

Rabbit Rules
Junior & Market Classes
St. Francois County Fair
Superintendent – Amber Wampler

RULES

1. General Livestock Rules and Regulations and 4-H General Rules and Regulations apply in this department.
2. Rabbits will be judged following the current American Rabbit Breeders Association (A.R.B.A.) standards and rules.
3. All rabbits will be inspected by the superintendent or a veterinarian during check in. The superintendent shall order an animal to be removed from the fairgrounds at any time during the fair if the animal is found to be infected with any contagious disease. For example: ear mites, snuffles, etc. Members or an appointed person must be present at check in. For the safety of all animals, no rabbits are allowed in cages without prior inspection.
4. Showmanship: Showmanship will be open to all 4-H and FFA rabbit exhibitors. Exhibitors choosing to participate are not required to be signed up ahead of time. There will be three divisions: Novice – 1st year exhibitor of any age; Junior – Ages 8-14; Senior – Ages 15-21. Exhibitors must show their own animal. The judge will place the top 3 exhibitors in each of the showmanship classes. Results will be announced at the conclusion of the show and recipients will receive awards at the awards ceremony. The decision of the showmanship judge is final. There will be no interference, and no one is allowed in the ring.
5. Sale of Champions: Exhibitors interested in selling a meat pen or single fryer entered in the fair at the auction **must notify the superintendent at check-in**. All auction animals must be an exhibit at the current fair **and must be a meat breed (6 Class) rabbit**. Auction sign up will close TBD. Exhibitors must attend the majority (50% + 1) of meetings or events hosted by the 4-H Club they are affiliated with to be eligible to sell.
6. All exhibitors must complete the required Show Me Quality Assurance (SMQA) training for their age in order to be eligible to sell their meat pen or single fryer in the St. Francois County Fair Sale of Champions.
7. Exhibitors can only sell **ONE** Pen of Three rabbits **OR ONE** Single Fryer rabbit, not both.
8. Exhibitors selling their rabbits at the fair must provide ONE picture with both the exhibitor and the rabbit/rabbits they are selling at the fair to the poultry/rabbit superintendent by May 31st of each year before fair. A tattoo number must be assigned to the animals and provided to the superintendent at this time as well. However, the rabbits must have their tattoos administered in the left ear before coming to the fair. Please email pictures and tattoo numbers to Amber Wampler at amberwampler84@gmail.com.

Before Fair

1. 4-H and FFA exhibitors are required to fulfill work hours that are mandated by the St. Francois County Fair Board in order to participate in the fair. Dates and times will be announced several weeks in advance of the fair.
 - a. The poultry/rabbit barn requires maintenance during the fair work days. It is encouraged that exhibitors competing with rabbits participate in setting up pens, cleaning feeders, cleaning and replacing shavings, etc.
2. Rabbit cages will be provided to house rabbits during the fair. 4-H and FFA members must provide their own padlocks if needed. All rabbits listed in the rabbit show will need a cage and stay on the fairgrounds.
3. Exhibitors must provide their own cages for transportation to and from the show area.
4. Members may exhibit as many breeds as they choose under the 4 Class or 6 Class Category. Members may only exhibit one rabbit of each breed in each age class. Example: Exhibitors may show a Mini Rex and a Dutch in the Senior Buck category.
5. The Superintendent reserves the right to divide any class he/she deems is too large.
6. 4-H and FFA exhibitors may show rabbits in the open class, however the same rabbits cannot be shown in both the open and junior class.
7. It's the exhibitor's responsibility to appropriately classify their rabbits and place them in the correct class. You may reference The American Rabbit Breeders Association (A.R.B.A) for assistance. Also, refer to the classification list of rabbits for assistance.
8. Exhibitors need to bring their own supply box or can use an empty cage after check-in, if available, for feed or storage supplies.
9. Feeders and waterers are provided; however, exhibitors may utilize their own equipment if they wish.
10. **Rabbits being sold at the St. Francois County Sale of Champions must be tattooed.** It is encouraged that all rabbits be permanently identified with a tattoo in the left ear prior to check-in, however only auction rabbits are required to be tattooed. Tattoo in animal must match 4hOnline ID.

Exhibiting Rabbits at Fair

1. Provide ample feed & water. Secure the containers to keep them upright.
2. Fans are welcome in hot weather. Use frozen water bottles in cages to keep rabbits cool, if needed.
3. Keep your stalling area neat and clean. Clean dirty wood chips out from under your cages before adding new chips.
4. Cage decorations shall not extend farther than 18 inches below the bottom of the cage.

Fair Check-in

1. A veterinarian or the superintendent will inspect each rabbit. Meat pens and single fryers will be weighed at this time. Exhibitors need to be present during this process. If the exhibitor is unable to be present, make sure to check with the superintendent or MU Extension staff. No rabbits allowed in cages without prior inspection.
2. Please do not put locks on cages until after the check in process is complete.
3. All rabbits must be on the grounds by 6PM in the poultry/rabbit barn.
 - a. Superintendent will verify rabbit classes entered.
 - b. Cages will be marked with your name in the poultry/rabbit barn on cards provided by the superintendent.
 - c. Extra cages will be allowed to exhibitors if space allows. NO refunds will be issued.

