

## DEPARTMENT – SMALL ANIMALS

### SECTION - 4-H/FFA RABBITS

(Must be enrollment in the Rabbits Project)

#### SPECIAL RULES

1. Read General Rules. Violations of any of the following rules may result in disqualification. All decisions will be made by a county agent and their decision is final.
2. Each rabbit is to be legibly and permanently tattooed in the left ear for identification. NO tattooing allowed on the fairgrounds. Rabbits MUST be tattooed *before* entering the fairgrounds. Tattoos will be verified when rabbits are checked in by the superintendent or designated helper. Decisions of superintendent will be final.
3. **(NEW in 2025)** Family Identification Worksheet for Rabbits are **DUE by June 1** in the Extension Office. Rabbits not on your family identification worksheet, cannot be shown at fair.
4. Rabbits will be judged according to ARBA rules and the Standards of Perfection. Crossbred rabbits are not eligible for breed and/or fur classes. The ARBA Standard is available at the Extension Office to assist members in determining breed and variety. Rabbits not properly sexed and incorrectly entered will be judged in the class it is entered in and may be disqualified by the judge. (Hint - For immature rabbits, enter in both sex classes.)
5. All rabbits must be owned and cared for by June 1.
6. Exhibitors may have 2 entries per class (i.e. 2 white senior Satin does and 2 black senior Satin does).
7. Exhibitors must carry their rabbits to and from the judging table or be responsible to find another Leavenworth County 4-Her to do so.
8. All entries in the fur classes must be made from the rabbits that are entered in the regular breed classes. Limited to 2 entries per fur class (i.e., 2 white Rex, 2 normal colored, 2 white Satin).
9. Any rabbit disqualified for any reason during the show will automatically be put into a prospect class. Those rabbits will be judged at the end of the show. They would be eligible for a ribbon, only (no trophy).
10. Only rabbits entered in the fair are allowed on the fairgrounds. No extra animals for sale will be allowed unless approved by the extension agent and superintendent. Any rabbits offered for sale after judging must remain on display throughout the fair and must be picked up by 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning.
11. Rabbits must have adequate bedding material (wire cage bottoms with shavings or straw). Cages must be cleaned daily. Each exhibitor is responsible for feeding and watering their own rabbits. Water must be available to rabbits at all times. NO glass/breakable water and food containers allowed. All containers must be securely attached to cages.
12. All rabbits must remain in the rabbit barn until the designated release time. At this time, each exhibitor is expected to break down their cages and completely clean the area surrounding them. Failure to do so could result in disqualification.
13. Supplies, equipment and feed must be stored in designated areas. Exhibitors are responsible for keeping their pens clean and neat.
14. All rabbits used in showmanship must be shown in a breed class and owned by exhibitor.
  - a. Showmanship/consultation is with the 4-Her and the judge. Spectators are welcome in the viewing area.
  - b. Judge's decision is final. The outcome of the contest is based on the opinion of the judge. When contest is complete, with the permission of the judge, the 4-Her may ask questions. You may not question the ribbon placement.
  - c. 4-Her will wear a show jacket or long sleeve white shirt and present a neat

appearance.

- e. Judging order will be posted prior to the contest. It is the 4-Her's responsibility to be available if they are called back. If a 4-Her has prior commitments, they must notify the superintendent.
15. All 4-H exhibitors must have a current "Youth for the Quality Care of Animals" (YQCA) certification to show at the LVCO Fair.
16. All meat pen rabbits may be either breed and raised by the exhibitor or purchased from a breeder. Exhibitors purchasing rabbits from a breeder must buy and take possession of the rabbits prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>. All meat Pen rabbits must be the legal property of the exhibitor.
17. Only the top three meat pens of rabbits will be sold at the auction. They must receive a red or blue ribbon to qualify. Meat pens must meet ARBA Standard for commercial type rabbits.
18. Educational Exhibits may be in the form of a poster or display. Follow copyright laws as explained in the General Rules as you are preparing your exhibit. Take care to select materials that will withstand Fair conditions. No card table displays. Poster may not be larger than 22" x 28". Displays may not be larger than a 2' x 3' tri-fold display board. Exhibits will be judge on educational value, interest to the viewer, originality and appearance. Examples of exhibits may include: care of rabbit, breeds, grooming, careers, etc. Not eligible for State Fair.
19. Rabbits must be checked in by the designated day and time on the 4-H Fair Schedule.

**Refer to the ARBA Standards of Perfection for qualifying breeds.**

**CLASSES - 3400: Senior Buck**

9 months & older

**3401: Senior Doe**

9 months & older

**3402: Intermediate Buck**

6-8 months

**3403: Intermediate Doe**

6-8 months

**3404: Junior Buck**

6 months & under

**3405: Junior Doe**

6 months & under

**3420: Meat Pen**

All breeds: Three (3) rabbits all one recognized commercial type breed and variety, Minimum weight 3 ½ pounds each. Maximum weight 5 ½ pounds, and not over 70 days of age. Will be judged on meat qualities, condition, uniformity and fur. Rabbits do not have to be the same sex.

**3450: Normal White Fur**

**3451: White Satin Fur**

**3452: White Rex Fur**

**3453: White Wool Fur**

**3454: Normal Colored Fur**

**3455: Colored Satin Fur**

**3456: Colored Rex Fur**

**3457: Colored Wool Fur**

**Educational Exhibit**

**(Not a State Fair Class)**

## **RABBIT SKILL-A-THON CONTEST**

1. Open to any member enrolled in the 4-H/FFA Rabbit project.
2. Contest runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon, Thursday. It will be on a first come, first serve basis. It is the member's responsibility to be finished by noon.
3. Contest will consist of a written test, rabbit identification and skill-a-thon stations testing rabbit knowledge.
4. Sign up for this contest when checking in your entries.

