

4-H RABBIT DEPARTMENT

4-H Rabbit Team

Superintendent - Beth Wilkinson, Elkhart

Assistant Superintendent - Becky Stock, West Des Moines

SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, August 14

Noon Rabbits and posters may arrive - Poultry/Rabbit Building (N.E. corner of Fairgrounds)
Rabbits and posters check-in; sign up for showmanship and presentations
3:00 p.m. Rabbit Agility Demonstration
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Educational Presentations Judging
6:00 p.m. Rabbits and posters must be in

Thursday, August 15

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 do not have to remove bedding from coops after show but must remove any tags or other items added to 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.
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.

COMMERCIAL RABBITS

BREED EXAMPLES: Californian, Palomino, Satin

CLASS

- Senior Buck
- Senior Doe
- Intermediate Buck

CLASS

- Intermediate Doe
- Junior Buck
- Junior Doe

FANCY RABBITS

BREED EXAMPLES: Dutch, Rex, Netherland Dwarf

CLASS

- Senior Buck
- Senior Doe

CLASS

- Junior Buck
- Junior Doe

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

An overall Supreme Market Champion and Reserve Supreme Market Champion will be selected from the Champion and Reserve Meat Pen Single Fryer and Roaster. 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.
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, only ribbons will be awarded.
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 all 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 14 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 1st 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 and must list all sources of information, such as the ARBA Standard of Perfection, Raising Better Rabbits, etc. Limit internet sources, 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. 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

- Animal Science - any other rabbit-related topic
- ARBA Breed(s) - any topic pertaining to information found in the ARBA Standard of Perfection publication
- Cavy - any topic related to cavies (guinea pigs)