

## DEPARTMENT 15 - POULTRY

Check in Sunday, July 19, 8:00 AM-11:00 AM @ Small Animal Arena

Senior Fair Board: \*Wayne Arnold (chairperson)

Junior Fair Board: \*Chairperson: Emma Eggleton  
\*Co-Chairperson: Anna Eggleton



**Sale means "I want to enter my animal into the auction."**

**Truck means "I have an extra animal that I need to get rid of because my project is over."**

**Home means "I want to take my animal home because I want to compete elsewhere or I plan on using for a breeding animal."**

*Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)* is a contagious viral disease of domestic and wild birds. It's a major threat to the poultry industry, animal health, trade, and the economy worldwide. The poultry sale is tentative due to the potential for poultry exhibitions to be cancelled. In the case of cancellation due to the HPAI, the Fair Board reserves the right to adjust the sale order for July 23 and 24, 2026.

### **General Department Rules**

- Due to excessive heat, Senior Fairboard has the authority to change show time or order.
- The Small Animal Barn will be closed and locked every evening of the Fair at 10:30 PM and opened at 6 AM.
- All pen assignments are assigned by Jr. Fairboard along with Sr. Fairboard directors and are final. Animals must be in assigned pens and cannot be moved unless approved by Sr. Fairboard.
- Judging for market poultry will be held on Wednesday, July 22 @ 8:00 AM in the Small Animal Arena. Breeding poultry will be judged on Wednesday, July 22 following market at 8:00 AM.
- All Junior Fair poultry must be brought to the fairgrounds on July 19 from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. All meat chickens and turkeys will be leg banded and weighed prior to placing in pens.
- All poultry will be expected to come into the Small Animal Barn from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM only, July 19. All breeding birds that are over one year of age or did not come from an NPIP source will be blood tested at owner's expense. Birds under one year of age do not need to be tested if they have hatchery papers at the time of check-ins. Turkeys will be checked in at the same time as the chickens.
- All birds under 1 year of age will need hatchery papers; must have at time of check-in. This includes turkeys, meat chickens, and all other poultry.
- No birds can enter the barn or be placed in their pen until they are checked in, leg banded and hatchery papers are reviewed.
- **Each animal is to be drug free at the fair when they cross the scale.**
- There will be no re-weighs after birds have already passed over official scale. All birds must weigh between 5 and 7 pounds. Meat birds weighing less than 5 pounds and over 7 pounds are considered underweight and overweight, respectively, and therefore ineligible for the champion drive and premium sale. Birds over or under weight will show in Over or Under Class.
- Birds may not be swapped out after they have already been weighed. If a bird dies or is injured, the member may not be provided another bird from home or by another member. Weigh-ins and check-ins are final, it is the member's responsibility to insure that the birds they bring meet their weight specifications at weigh-ins and that they are well provided for during fair week.
- Poultry will show by divisions. \*We reserve the right to adjust the number of divisions based upon the number of market pens that check in.
- 5 pens will be selected in every division and can all come from the same class, per the judge's discretion, to come back for top 5 overall placings.
- Meat pens will be loaded on Wednesday evening. Time to be announced. Small Animals barn will be locked during load out.
- All birds will be released Friday, July 24 at 6:00 PM.
- No icing of market chickens or turkeys. Water bottles are acceptable.
- Hatch Dates are March 4 for turkeys and June 3 for chickens. Birds must be hatched on these dates or afterwards, not before. Only one market pen of chickens and/or two market turkeys per exhibitor.
- Exhibitors may exhibit according to the following guidelines: (Note: This is by project, not years in 4-H, FFA or age)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> year - Poultry I - exhibit 1 to 4 birds and/or one Pen of 3.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> year - Poultry II - exhibit up to 6 single birds and/or one Pen of 3.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year and up - Poultry Advanced - exhibit up to 8 birds and/or one Pen of 3.
- The American Poultry Association's Standard of Perfection will be the guide for judging all standard breed breeding stock.
- Breeding stock will be divided into a minimum of five classes: Standard Bred Female, Standard Bred Male, Bantam Female, Bantam Male, and the Home Crossbred Class. All breeding stock bought or raised on the farm and not purchased from hatchery will need to be pullorum tested at the fairgrounds on July 19. Standard breed pen of 2 pullets must be laying.
- The Standard and Bantam classes will be split into smaller classes if there are ten birds of any one category as outlined in the Standard of Perfection until the class is composed of a single breed unless it reduces the original class to less than ten birds.
- First and second place will be awarded in all of the breeding classes and Overall Champion and Reserve male, and an Overall Champion and Reserve Female will be selected from these.

- A copy of the proof of purchase with a clearly marked hatch date for meat pens must be presented at weigh-in. All birds used for meat pens must originate from a NPIP (National Poultry Improvement Plan) certified hatchery.
- Birds must be bred by Fayette County Exhibitors and not be a recognized breed in the Standard of Perfection to be entered in the Home Crossbred Class.
- An interview by the judge about the birds' value and history, and the condition of the specimen will be considered in awarding the placing in the Home Crossbred Class.
- Grooming time for washing poultry must be completed at least 2 hours before the start of the show.

Classes:

- P1. Chickens - standard breed (rooster)
- P2. Chickens - standard breed (hen)
- P3. Chickens - standard breed (pullet) - Pen of 2 - Must be laying
- P4. Chickens - bantam breed (rooster)
- P5. Chickens - bantam breed (hen)
- P6. Chickens - Home Crossbred Class
- P7. Pen of 3 - Market
- P8. Ducks
- P9. Geese
- P10. Pigeons
- P11. Guinea

- All meat pens will be classified as commercial and the following breeds of chickens will be considered: Barred Rock, New Hampshire, White Rock, Buffed Rock, Wyandotte, Cornish, & Cornish Cross, which is preferred.
- Meat pens of three must be all cockerels.
- All meat pens of 3 chickens must weigh between 5 - 7 lbs. and be under 7 weeks of age in order to show.
- Members taking the pullet project will take two birds to exhibit; each bird must be laying at the time of the show and must be under the age of one year.

**Poultry Showmanship**

July 20 @ Small Animal Arena @ 3:00 PM

Classes (grades just completed):

- P12. Senior Showmanship - grades 9 & above
- P13. Intermediate Showman - grades 7 & 8
- P14. Junior Showman - grades 5 & 6
- P15. Beginner Showman - grades 3 & 4

**\*NOTE\*: There must be at least 10 duck exhibitors in order to have a Showmanship Class.**

**Turkeys:**

- Turkeys must have been hatched on or after March 4, 2026. All turkeys must originate from a NPIP (National Poultry Improvement Plan) certified hatchery.
- Only Toms will be allowed to show and sell.
- Turkeys must arrive at the Fairground on July 19 from 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM. All turkeys will be leg banded and weighed before being put in pens. Toms must weigh not less than 30 pounds and not more than 50 pounds at weigh-in.
- Members may show 2 and sell 1 turkey.

Classes:

- P16. Turkeys
- P17. Turkey Showmanship
- P18. Breeding Turkey Hens