

Department 11 4-H/FFA Rabbits

Market Rabbit Show:

#50 Show Arena, Wednesday, October 11th 2023, 8:30 a.m.

Rabbit Showmanship:

#50 Show Arena, Wednesday, October 11th, 2023, 12:30 p.m.

Breeding Rabbit Show:

#50 Show Arena, Thursday, October 12th, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Superintendent in Charge: Greg Coulter

Assistant Superintendents: Tom Bobbitt, Nannette Spires, Mandy Collins, and Julie Littleton

Tagging: All MARKET animals (including Market Rabbits)

- All market animals will be family tagged and any member of the family can show any animal tagged.
- As defined in [Ohio Administrative Code 901-19-01](#), "Family" means the immediate family of an exhibitor, including but not limited to the exhibitor's parent, stepparent, foster parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, half-brother, half-sister, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, or guardian.
- No tagging will be performed after the designated weigh-in/tag-in day except as listed in Rule 23 of the General Rules.
- Only market rabbits being entered into the Homegrown Classes will be tagged in the 2nd Saturday of September - Saturday, September 9th, 2023. A family can tag up to six (6) rabbits per exhibitor in the family.
- All other market rabbits will be tagged during fair check-in.

Housing Forms: Junior Fair Exhibitors housing animal(s) in a location other than the property on which they reside must obtain and file a Livestock Housing Form with the **OSU Extension Office**. Deadline for filling out this form is the deadline set forth for possession of the animal. For more specifications, refer to the General Rules.

- **Please note that Homegrown Market Rabbits must house rabbits on their property. They cannot be housed elsewhere.**

Quality Assurance: As mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, each exhibitor must have attended an educational experience by June 30th, 2023. Club/Chapter Quality Assurance Clinics taught by a trained and certified assistant instructor, or the countywide make-up clinics are required for exhibitors to meet this requirement. The 4-H Youth Development Educators at OSU Extension can provide locations of workshops provided in our county.

Skillathon: Each exhibitor must participate in a Skillathon. Youth are encouraged to attend the species you are exhibiting. If an exhibitor plans to compete for Rabbit Premier Exhibitor, they must attend the Rabbit Skillathon at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds on Sunday, September 24th, 2023, to be eligible.

Project Record Books:

- 4-H and FFA Record Books are required to be COMPLETED for each project.
- 4-H Members should have a NEW 4-H Record Book each year they take the project.
- 4-H and FFA Records Books will be reviewed at Skillathon.
 - For those who forget or don't bring their book – the book will need be completed and turned into the OSU Extension Office by Friday, September 22nd.
 - Exhibitors will who do not properly complete a record book for each of their fair projects WILL NOT be allowed to exhibit at the fair. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
 - No books will be reviewed after September 24th.

Health Papers: Are not required except for a valid and current Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) for all Market Rabbits (NEW for 2023). DUNF forms are to be filled out online and not before three (3) days of weigh in. DUNF forms must be filled out by NOON on the Friday before weigh-in on Friday, October 6th, 2023. Market Rabbits must be free from any/all drugs in their system on fair weigh-in day.

Entries: Fair entries are required by 4-H and FFA exhibitors to be eligible to compete at the Fairfield County Junior Fair. 4-H exhibitors must be enrolled in the corresponding 4-H project by enrollment deadline, April 15th. Fair entries will open in early August and close at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, August 25th. All entries will be made online in the FairEntry program: go.osu.edu/fairfieldfaireentry.

- Exhibitors may enter up to four (4) different classes. Animals of different breeds or sex are of different classes.
- An exhibitor may enter a maximum of two (2) breeding classes.
- An exhibitor may enter a maximum of 2 pairs of market rabbit entries. Exhibitors will not need to declare if fryers or roasters at the time of fair entries. Exhibitors can show two pairs of roasters, two pairs of fryers, or one pair of each.
- An exhibitor with three or more years showing rabbits will be able to enter three (3) entries in the breeding show and two (2) entries in the market or show for a total of five (5) different classes.
- No rabbit may be shown in more than one breeding or market classes.
- Exhibitors are responsible to confirm their class entries are correct and report any discrepancies to the Rabbit Committee during check-in on Saturday of fair. Any class changes must be made by 1:00 p.m., Saturday, October 7th, 2023. This is only if a breed or sex is wrong. There will be no other additions to the show.
- **Mixed Breed & Crossbred Rabbits:** These rabbits will show with the PET RABBITS. See Department 15 - 4-H Companion Animals.

