaster consists of one rabbit under 6 months of age with a minimum weight over 5.5 pounds and maximum weight of 9 pounds.
2. This division allows crossbred rabbits.
3. Champion and Reserve Champion Roaster will be selected.
4. Each exhibitor is limited to one Roaster entry.

#### CLASS

- Roaster

#### STEWER

1. Stewer consists of one rabbit over 6 months of age with a minimum weight over 8 pounds.
2. This division allows crossbred rabbits.
3. Champion and Reserve Champion Stewer will be selected.
4. Each exhibitor is limited to one Stewer entry.

#### CLASS

- Stewer

An overall Supreme Market Champion and Reserve Supreme Market Champion will be selected from the Champion and Reserve Meat Pen Single Fryer, Roaster and Stewer. An award will be presented to the Supreme Market Champion.

### SHOWMANSHIP

1. Pre-entry is not required in this division.
2. Showmanship judging will be between 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Showmanship tables.
3. The 4-H Rabbit Showmanship Score Sheet will be used by each exhibitor. A copy of this form is available at each Extension Office, upon request of the Iowa State 4-H Office or at this website: [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/projects/rabbit](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/projects/rabbit).
4. Contestants must exhibit at least one rabbit in this year's 4-H Rabbit Show at the Iowa State Fair.
5. Previous Showmanship winners are eligible to compete in the Showmanship Division; however, a belt buckle will only be awarded once.
6. Participants must sign up prior to the start of Showmanship at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday to be eligible.
7. There will be an 8 minute maximum to presentations.

#### CLASS

- Novice - First time showmanship at State Fair (grades 5-12)
- Junior Showmanship - completed grades 5 and 6
- Intermediate Showmanship - completed grades 7 and 8
- Senior Showmanship - completed grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

### PREMIER RABBIT BREEDER

A Premier Rabbit Breeder Award will be given in Novice, Junior, Intermediate and Senior to recognize 4-Hers who have gained outstanding Rabbit Project skills and knowledge from breeding, raising, selecting and exhibiting their own rabbit livestock entered in this year's Iowa State Fair 4-H Rabbit Show and have shared their rabbit knowledge and skills with 4-Hers and at other events during this 4-H year.

#### AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA AND RULES

1. Must have bred, raised and selected at least one of their 4-H rabbits exhibited at this year's Iowa State Fair 4-H Rabbit Show.
2. Must enter and complete in a Novice, Junior, Intermediate or Senior 4-H Rabbit Showmanship class at this year's Iowa State Fair.
3. The selection of any Premier Rabbit Breeder Award presented will be based on answers to questions asked by the Showmanship Judges following the 4-Hers' showmanship class judging.
4. The Judges' questions may cover, but not limited to, such topics as rabbit production, nutrition, rabbit equipment and participation in 4-H Rabbit Project Leadership & Citizenship activities.

#### CLASS

- Novice Premier Rabbit Breeder (all first year exhibitors)
- Junior Premier Rabbit Breeder (completed grades 5 and 6)
- Intermediate Premier Rabbit Breeder (completed grades 7 and 8)
- Senior Premier Rabbit Breeder (completed grades 9-12)

**RABBIT PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**

1. Presentation judging will be on Wednesday, August 19 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
2. Advance entry is not required; no entry fee will be charged.
3. Presenter must exhibit at least one rabbit in this year's 4-H Rabbit Show at the Iowa State Fair.
4. Presentations are to be five to eight minutes in length and on a rabbit or cavy related topic. There will be an 8 minute maximum to the presentation.
5. The 1<sup>st</sup> place presenter will receive an award.

**CLASS**

- Rabbit Project Presentations

**RABBIT EDUCATIONAL POSTERS**

1. All posters must be designed on, or affixed to, standard poster board or foam core board -- size minimum of 14 x 20 inches or maximum of 22 x 28 inches.
2. Each exhibitor may enter one poster in each class of Animal Science or ARBA recognized rabbit breed(s).
3. Advance entry is not required; no entry fee will be charged.
4. Poster exhibitors must exhibit at least one rabbit in this year's 4-H Rabbit Show at the Iowa State Fair.
5. Label the back of the exhibit with your name and county.
6. Sources must accompany each poster on either the front or the back and must list all sources such as the ARBA Standard of Perfection, Raising Better Rabbits, etc. Make sure internet sources are credible, as some of them are incorrect.
7. Posters are to be checked in at the rabbit check-in and taken home at animal release time.
8. Each poster entry is to be completed during the current 4-H year.
9. There are 2 subclasses (Handmade and Professionally Printed) for each category. A winner will be selected for each subclass and an overall category winner selected from those. Professionally Printed posters are those that are taken to a professional or "Office Depot" type location to print the final project on poster/foam board. Handmade posters can still use computer printed pages and words for information but all end work is applied to poster/foam board by hand.
10. Ribbons will be awarded for both the Animal Science and ARBA classes. An award will be awarded to the first place winner in each class.

**CLASS**

- ARBA - a poster giving information about a breed or topic found in the American Rabbit Breeders Standard of Perfection publication
  - a. Handmade
  - b. Professionally Printed
- Animal Science - any other rabbit-related topic
  - a. Handmade
  - b. Professionally Printed