

Date: March 15, 2022

To: 4-H Poultry Project Members and Leaders

From: Autumn Converse, Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Re: 2022-Poultry Project Changes and Important Information

This is a quick update on the events that will take place for the 2022 fair season within the poultry department. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact the MSUE office at 269-467-5521. Please note that the information contained in this letter is subject to change.

- Hatch dates: Turkey = Saturday, May 21, 2022; Chickens = Saturday, July 23, 2022.
- Turkey Vaccination/Tagging dates have been set for Sunday, July 17, 2022 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, July 18, 2022, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds. As in the past, all turkeys on the premises are required to be vaccinated. Please remember to bring **ALL** turkeys on the property where turkeys are housed to be vaccinated for Fowl Pox. All Turkeys that will be exhibited at the St. Joseph County Fair, **MUST** attend one of the above dates. There will NOT be any other available dates or times. **Proof of Purchase and Pullorum papers are due and are required at the time of vaccination. NO EXCEPTIONS. Wing banding will take place at the same time and place as the vaccinations for 2022.**
- Countywide tagging is Sunday, August 21, 2022 and Monday, August 22, 2022 at the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. This will include market chickens, breeding stock chickens and waterfowl. Pigeons will be registered then but not tagged. Please use the Main gate as there will be a horse show going on.
- Breeding stock chickens may, but are not required, get the Fowl Pox vaccine at the same time as the turkeys on Sunday, July 17, 2022 or Monday, July 18, 2022, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. If you choose to vaccinate your breeding stock chickens at that time, please be sure to bring ALL of your breeding stock at the same time. Cost is free to 4-H members.
- All exhibitors of **Pigeons** will be required to leave their pigeons on exhibit throughout the entire fair week. Each exhibitor will be responsible for providing feed, watering, and care of their pigeons.
- Breeding Stock Turkeys: Exhibitors may tag up to four (4) Breeding Stock turkeys but may only exhibit up to two (2); One Male and One Female. Turkeys must go through all vaccination procedures according to the market turkey project and be at least 8 weeks old at time of vaccination. Turkeys shown in the Breeding Stock class **MUST** be taken home and are **NOT** eligible for auction. Turkeys shown in the Breeding Stock class may include Heritage Turkeys or Production Turkeys. See Fair Book for additional rules and regulations under Department 12.
- Breeding Stock Turkey exhibitors will be required to pay \$2.00 per pen for feed and bedding cost at time of check in.



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- **Evaluations:** All poultry exhibitors will be doing their evaluations and Skill-a-Thon on **Sunday, September 11, 2022**. The evaluations will be located at the poultry barns, but no animals will be present. **This is required for all poultry exhibitors.**
- If you do not have a Poultry Leader in your 4-H club, please contact another club and enroll in that club for the Poultry Project.
- Each club is responsible for an educational Poultry display. All displays must be completed and set up by 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 18, 2022. Each club will be given an 8' table for their display.

Important dates, deadlines and events:

Event or Deadline	Date(s)	Comments
Turkey Hatch Date	Saturday, May 21, 2022	
Vaccination/Tagging for Turkeys	Sunday, July 17, 2022 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, July 18, 2022 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	**Will be held at the fairgrounds at the poultry barns. Note: Breeding stock chickens may also be vaccinated but are not required.
Chicken Hatch Date	Saturday, July 23, 2022	
Poultry Clinic	TBD	
Banding/tagging & registration for poultry project animals	Sunday, August 21, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, August 22, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Countywide tagging will be held at the fairgrounds at the poultry barns. All poultry animals except turkeys.
4-H Poultry Project Evaluation	<u>Sunday</u> , September 11, time TBD	First-come, first-served...no sign-up times.
Fair weigh-in/check-in	Friday, September 16, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Animals MUST be clean and dry

4-H Market & Breeding Stock Poultry Show	Saturday, September 17	TBD required member/leader meeting.
4-H Small Animal Sale	Thursday, September 22, 10:00 a.m. in the Livestock Show Arena	Order of sale: Goats, Chickens, Turkeys, Rabbits
Market Animal Load-out	Saturday, September 24, 10:00 p.m.	All members must be present Breeding stock must be removed by 7am
Breeding Stock Load- out	Sunday September 25 6:00 a.m.	
Barn Clean-up	Sunday, September 25, 6:00 a.m. until done.	All members must clean and help put away the pens (check club times).
Power Washing - Chicken and Turkey Barns and Cages	Sunday, September 25, 6:00 am	Clubs TBD at pre-fair meeting