Breeding Rabbit Division

Breeding Rabbit Classes: Breed will be entered into FairEntry when making fair entries as you add your animal to the respective fair entry. In order to designate the correct breed of your breeding rabbit entry, identify the breed of your rabbit by using this ARBA site: <https://arba.net/recognized-breeds/>

1. Breeding Buck
2. Breeding Doe
3. Junior Breeding Buck (4 to 6 months of age) *See Junior Age Class Breeding Rules.* (Only enter if an exhibitor has entered two (2) other rabbits into the breed class, and at least a 3-year rabbit exhibitor).
4. Junior Breeding Doe (4 to 6 months of age) *See Junior Age Class Breeding Rules.* (Only enter if an exhibitor has entered two (2) other rabbits into the breed class, and at least a 3-year rabbit exhibitor).
5. **Breeding Buck/Doe and Offspring - senior buck OR doe and their offspring. Senior buck OR doe must be entered into the respective breeding buck/doe class AND the offspring must be entered in the junior buck/doe class.**

Market Rabbit Division

Market Rabbit Classes:

1. MARKET RABBITS: (1 entry= pen of 2 rabbits). If an exhibitor is entering one (1) pair of market rabbits, only enter the class once. If an exhibitor plans to enter two pairs of market rabbits, you must enter the class twice.
2. HOMEGROWN MARKET RABBITS: (1 entry= pen of 2 rabbits). If an exhibitor is entering one (1) pair of homegrown market rabbits, only enter the class once. If an exhibitor plans to enter two pairs of homegrown market rabbits, you must enter the class twice.

Showmanship Divisions: Showmanship entries are submitted through FairEntry by the fair entry deadline.

Rabbit Showmanship Classes:

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|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Senior Rabbit Showmanship (Ages 17-18) | 6. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 12) |
| 2. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 16) | 7. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 11) |
| 3. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 15) | 8. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 10) |
| 4. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 14) | 9. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 9) |
| 5. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 13) | 10. Rabbit Showmanship (Age 8) |

Arrival Time: All rabbits, market and breeding, are due to the fairgrounds by 12:00 p.m., Saturday, October 7th, 2023.

- Market Rabbits only will weigh-in from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Saturday, October 7th, 2023, in the #50 Show Arena. One exhibitor can only bring a maximum of four (4) rabbits to weigh-in. If a rabbit pair does not make weight, they will need to remove them from the fairgrounds at the time of weigh-in and receive a "B" grade.
- Breeding Rabbit Registration: Exhibitors may check their entries from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Saturday, October 7th, 2023, in the Rabbit Barn.

Rabbit Exhibitor Meeting: There will be an exhibitor meeting for rabbit exhibitors on Saturday, October 7th, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the #50 Show Arena.

Market Classes: This is a non-terminal show. See [ODA Rules 901-19-01 BB](#).

1. There will be two divisions (fryers and rosters) for homegrown and market rabbits.
 - a. Underweight and overweight pens of two market rabbits will be permitted to be shown and will receive a B grade for their project **if their pair weighs between 6.50 to 6.99 pounds (underweight) or 15.00 to 15.25 (overweight) and receive a packer price.**
 - b. **If the pair weighs less than 6.50 pounds or over 15.25 pounds, they will go directly home on Saturday of weigh-in and will not go to the packer. They will receive a B grade.**
- Rabbit pairs will be shown as fryers and roasters. This will be determined at fair weigh-in.
 - **Fryers:** Total pen weigh is determined at weigh-in on Saturday, October 7th, 2023. 7.00 to 10.50 pounds total pen weight (suggested each rabbit within the pair to weigh 3.50 to 5.25 pounds at weigh-in).
 - **Roasters:** Total pen weight is determined at weigh-in on Saturday, October 7th, 2023. 10.51 to 15.00 pounds total pen weight (suggested each rabbit within the pair to weigh 5.25 to 7.50 pounds at weigh-in).
- Market Rabbit Exhibitors will have the option to take home their animals. [Click here to review information to consider when making this decision.](#)
 - Take homes must be declared before the animal leaves the scale during check-in (no exceptions).
 - Take home forms will be available at each specie's fair/final weigh-in.
 - Take home animals will lose their sale slot and will not be eligible for a premium and packer bid.
 - Exhibitors who do not take home must qualify for their sale slot (as individual or group) at the discretion of the species show committee.

Market Rabbit Sale: Immediately following the 10:00 a.m., Market Lamb Sale on Friday, October 13th, 2023, at the Feeder Creek Vet Show Arena. (Exhibitors selling rabbits individually must report with their rabbits by 10:30 a.m.). All exhibitors who placed in the show must report to the sale. All rabbits that made weight at weigh-in will be sold either individually or in groups at the livestock sale on Friday of the fair. Please review rules on the sale page: <http://u.osu.edu/livestocksale>.

Release Time: No animals will be removed from the fairgrounds prior to the stated release time without approval from the Junior Fair Director or Senior Fair Board. Any exhibitor violating this rule will be barred from exhibiting that particular specie the following year.

