

4-H MARKET RABBIT PROJECT RULES

Membership

1. Allegan County 4-H Market Rabbit Projects are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status.
2. Youth must be at least 8 years old and not older than 19 years old as of JANUARY 1ST of the current year to be enrolled in the 4-H Market Rabbit Project
3. Youth must be enrolled BY JULY 1ST in 4-HOnline in the Rabbit project, paid their participation fees and in an Allegan County 4-H club to participate in 4-H Market Rabbit project activities and sell an animal at the 4-H Livestock Auction during the Allegan County Fair.
4. A youth may enroll in a 4-H club at any time during a project, however, activity/event deadline dates must be adhered to, in order to maintain eligibility in those areas.

Project Animal(s)

1. All market rabbits must be legibly tattooed (in left ear) and in the youth's possession by August 10. Each rabbit must have a unique tattoo within the club. Each club will have a code to use (rabbits purchased that have tattoos may use those tattoos as long as they are unique for each rabbit.
2. A 4-H Market Rabbit Pen Tattoo Form must be completed, signed by the 4-H Leader and in the Extension Office by August 10th (or the Friday before if the 10th falls on a weekend.)
3. The 4-H Leader is responsible for knowing that the animals tattooed are the animals the youth brings to the fair to complete the project.
4. Family Tagging – The tattoo sheets are set up so that all 4-Hers in the same family are linked to all animals of that species in that family. (Example a Family has 2 youth enrolled in the 4-H market Rabbit project. Since every youth can tattoo 6 the family can have a maximum of 12 rabbits. Giving the 2 youth the option of taking any three of the twelve animals. Youth may bring only 3 market rabbits to the fair.
5. Project animals must be kept clean. Youth must review the Animal Quality Assurance flyer prior to July 1st. Members must turn in a signed 4-H Market Animal Agreement form during weigh in at the Fair.

Exhibition and Sale Rules

1. Each rabbit in a meat pen must weigh between 3 – 5.5 pounds and not be over 84 days old. Meat pen of 3 rabbits (no individuals or pairs) must be all the same breed and variety (color). A Single rabbit (from a meat pen that doesn't make weight) can be a Fryer or a Roaster. A Fryer is 1 rabbit 3-5.5 pounds. A Roaster is a rabbit greater than 5.5 and up to 8 pounds. Market classes will be determined after weigh in. There will be no Grand or Reserve Fryer or Roaster. All market rabbits weighing more than 8 pounds or less than 3 pounds will be sent home.
2. Youth must declare what 2 species they are selling at weigh in. Youth must let superintendent know at weigh in if rabbit pen is to be sold. Youth must use the feed and water dishes supplied by the Fair.
3. Each project animal must meet State Health guidelines. All rabbits with disease, sickness or ear mites will not be accepted for exhibition at the Fair.
4. An animal change due to injury or death of animal may be made up to the day of the show (the animal must be one of those tagged for the Family).
5. It is the member's responsibility to prepare his/her animal for show. Members may be assisted in grooming by another Allegan County 4-H member, immediate family member and/or Allegan County 4-H Leader.
6. 4-H Members must show their own animals. Livestock youth must show in showmanship in order to sell livestock.

7. All Champions must sell. Champion animals do not count toward the two species limit at sale. Animals declared as no sale at scale and do not become champions do not sell.
8. The 4-H Livestock Auction is held Wednesday in the Show Arena. All clubs are asked to help set up the Rumery Arena on Tuesday night before the auction. Each family is asked to bring wrapped cookies for the refreshments on auction day. The Sale order rotates from year to year and is listed in the current Fair premium book. Following the sale of the Grand Champion the order of the Auction Sale Bill will be determined as follows: Reserve Champion(s) will be listed first, then the species top showman, followed by all remaining animals listed at random.
9. In the case of fraud or deception discovered the animal(s) in question will not be permitted to sell in the 4-H Market Livestock sale.
10. A commission fee will be determined by the Allegan County 4-H Livestock Leaders and deducted from the sale price of the 4-H member's animal. The commission fee covers expenses of the auction and 4-H Livestock program.

Dress Code for shows and auction

- 1, Show attire should follow 4H 1268 "Your clothing should be neat and clean, and should include long pants, slacks or skirt; long-sleeved shirt or blouse; and shoes (no sandals). Your hair should be neatly combed and long hair tied back. Your face and hands should be clean. Fingernails should be clean and neatly trimmed. In a county contest, the superintendent may specify a dress code. In the state contest, it's recommended that you wear a show coat. If you wear a tie, secure it. Jewelry should not be worn during showmanship competition."