

Date: March 23, 2021

To: 4-H Poultry Project Members and Leaders

From: Eva Beeker, Program Coordinator - 4-H Youth Development



Re: 2021 Poultry Project Changes and Important Information

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHANGES MAY OCCUR DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

2021: All animals must remain in their carrying crates until told to unload. All members and adults must adhere to the social distancing guidelines of 6 foot apart. Masks are required for all persons at weigh-in/tagging events. Superintendents have the right to refuse services the day of tagging and weigh-in if above is not adhered to.

- Hatch dates: Turkey = Saturday, May 15, 2021; Chickens = Saturday, July 17, 2021.
- Turkey Vaccination/Tagging dates have been set for Sunday, July 11, 2021 (5:00 - 7:00 p.m.) and Monday, July 12, 2021, 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 2021.**
- Poultry countywide tagging is Sunday, August 15, 2021 and Monday, August 16, 2021 at the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. This will include **ALL poultry**: market chickens, breeding stock chickens, waterfowl, and pigeons.
- Breeding stock chickens may, but are not required, get the Fowl Pox vaccine at the same time as the turkeys on Sunday, July 11, 2021 or Monday, July 12, 2021, 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 at the fair in cages that will be located in one of the poultry barns for the week of fair. Each exhibitor will be responsible for providing feed, watering, and care of their pigeons.
- ****New for 2021:** 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. 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.
- **Poultry Evaluations:** All exhibitors who show any type of poultry will be doing their evaluations on **Sunday, September 12, 2021, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** The evaluations will be located at the poultry barns, but no animals will be present. **Evaluations will be a combination of written and oral questions. Resources and study guides will be made available after April 1, 2021 on the County website at: www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph**



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- 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 by 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 19, 2021. 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 15, 2021	Must be hatched by May 17
Vaccination/Tagging for Turkeys	Sunday, July 11, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, July 12, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	**Will be held at the fairgrounds. Note: Breeding stock chickens may also be vaccinated but are not required.
Chicken Hatch Date	Saturday, July 17, 2021	
Poultry Pre-Fair Meeting	Wednesday, July 22, 2021, 6:30 p.m.	MSU Extension Office
Poultry Clinic	TBD	
Banding/tagging & registration for poultry project animals (not including turkeys...See above)	Sunday, August 15, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. and Monday, August 16, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Countywide tagging will be held at the fairgrounds.
4-H Poultry Project Evaluation	<u>Sunday</u> , September 12, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.	First-come, first-served...no sign-up times.
Fair weigh-in/check-in	Friday, September 17, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Animals MUST be clean and dry
4-H Market & Breeding Stock Poultry Show	Saturday, September 18, 2020	12:45 p.m. required member/leader meeting.
4-H Small Animal Sale	Thursday, September 23, 10:00 a.m. in the Livestock Show Arena	Order of sale: Chickens, Turkeys , rabbits, goats
Market Animal Load-out	Saturday, September 25, 10:00 p.m.	All members must clean and help put away the pens (check club times).
Breeding Stock Load-out & Barn Clean-up	Sunday, September 26, 6:00 - 8:00 a.m.	

*****Clubs responsible for post-fair power washing are:**

Farmtastic, Happy Herdsman, Howardsville, Kuntry Starz