- Breeding Rabbit Barn: After 12:00 p.m. and before 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 14th, 2023. All rabbits left in the barn after the close of fair on Saturday will be considered abandoned and will be removed from the barn unless prior arrangements have been made with the Rabbit Superintendent by the exhibitor or family of the exhibitor. Breeding exhibitors must clean trays, feed, and water dishes out by 5:00 p.m. Abandonment and/or failure to clean trays and dishes will result in suspension from future shows.
- Market Exhibitors: If market pairs are not sold or returned to the exhibitor by the buyer, these rabbits must be removed from the fairgrounds immediately following the end of the sale on Friday, October 13th, 2023. All locks should be removed from pens

immediately following the sale. Market exhibitors must have their trays cleaned completely out by 5:00 p.m. and placed on top of the pen's upside down. Market exhibitors must also wash feed and water dishes and place in boxes by Superintendent's table. Market rabbit champion pairs that are being returned to the exhibitor must remain the champion pens until Saturday, October 14th, 2023, after 12:00 p.m.

Premiums: Project books will be checked during county Skillathon. If an exhibitor does not complete a project book and turn it in at Skillathon, he or she will be ineligible to receive a premium and will not **show** that specie at the county fair for that year. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to complete project books annually for their exhibit.

- Rabbit Breeding Premiums: "A" =\$2.00; "B" =\$1.25; "C" =\$0.75
- Market Rabbit Premiums: "A" =\$2.00; "B" =\$1.25; "C" =\$0.75

Livestock Sale Exhibitor Checks: Exhibitors must submit a stamped thank you note to their advisor prior to November 1st, 2023. Advisors will be required to mail thank-you notes and maintain their buyer checklist to receive the exhibitors' checks. If a check is not cashed within the specified 90-day period from the check date, there will be a Stop Payment Fee deduction imposed and a replacement check issued to the exhibitor.

READ THE FAIRFIELD COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR GENERAL RULES AND HEALTH REGULATIONS

Rabbit Special Rules

1. Exhibitors who neglect their rabbits during the fair or abandon them at the end of the fair will forfeit all premiums, prize money, and sale money. They will be barred from the rabbit show at the fair for one or more years. Neglect will be determined by the Rabbit Superintendents.
2. ALL RABBITS (market and breeding) MUST BE HOUSED AT THE FAIR UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT.
3. No one without an assigned task shall be permitted in the show arena with the exception of photos during awards.
4. Breeding rabbits must be in the members possession by July 1st of the current year.
5. All animals exhibited must have been completely and fully owned (as evidenced by a bill of sale or registration papers) an in the complete possession and continual care of the exhibitor on and after the designated date. (Breeding - July 1, Market - by the 2nd Saturday of September).
6. Rabbit exhibitors may be disqualified if any straw, hay, or any other organic bedding is used. A resting board is allowed. Timothy hay may be given if in the feed dish (for nutrition and dietary needs).
7. If a rabbit is removed prior to the stated release time, that exhibitor will be banned from showing rabbits the next year.
8. An exhibitor may have one breeding entry per class.
9. Exhibitors who have complete two years of showing rabbits at previous Fairfield County Fairs have the option of showing their third year with EITHER a junior rabbit entry (see information below (OR an additional senior rabbit entry, which is a different breed other than the doe/buck entered. (i.e., #1: If the exhibitor is showing a buck and doe of the same breed, such as a polish buck and a polish doe, the third rabbit must be of another breed that is different than a polish; #2: If the exhibitor is showing a polish buck and a mini lop doe, the third rabbit must either be from a third breed of rabbit or a polish doe, or a mini lop buck. It cannot be in the same class as the first two breeds of rabbits).
10. Exhibitors must keep name tags on their pens. Do not remove them.

Junior Rabbit Class - Breeding Rules

1. A junior rabbit is an animal that is defined as pure bred by A.R.B.A. standards as 4-6 months of age. Breeding classes start at 7 months of age.
2. The junior age rabbit class is reserved for an exhibitor that is at least a 3rd year rabbit showman. Exhibitors who have completed two years of showing rabbits at previous Fairfield County Fair may show a junior rabbit their third year.
3. The breed of their junior rabbit must be the same breed as one of their breed entry rabbits. This entry will be cancelled if it is not one of these breeds. This is an advanced project for an exhibitor to take once they have bred their own stock, with the intention to show the offspring from the exhibitor's own doe and own buck. The number of breeds will dictate the number of classes that are created and will be showed at the beginning of the breeding show.
4. Junior rabbits can only be shown after the other two breeding rabbit entries have been entered and shown. The junior rabbit entry will be eliminated from the show order if the exhibitor does not have two other registered entries at the fair and will not show.
5. Exhibitors must have entered must have entered two entries in the breeding class to enter in a junior class. Breed class is defined as either: Two does of different breeds, two bucks of different breeds, or a buck and a doe of any breed including the same breed. Exhibitors may then enter a junior rabbit as a third entry.
6. The junior rabbit must be of the same breed as one of the other two breed entries. Example: If an exhibitor enters two New Zealand rabbits, the junior entry must be a New Zealand. If the breeding entries are two different breeds, such as Standard Rex and a Satin breed, the junior entry must be a standard rex or satin. No other breed will be accepted. If an exhibitor does not enter three rabbits, the first two will be entered into the breeding classes and they will not qualify for the junior class.
7. **New for 2023: An offspring class will be added for exhibitors who have entered a junior rabbit. This class will include the Breeding Buck/Doe and their Offspring. Senior buck OR doe must be entered into the respective breeding buck/doe class AND the offspring must be entered in the junior buck/doe class.**

