

# SO YOU ARE TAKING A POULTRY PROJECT



This page contains basic information to assist you in preparing your poultry projects for fair. Good luck!

|   | Market Turkeys                                       | Market Ducks or Market Geese              | Market Chickens                                       | Hens & Pullets                  | Exhibition Turkeys  | Exhibition Poultry  | Exhibition Ducks  | Exhibition Geese  |
|---|--|---|---|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Recommended Breeds</b>   | Broad Breasted White or Bronze                       | Muscovy, Pekin (regular, jumbo or hybrid) | Cornish Rock  | Any                             | Any   | Any   | No Pekin or wild species  | Any   |
| <b>Recommended Age at Fair</b>                                    | 16 – 20 weeks old                                    | 10 – 12 weeks old                         | 7-8 weeks old   | 5 months – 11 months            | 11 months and above   | 11 months and above   | Must be feathered out   | 10 – 12 weeks old   |
| <b>Recommended Date of hatch</b>                                  | February current year                                | 3/25 – 4/8 current year                   | 4/22 – 4/29 current year                              | 7/20/20 – 1/20/2021             | July 2020 and earlier   | July 2020 and earlier   | January 2021 and earlier  | 3/25 – 4/8 current year   |
| <b>Date of Possession</b>   | April 15   | April 15                                  | May 15  | April 15                        | April 15  | April 15  | April 15  | April 15  |
| <b>NPIP Required?</b>   | YES**  | NO  | YES**   | Yes**                           | YES**   | YES**   | NO  | NO  |
| <b>DUNF &amp; QA Required?</b>                                    | YES  | YES                                       | YES   | NO                              | NO  | NO  | NO  | NO  |
| <b>Exhibit</b>  | 1 or 2 birds   | pen of 2                                  | pen of 2  | 2 pullets or 2 layers           | 1 bird  | pen of 2  | pen of 2  | pen of 2  |
| <b>Recommended Male/Female</b>                                    |  | Males                                     | Males   | Female Only                     |   | Pair, 2 females   |   | Pair  |
| <b>Must Weigh by Fair</b>   | Min. 20lbs for Toms<br>Min. 16 lbs for Hens          | Min. 13 lbs for pen of 2 birds            | 10 – 18 lbs per pen of 2 birds                        | No weight requirements          | No weight requirements  | No weight requirements  | No weight requirements  | No weight requirements  |
| <b>Recommended Feed</b>   | 28% protein  |   | Turkey starter 2 weeks then broiler show chow         | Starter/Grower                  | Layer/scratch grains  | Layer/scratch grains  |   |   |
| <b>Recommended Bedding<br/>*check &amp; clean your pen often!</b> | Pine Shavings  | Pine Shavings                             | Pine Shavings   | Pine Shavings                   | Pine Shavings   | Pine Shavings   | Pine Shavings   | Pine Shavings   |
| <b>What is the judge looking for?</b>                             | Broad, Meaty Breast. NO blemishes or sores on breast | Broad, Meaty Breast                       | Breast meat, uniformity, no bruising, no pin feathers | Consistency between the 2 birds | Breed standard as listed in the Poultry Standards of Perfection | Breed standard as listed in the Poultry Standards of Perfection | Breed standard as listed in the Poultry Standards of Perfection | Breed standard as listed in the Poultry Standards of Perfection |
| <b>Withhold food before judging 12 hours?</b>                     | YES  | YES                                       | YES   | NO                              | NO  | NO  | NO  | NO  |

**\*\* PULLORUM REQUIREMENTS – also known as NPIP is required for chickens and turkeys. The serum to test for Pullorum is was not available for the 2020 show season and is unknown for 2021 until February. If the serum is not available, Pickaway County will utilize the following requirements:**

- **If your Poultry was Born In-State AND you Bought Your Poultry In-State:** Bring copy of NPIP Papers. If do not have then bring Bill of Sale which includes the name and address of where the birds where born and date of purchase of birds. If NPIP papers are a possibility, that choice should be used!
- **If your Poultry was Born Out-of-State OR you Bought Your Poultry Out-of-State:** Bring copy of NPIP Papers or **VS form 9-3**. If do not have then must schedule a vet check and bring a copy of the resulting Certificate of Vet Inspection, CVI. CVI's must take place within 30 days of exhibition/fair.

## **IT'S ALMOST FAIR WEEK – WHAT DO I NEED TO PACK?**

|   |                   |   |      |
|---|-------------------|---|------|
| Bedding   | Bucket for water  | Thank you poster for last year's buyer                          | DUNF |
| Feed  | Feed/Water dishes | Pullorum Papers (except ducks & geese)                          |      |
| White coat(optional) or long sleeve shirt   |                   | Very small tack box/tub with your NAME on it to hold feed, etc. |      |
| Mesh screening and twist ties (in case your birds don't get along with their neighbors) |                   |   |      |

### **A FEW THINGS TO KNOW:**

- ❖ Each exhibitor must register their animals for fair through the online program set up by the Livestock & Sale Committee. On-line registration is open from April 15-May 15.
- ❖ Avian Flu has become a very real threat to the poultry industry. For all 4-H members, exhibiting an animal at the fair is not required for completion of the project. To complete a project each member must follow the possession guidelines, attend a minimum of 6 club meets, complete a demonstration, fill out a project book and complete a project skillathon. For market animals the animal should be raised to the correct market weight before harvesting.
- ❖ Turkeys, pullets, broilers and fancy poultry require NPIP papers. These are also known as “pullorum papers”. This can be from the hatchery or from your advisor IF your club did a “group buy”. If you do not have the certificate from the hatchery you will need to get your bird tested by a certified tester. Results of testing chickens is immediate, but the results for testing turkeys takes 2 weeks, so do not wait until the last minute to have this done. For breeding animals, Pullorum papers are good for up to one year if the birds have not been co-mingled with other birds at their residence. **\*\*See bottom of front page for 2021!**
- ❖ Poultry are easily stressed! Make your move to the fair as stress-free as possible. Do not move them in the heat of the day. Poultry are permitted to move into their barn between 8:00 am and 11:00 am on Saturday of the fair only! Move them in closer to the 8:00 time to avoid excess heat. You must check in with the Barn Superintendent or Junior Fair Board member OUTSIDE of the barn before taking you birds into the barn. Be ready to turn in a copy of your Pullorum (NPIP) papers if your bird requires it. Market birds will weigh as you arrive. No birds will be weighed after 11:00 am.
- ❖ Poultry need fresh water available at all times. A good way to handle the heat of fair is to freeze small water balloons. Simply peel of the balloon and put the ice into their water dish. Water your birds often!
- ❖ On show day, leave birds in their cages as much as possible. Do not add to their heat and stress by holding them for long periods of time. Poultry show is in Heritage Hall. Give you turkeys time to get there or bring a wagon on that day.
- ❖ Market Geese do NOT sell.
- ❖ Sale Intentions must be made! Sale Intentions are required for every market exhibitor for every market show they participate in, even if it's only one! Sale Intentions tell the Sale Committee which animals you are planning to sell through the Livestock Sale and which animals will be loaded onto the packer truck.