Fair Show Day

1. The rabbit superintendent will keep exhibitors informed of the show order. However, it is the responsibility of the project member to stay alert and pay attention to announcements.
2. Exhibitors must show their own animals. Rabbits will be brought to the judging table by the exhibitor as classes are called. The exhibitor may be assisted by another 4-H or FFA member or a family member.
3. Any class with less than 3 entries may be combined with similar classes.
4. All rabbits must be at the poultry/rabbit barn at the beginning of the show.
5. Members must exhibit their own rabbits but can have another 4-H or FFA member or a family member help if a couple of classes are combined due to low numbers.
6. A meat pen must consist of 3 meat breed (6 Class) rabbits. They must be of the same breed and no more than 10 weeks of age.
7. Each rabbit in a meat pen must weigh 3 ½ to 5 ½ pounds each. **Rabbits that do not meet the weight requirements are not eligible to sell in the St. Francois County Sale of Champions.**
8. A meat pen will be judged on the following criteria:
 - a. Meat type
 - b. Condition
 - c. Uniformity
 - d. And fur
9. Single fryers are ruled and to possess the same qualities as described of meat pens, but judged as a single rabbit on its own merit.
10. Rabbits must be deserving of a blue ribbon to be eligible to receive a ribbon, this can be up to the judge's or superintendent's decision.
11. Each exhibitor is limited to one Meat Pen entry and one Single Fryer entry. The fryer must not be pulled from a meat pen.

Load out

1. No rabbits may be removed from the fairgrounds, except by order of the superintendent.
2. All rabbits will remain on the fairgrounds until Saturday 9PM and must be removed by 12PM Sunday.
3. There will be a mandatory work day to help clean up the fairgrounds. Exhibitors are encouraged to participate in cleaning the poultry/rabbit barn and breaking down cages for storage.

Use the list of breed classes provided here to help you identify your rabbits on Fair Entry. Not all breeds may be identified on the lists.

4 Class Rabbit Classification

American Fuzzy Lop
American Sable
Belgian Hare
Britannia Petite
Dutch
Dwarf Hotot
English Angora
English Spot
Florida White
French Angora
Harlequin
Havana
Himalayan
Holland Lop
Jersey Wooly
Lilac
Lionhead
Mini Lop
Mini Rex
Mini Satin
Netherland Dwarf
Polish
Rhineland
Satin Angora
Silver
Silver Martin
Standard Chinchilla
Standard Rex
Tan
Thrianta

6 Class Rabbit Classification

American
American Chinchilla
Beveren
Blanc de Hotot
Californian
Champagne d'Argent
Checkered Giant
Cinnamon
Crème d'Argent
English Lop
Flemish Giant
French Lop
Giant Angora
Giant Chinchilla
New Zealand
Satin
Silver Fox

Definition of Terms Used for Rabbits:

Buck – Male rabbit

Doe – Female rabbit

4 Class Rabbit – Usually a smaller breed of rabbit not utilized for meat production and are shown in four classes: senior buck, senior doe, junior buck, and junior doe.

Commonly referred as a fancy rabbit.

6 Class Rabbit – Usually large breed rabbits utilized for meat production and are shown in 6 classes: senior buck, senior doe, 6/8 buck, 6/8 doe, junior buck, and junior doe.

Department Classes

4 Class Rabbits

Class#

J000: Junior Buck, Under 6 Months – 4 Class Rabbit

J000: Senior Buck, Over 6 Months – 4 Class Rabbit

J000: Junior Doe, Under 6 Months – 4 Class Rabbit

J000: Senior Doe, Over 6 Months – 4 Class Rabbit

Best 4 Class Buck Rabbit

Reserve Best 4 Class Buck Rabbit

Best 4 Class Doe Rabbit

Reserve Best 4 Class Doe Rabbit

Grand Champion 4 Class Rabbit

Reserve Grand Champion 4 Class Rabbit

6 Class Rabbits

Class#

J000: Junior Buck, Under 6 Months – 6 Class Rabbit
J000: Intermediate Buck, 6-8 Months – 6 Class Rabbit
J000: Senior Buck, Over 8 Months – 6 Class Rabbit
J000: Junior Doe, Under 6 Months – 6 Class Rabbit
J000: Intermediate Doe, 6-8 Months – 6 Class Rabbit
J000: Senior Doe, Over 8 Months – 6 Class Rabbit

Best 6 Class Buck Rabbit

Reserve Best 6 Class Buck Rabbit

Best 6 Class Doe Rabbit

Reserve Best 6 Class Doe Rabbit

Grand Champion 6 Class Rabbit

Reserve Grand Champion 6 Class Rabbit

Meat Division (eligible to sell in the St. Francois County Sale of Champions)

Class#

J000: Pen of Three

J000: Single Fryer

Best Pen of Three Rabbits

Reserve Best Pen of Three Rabbits

Best Fryer Rabbit

Reserve Best Fryer Rabbit

Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen

Reserve Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen

Grand Champion Fryer Rabbit

Reserve Grand Champion Fryer Rabbit