

RABBIT PROJECT and BOOK GUIDELINES

BREEDING/MARKET RABBIT PROJECT PET RABBIT PROJECT

PROJECT GUIDELINES:

Junior Fair rabbit projects must be pedigreed, purebred, permanently earmarked in the left ear and must be a fully accepted American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) breed and variety. Members must have their rabbits by May 15.

Breeding Rabbit Project (228BR):

******* Each rabbit in the project may only be shown in one class*******

1st year – 4 rabbits – preferably juniors

2nd year – 4 rabbits – 2 juniors and 2 6-8s or seniors plus one unit from the optional projects.

3rd year – 6 rabbits – juniors, 6-8s or seniors plus two **different** units from the optional projects.

4th year – 8 rabbits – juniors, 6-8s or seniors plus up to three **different** units from the optional projects.

5th year and up – 8 rabbits – juniors, 6-8s or seniors plus up to four **different** units from the Optional projects.

Optional Projects is:

Single Fryer - Single Fryer entries must weigh at least 3 ½ and not more than 5 ½ pounds and not over 70 days old. May NOT come from a meat pen entry.

Meat Pen – Meat Pens must consist of three rabbits weighing at least 3 ½ and not more than 5 ½ pounds each and not over 70 days old. Must be the same variety.

Brood Pair – Brood Pairs consist of a buck and doe 4 to 8 months of age of the same breed but not littermates. Pedigrees must be presented at time of entry. Brood Pair rabbits may NOT be entered as juniors, 6-8s or seniors.

Bred & Raised – Bred & Raised entries may be a buck or doe and may be juniors, 6-8s, or seniors. Exhibitors must have produced the rabbit from rabbits they own and the rabbit must have been raised in the exhibitor's rabbitry. Exhibitor must provide a pedigree for the rabbit as well as pedigrees of both parents. Pedigrees must be provided at time of entry. Exhibitor may enter only one rabbit for the Bred & Raised. This rabbit may NOT be shown in the breed show or as a part of a Brood Pair, Meat Pen or Single Fryer.

Market Rabbit Project (228MA):

Champaign County does not use the Market Rabbit Project as a separate project since Meat Pens and Single Fryer classes are part of the optional groups in the Breeding Project. However, the Extension Office asks members who are taking meat pen or single fryer optional groups to sign up for the Market Rabbit Project (228MA) as well as the Breeding Rabbit Project (228BR).

Pet Rabbit Project (228PE):

The Pet Rabbit Project is separate from the Breeding/Market Project. All though it is still recommended, there is no requirement for pedigreed, purebred stock in this project. Rabbits in this project do not come to fair and are judged prior to fair. Members taking the Pet Rabbit Project are welcome to participate in the Rabbit Poster Contest (see extension office for details).

RESOURCE and PROJECT BOOKS, FEED RECORDS:

Feed Record:

The Breeding, Market and Pet Rabbit Projects will use the feed record available on the website or from your advisor rather than the feed records in the project books. Feed records must be completed and turned in at Skill-a-thon along with project books.

Project Book:

Champaign County will use the Rabbit Resource Handbook (228R) and the Rabbit Project and Record Book for the Breeding (228BR), Market (228MA), and Pet (228PE) Rabbit Projects. Note that the Rabbit Project and Record Book is divided into three sections, Beginners, intermediate and advanced. The book calls for members to use each section of the book multiple years. For example, the beginning level is indicated to be the first three years of the project. We will NOT follow that recommendation. Please apply the beginning section to first year members, the intermediate section to second- and third-year members, and the advanced section to fourth year and up. This Project book is required for the Breeding, Market, and Pet Rabbit Projects, and must be turned in at Skill-a-thon along with the feed record.