Market Rabbit Rules

1. Market rabbits must be in the member's possession by the second Saturday of September of the current year.
2. Underweight and overweight pens of two market rabbits will be permitted to be shown and will receive a B grade for their project **if their pair weighs between 6.50 to 6.99 pounds (underweight) or 15.00 to 15.25 (overweight) and receive a packer price. If the pair weighs less than 6.50 pounds or over 15.25 pounds, they will go directly home on Saturday of weigh-in and will not go to the packer. They will receive a B grade.**
3. Pen weight will determine the class (fryers or roasters) that market rabbits are entered.
4. Homegrown market rabbits will be tagged on the second Saturday of September by the Fairfield County Junior Fair Rabbit Committee at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. Homegrown market rabbits cannot be tattooed by family. Exhibitors can tag a total of six (6) rabbits and a family can tag no more than 24 rabbits. (Only 6 per exhibitor).
5. Market rabbits will be weighed at the fair and the tag on the ear will be used as identification.
6. If a pen receives 1st through 10th place, the exhibitor is required to sell the animal in the livestock auction.
7. All market rabbit pens (roasters and fryers) placing 1st through 10th may be sold individually at the livestock auction according to [ODA Rule 901-19-01 Z](#). All other eligible market rabbits may be sold in groups at the livestock auction according to [ODA Rule 901-19-01 Z](#).
8. Exhibitors entering the market class twice are doing so with the intention of entering two pairs of rabbits. They may be: One pair of fryers or homegrown fryers and one pair of roasters or homegrown roasters, two market or homegrown fryers, or two market or homegrown roasters.
9. An exhibitor may show up to two (2) pairs of market rabbits and their weights will place them in either the fryer/homegrown fryer or roaster/homegrown roaster class.
10. Rabbits will be picked up by the packer on Saturday morning. Any rabbits remaining in the market barn after 9:00 p.m. Friday shall belong to the packer.
11. **No additional rabbits** may be sold to the packer at the fairgrounds.
12. Exhibitors competing in the homegrown fryer and roaster classes must own both the sire (buck) and dam (doe) and have bred their own litter. These adult rabbits must be bred by the exhibitor, and these offspring are then brought to the fair. Exhibitors are not permitted to breed their does from another owner.
13. Exhibitors competing in the homegrown market fryer and roaster class must fill out an intent form (signed by the exhibitor, parent, and advisor) by May 1st of the current year, stating they are planning to raise their own litter and enter in the class. If the litter does not come, the exhibitor will still be able to purchase a pair for the other class (fryer or roaster) by the second Saturday of September. See rule #16.
14. The birth date of homegrown rabbit litter should be no later than August 1st. This litter should be available for inspection by August 10th of the current year, by a member of the Rabbit Committee or Junior Fair Director. (Not all exhibitors will be visited in a given year; a random, countywide sweep will be made to ensure all exhibitors are honoring their intent).
15. If the homegrown rabbits are not owned by the exhibitor, he or she may be excused from exhibiting in the market class show for that year.
16. Exhibitors are able to enter into up to two (2) market classes during the fair entry process in August.

Rabbit Showmanship

1. Showmanship entries must be entered at the time of fair entry in August.
2. All ages are as of January 1st of the current year.
3. Rules and conditions apply to all divisions.
4. Each contestant must show their own animal, but during the contest may be asked to show another animal.
5. All animals used in the showmanship contest **MUST** also be registered for the show in a market or breeding class.
6. The senior showmanship winner will participate in the Super Showmanship contest. An exhibitor can compete only once in the Super Showmanship contest representing rabbits. If the senior showmanship winner has already participated in the Super Showmanship contest, the highest placing senior showmanship winner who has not competed in Super Showmanship will compete in the contest.
7. Rabbit Showman of Showmen is open to all rabbit showmanship division winners and all previous Junior Fair Showmanship winners from the past three years. (All participants must be current Junior Fair Exhibitors).