

## DEPARTMENT 16 - RABBITS

Senior Fair Board: \*Wayne Arnold (chairperson)

Junior Fair Board: \*Chairperson: Randon Stolzenburg  
\*Co-Chairperson: Paige Fitzgerald



**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."**

### General Department Rules

- All Jr. Fair rabbits must be brought to fairgrounds on Sunday, July 19 from 8:00 AM- 11:00 AM. All market rabbits will have tattoos checked and weighed prior to placing in pens. No re-weighs after rabbits have passed over official scale.
- **Each animal is to be drug free at the fair when they cross the scale.**
- No Rabbits may be moved into fairgrounds before 8:00 AM or after 11:00 AM Sunday, July 19.
- The Small Animal Barn will be closed and locked every night at 10:30 PM and opened at 6:00 AM every morning.
- All 4-Hers taking a rabbit project must attend the Rabbit Department barn meeting on Monday, July 20 at 8:00 AM.
- Rabbit Showmanship will be held on Monday, July 20 at 8:30 AM in the Small Animals Barn. Changes can be made during weigh-ins on Sunday, July 19.
- Judging for meat pen of 2 and breeding rabbits will be held on **Tuesday, July 21, at 8:00 AM** in the Small Animals Barn, followed by the Junior Fair Rabbit Breed Show.
- Rabbits must have visible ear tattoos.
- All rabbit entry forms must have each rabbit identified by breed, age, color, sex and tattoo number, and Class 4 or 6 to be eligible to show per ARBA. No exception.
- Only one pen of two market rabbits per exhibitor. Market rabbits cannot be entered to show in breed class.
- Rabbit 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.
- No individual exhibits will be sold in the Jr. Fair Sale.
- Exhibitors are responsible for daily care of their project until official fair release date for that project. This includes feed, water and pens cleaned until released.
- Market rabbits will be loaded on Wednesday, July 22. Time will be announced . The Small Animals barn will be locked during load out.
- July 24 all other rabbits released at 6:00 PM.
- Please refer to Dress Code in Jr. Fair Livestock Rules.

### Division A - Market Rabbits

July 21 @ Small Animal Arena, see Jr. Fair Schedule

- Exhibitors have the option to purchase their meat pen or purchase/breed a doe and produce their own meat pen. The recommended market project breeding date is March 15, 2026.

- All meat pen rabbits must be permanently identified on **Friday, June 12 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Small Animal Barn**. Tattoo numbers will be checked at check-in on Sunday, July 19. Exhibitors may tag 4 individual rabbits and show 1 meat pen of 2 rabbits at fair. If rabbits are not tattooed at the Small Animal Barn on June 12, **they will not be allowed to be exhibited**. Date of birth must be listed. Breed rabbit projects that need a tattoo may also come to the Small Animal Barn on Friday, June 12 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM for tattooing.
- To be eligible for exhibition, each meat pen (market) rabbit must weigh 4-6 pounds, and be 95 days of age, or less on Sunday, July 19, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Any rabbit under 4 lbs. or over 6 lbs. will not be in the sale. A limit of one meat pen of two rabbits per exhibitor can be shown at the fair. Failure to meet weight requirements disqualifies selling or competing for Champion or Reserve Champion. Rabbits over or under weight will show in Over or Under Class.
- All meat pens will be classified as commercial & the following breeds will be considered: American, American Chinchilla, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Cinnamon, Creme D'Argent, Giant Chinchilla, Hotot, New Zealand, Palomino and Satin.

Classes:

R1: Meat Pen of 2 (must weigh 4-6 pounds and be 95 days of age or less to sell)

**Division B - Breeding Rabbits**

July 21 @ Small Animal Arena, see Jr. Fair Schedule

\*MUST have ownership by May 15, 2026

ARBA Standard Show Rules will be followed:

- o Breeding animals will be shown by breed, age and Class 4 or Class 6.
- o Rabbits showing any sign of disease, faults, or disqualifications will be placed at the bottom of the class and the judge will explain these placements to the exhibitor.
- o A mixed breed class will be offered if needed.
- Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex of Breed will be awarded for each breed. All Best of Breed 6 Class rabbits will compete for Best 6 Class rabbit. All Best of Breed 4 Class rabbits will compete for Best 4 Class rabbit. Best of Show Rabbit will be selected from the Best 6 Class rabbit and the Best 4 Class rabbit.
- Animals that are breeds which are not listed below and that are 6 months or over must show as seniors. Due to size difference in breeds, all breeds are not able to compete in the 6-8 month classes. The following are the breeds capable of showing in the 6-8 month classes: American, Beveren, Californian, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, American Chinchilla, Giant Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Creme D'Argent, Flemish Giant, Hotot, French and English Lops, New Zealand, Palomino, Satin, Sliver Fox.
- All breeding rabbits are recommended to be purebred.
- Breed rabbit exhibitors may exhibit the following number of rabbits: (NOTE: This is by project, not years in 4-H, FFA, or age):
  - 1<sup>st</sup> year members: 1 to 3 rabbits with option of market pen of 2
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> year members: up to 5 rabbits with option of market pen of 2
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year members: up to 7 rabbits with option of market pen of 2
  - 4<sup>th</sup> year & up members: up to 9 rabbits with option of market pen of 2

Class 4 Rabbits:

4R2. Jr. Buck - 4-6 months old  
 4R3. Jr. Doe - 4-6 months old  
 4R6. Sr. Buck - over 6 months old  
 4R7. Sr. Doe - over 6 months old

Class 6 Rabbits:

6R2. Jr. Buck - 4-6 months old  
 6R3. Jr. Doe - 4-6 months old  
 6R4. Int. Buck - 6 - 8 months old (ARBA Standard Show Rules)  
 6R5. Int. Doe - 6 - 8 months old (ARBA Standard Show Rules)  
 6R6. Sr. Buck - 8 months & over  
 6R7. Sr. Doe - 8 months & over

**Division C -- Rabbit Showmanship**

July 20 @ Small Animal Arena, see Jr. Fair Schedule

- Rabbit showmanship will begin on **Monday, July 20 at 8:30 AM** in the Small Animals Barn.
- Exhibitors are encouraged to participate in Rabbit Showmanship.
- You may show one of the rabbits in your pen of 2 in showmanship or 1 of your breed rabbits.
- Exhibitors must use their own rabbit for the showmanship contest.
- The **deadline for entering showmanship is Monday, July 20 at 8:00 AM**. Exhibitors will print their name along with the tattoo number of the rabbit that they are using for showmanship on the class sheet.
- The Junior Fair Board with Senior Fair Board reserves the right to break the showmanship classes or combine small age group classes.

Classes (\*grades just completed):

- R9. Sr. Showmanship - grades 12 & above (may be combined with grade 11)
- R10. Sr. Showmanship - grades 11 (may be combined with grade 12)
- R11. Sr. Showmanship - grades 10 (may be combined with grade 11)
- R12. Intermediate Showmanship - grade 9
- R13. Intermediate Showmanship - grade 8
- R14. Intermediate Showmanship - grade 7
- R15. Jr. Showmanship - grade 6
- R16. Jr. Showmanship - grade 5
- R17. Beginner Showmanship - grade 4
- R18. Beginner Showmanship - grade 3

**\*REMINDER:        Must keep rabbits fed and watered at all times or no sale or premium. NO EXCEPTIONS!\***  
**No ice packs—only frozen water bottles.**