

**Champaign County Fair
Cavy Breeder Management Project**

- This project is designed to follow your sow and boar from the day you choose to breed them until your self-evaluation of the offspring.
- Anytime you choose to breed animals, there must be a purpose and a plan for the offspring. This project should be approached as an improvement for the breed based on the ARBA standard of perfection.
- Participants must be at least in their 4th year of the 4-H cavy project.
- You must own both the boar and sow of the breeding pair.
- The boar, sow and at least one of the offspring must be displayed at the Fair.
- All cavies must pass a mandatory health check.
- All cavies must be in place by 1PM on Sunday of the Fair.
- You must complete the attached questionnaire, charts and attach pedigrees. This paperwork must be turned in two weeks prior to Fair at the skillathon.
- The offspring must be born on or after January 1st and on or before July 1st.
- You will present your project to a judge on Monday at the Fair.
- Breeder management cavies may also be shown in the breed show on Monday at the Fair.
- All cavies are released on Friday at 3 PM.
- A trophy will be awarded to the first place winner
- Cash Prizes will be given to 1-3 Place
- Rosettes will be given to 1-5 Place.

Have fun and good luck ☺



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
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Cavy Breeder Management Questionnaire

Name: _____ Club Name: _____

Describe your cage set up for this project:

Sow Information - Name _____ Ear # _____

Breed _____ Variety _____

Date of Birth or approx age _____ Weight _____

Previous Litters this sow has produced:

Delivery Date: _____ # Live Births _____ Stillborn _____ # Weaned _____

Sow's Strengths:

Sow's Weaknesses:

Boar's Information Name _____ Ear # _____

Date of Birth or approx age: _____ Weight _____

Breed _____ Variety _____

Has this boar produced previous litters?

Delivery Date _____ # Live Births _____ # Stillborn _____ # Weaned _____

Boar's Strengths:

Boar's Weaknesses:

What characteristics do you hope to improve with this pair's offspring?

What date did you place the pair together?

What week (s) or date (s) did you detect sow's estrous cycle?

What week or date did you detect the sow's pelvis begin to separate?

How many days between the separation and delivery date?

Did you notice that the sow was in labor? If yes, how long was the labor?

Did you see the delivery? If yes, did you have to intervene or assist the sow with delivery?

Delivery Date: _____ # of Live Births _____ # of Stillborn _____

Keep a record for each pup born on the following chart

Did your covies have any medical illnesses/conditions during breeding and/or delivery? If yes, explain.

Did you experience any difficulties with the sow nursing the pups? If yes, explain.

Did any of the pups experience any medical illnesses/conditions? If yes, explain.

Does any of the pups have faults or disqualifications? If yes, explain.

Do you think your breeding the pair was successful? Explain.

Please attach pedigrees for the boar, sow & offspring being exhibited at the Fair.

You may also use additional pages, charts, photographs, record keeping.

Breeding Chart

Cavy Breeder Management Record Keeping Chart			
<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Action/Observation</u>	<u>Sow's Weight</u>
1		Placed Pair Together in same cage	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			

Suggestions for notes:

- * Make a note of sow's estrous cycle
- * Did you notice a second estrous cycle? How many days between?
- * Make a note when you separate the pair
- * Do you notice the sow's pelvis begin to separate?

Offspring Record					
Pup #	Gender	Strengths	Weaknesses	Plans for this cavy? Why?	Did this cavy improve your herd? Explain
#1	Boar Sow				
#2	Boar Sow				
#3	Boar Sow				
#4	Boar Sow				