

SO YOU ARE TAKING A RABBIT PROJECT



Rabbits are a great project to teach responsibility. This page contains some basic information to assist you in preparing for fair. Good luck!

	Market Rabbits	Breeding Rabbits
Recommended Breeds	New Zealand California	Any purebred
Recommended Age at Fair	11 weeks	Two age divisions: 3-6 months (must be weaned) Over 6 months (may only be shown 2 years in this class)
Recommended Date of Birth	April 1	No age requirements. All ages show together.
Date of Possession	May 15	April 15
Pre-Fair Weigh/Tag?	No – will be marked at fair	No – MUST be tattooed prior to fair
DUNF or QA	Yes DUNF, Yes QA	No DUNF, No QA
Exhibit	1 or 2	
Recommended Male/Female	Either	Either
Must Weigh by Fair	3-6 lbs	Should meet the weight requirements for their breed's standard
Recommended Feed	Complete pellet feed *ask breeder to recommend	Complete pellet feed *ask breeder to recommend
Recommended Bedding	Shavings for tray *Do not use cedar"	Shavings for tray
What is the judge looking for?	Firm meat	Breed character according to the breed standard

Breeding Rabbits are also categorized into "four class breeds" and "six class breeds".

Four Class Breeds:

American, Fuzzy Lop, American Sable, English Angora, French Angora, Satin Angora, Belgian Hare, Britannia Petite, Standard Chinchilla, Dutch, Dwarf Hotot, English Spot, Florida White, Harlequin, Havana, Himalayan, Jersey Woolly, Lilac, Holland Lop, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Rex, Rhinelander, Silver, Silver Marten, Tan.

Six Class Breeds:

American Giant Angora, Beveran, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Flemish Giant, Hotot, English Lop, French Lop, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, Silver Fox

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

Feed & Dish

Bucket for water

Thank you poster for last year's buyer

Water dish/bottle

Box with open top for transport

White Coat (optional but recommended) or long sleeve white shirt

Tack box/Crate no larger than 12x12x12 with your NAME on it – all supplies including bedding must fit in the crate and go on the designated shelf.

A FEW THINGS TO KNOW:

- ❖ Quality Assurance training is completed in-person or by on-line YQCA and must be complete by May 1 with certification received at the Extension Office by May 2.
- ❖ 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. **Each rabbit requires its own individual registration! This is often confused for market rabbits but is very important. The registration tells the Sale committee how many rabbits you are bringing. So if you are bringing two market rabbits, you must register each one of them individually.**
- ❖ Rabbits are easily stressed! Make your move to the fair as stress-free as possible. Do not move them in the heat of the day. On show days, leave them in their cages as much as possible. Do not add to their heat and stress by holding them for long periods of time.
- ❖ Do not move or carry your rabbits in a bucket or other container where they may end up sitting in urine.
- ❖ Sale Intentions must be made! Sale Intentions are required for every market exhibitor at 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.
- ❖ At the sale, you are responsible for taking all of your market rabbits to the packer truck.

Information compiled by Joy Sharp, Pickaway County 11/23