

Acknowledgments

The Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs, which is part of Michigan State University Extension. We would like to thank the following people for their efforts in planning and conducting the 2024 show!

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show Committee

- Jeff Granger
- Kelly Hansen
- Krista Hickerson
- Tim Henes
- Helena Hickerson
- Katie Holcomb
- Bryan Shirk
- Katherine Smith
- Makayla King
- Megan Jones
- Don Kistler
- Margaret Kistler
- Gracie Dull
- Jen Richardson
- Glenda Weiss, State 4-H Point Person

2024 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show Judges Invitations (tentative: show management reserves the right to modify judges as needed)

- Gail Newton
- Christine Plank
- Greg Moll
- Caitlin Plank
- Darrell Howe
- McKenna Lynch Weiss

For More Information

For more information about the Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show, please contact your county 4-H staff person

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.

2024 Michigan State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show Saturday, January 27, 2024, beginning at 9 a.m.

Michigan State University Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education

Schedule

Friday, January 26

5 p.m. Show Floor Set-Up Begins (*Your help is needed!*)

Saturday, January 27

7:00 a.m. Doors open

7:00-8:00 a.m. Check In for Showmanship

7:00 - 9:30 a.m. Registration (*Registration Area*) All breeds

8 a.m.-3 p.m. Commercial Exhibits

8:30 a.m. Show Judges Meeting (*Show office area*)

8:45 a.m. Exhibitor Meeting (*Location to be announced day of show*)

9:00 a.m. Educational Posters in place (location to be posted)

9:00 a.m. Photography entries in place (location to be posted)

9:00 a.m. Showmanship Begins(location to be announced)

9:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Breed Identification Contest

TBA Breed show will begin at the completion of showmanship as judges are available

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Michigan 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Scholarship Silent Auction

TBA Awards Table Opens - after breed show begins

11:00 a.m. – noon Cloverbud Division Judging - Cloverbud entries will be taken there

After the Show Clean-Up Begins, (*Your help is needed!*)

Set-Up and Clean-Up Help

The State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show planning committee welcomes your help with:

- Setting up the show floor starting at 5 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 2024.
- Cleaning up at the close of the show on Saturday, January 27, 2024.

General Rules & Regulations

Age, Eligibility and Animal Ownership

1. Exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members aged 8 to 19 as of January 1, 2024, to participate in the show. To participate in the Cloverbud Division youth must be 5 to 7 as of January 1, 2024.
2. **Exhibitors must own the animals they are showing, and must be present to participate.**
3. Exhibitors are not required to be ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) members to show.

Animal Eligibility

4. Rabbits and cavies are not required to be registered with ARBA to be shown at the State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show. However, rabbits and cavies are judged by the current ARBA Standard of Perfection for breed, fur and meat. Mixed breed and unrecognized breeds and varieties of rabbits are not accepted. Entries must meet ARBA Standard minimum weights.
5. All rabbits and cavies must have permanent, legible tattoos or tag identification marks in their left ears.
6. Exhibitors may enter rabbits of as many breeds as they wish. However, when the showing times of several breeds conflict, only another 4-H member may help show the rabbits. Exhibitors are responsible for grooming and transporting their rabbits and cavies to and from the judging tables. **No adults may groom or transport rabbits on or off the judging tables. Violators will forfeit entry fees and awards.**
8. Fur classes will be accepted within each breed only. Rabbits being entered in a fur class also must be entered in a breed class.
9. Meat Pen entries consist of three rabbits. Rabbits entered in Meat Pen classes must not be more than 70 days old. Each rabbit must weigh between 3.5 and 5.5 pounds. All three animals making up a Meat Pen entry must be of the same breed and variety (color).
 - Single fryer entries consist of one rabbit not more than 70 days old that weighs 3.5 to 5.5 pounds.
 - Single roaster entries consist of one rabbit weighing more than 5.5 pounds but less than 9 pounds and not more than 6 months of age.

Entry Procedures and Fees – Breed and Market Classes - Day of Show Entry Only!

10. **Onsite entries must be submitted on official Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show Entry Forms.** Other forms will not be accepted. Official entry forms will be available at the registration table between 7:00 and 9:30 a.m. the day of the show.
11. **Entry fees of \$4.00 a class, paid in cash.** at the time of entry. No checks or credit cards will be accepted onsite.
12. Entries for the Cloverbud division need to complete an entry form that states “CLOVERBUD” across the top. These entry forms will be available at the cloverbud table. **No entry fee for Cloverbuds.**
13. After entry forms and remark cards are completed they must be inspected at the Check-In Table. The Check-In Table will sign your entry form and send you to the Cashier Table.
14. No changes in entry forms will be allowed after forms have been submitted to the entry clerk.
15. Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. All entries (breeds and meat classes) must be registered by 9:30 a.m. No classes will be re-judged because of late arrivals.

Judging and Awards Procedures

16. Starting breeds will be posted prior to judging starting. It is up to the discretion of the show committee to change judges for a particular breed after the breed is posted. As breeds are assigned to a judge it will be announced, please listen for your breed.
17. Judges will use Remark Cards. Cards will be available at the registration area.
18. Only judges and show personnel are allowed behind the judging tables during judging. Participants, parents, leaders and others must remain out from behind show tables during judging. No carrying cages are allowed at the judge's tables.
19. Participants, parents, leaders and others are not allowed to speak to or ask questions of the judges during judging, unless a judge asks someone a direct question.
20. All awards will be handed out at the Award Table starting after the start of the breed show. To receive awards, exhibitors must bring their completed Remark Cards to the table.

Sportsmanship, Fair Play and Humane Treatment of Animals

21. Exhibitors shall at all times conduct themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship.
22. Exhibitors are required to present and care for animals in a human and ethical manner.
23. Rabbits and covies showing signs of illness or ailments such as wet noses (including nasal mucus or discharge) must be removed from the show and show facility.
24. Exhibitors must have carrying cages with leak-proof bottoms for all animals.
25. Any misuse of MSU property will result in the eviction of the exhibitor and his or her exhibits from the showroom and the forfeit of all awards the person has won.
26. Any plucking of hairs (for example, pulling white hairs out of a black rabbit) or other altering of a rabbit or cavy will result in the forfeit of any awards won by the exhibitor.
27. Exhibitors will under no circumstances, commit or threaten violence toward any individual, group or the program.
28. Exhibitors will under no circumstances, possess, sell or consume alcohol or possess, sell or use controlled substances at an MSU Extension youth activity or event.
29. Exhibitors will under no circumstances, attend or participate in an MSU Extension youth activity or event under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances.
30. Exhibitors will abstain from harassment or bullying of another participant, volunteer or staff member, particularly when the behavior is disrespectful as regards a person's gender, race, age, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, disability or appearance.
31. Exhibitors will not cheat or falsely represent their efforts related to their 4-H project activities.
32. Exhibitors will show respect for and cooperate with fellow members, volunteers and staff.
33. Exhibitors will follow all 4-H policies and procedures when participating in any 4-H sponsored event.

Other Animals on the Grounds

34. **Only rabbits and covies owned by the exhibitors or in the auction will be allowed in the building. Only exhibitors can sell rabbits. No other animals of any species will be allowed in the building.**
35. **No selling or solicitation of sale of rabbits or covies is allowed unless the animal is owned by a registered 4-H exhibitor.**
36. **No rabbits under 2 months of age may be shown or be in the building. The only exception will be meat rabbit and covies entries.**

Cloverbud Division

- 38.** This is a non-competitive class that offers youth 5 to 7 years old (age as of January 1, 2024) an opportunity to receive one-on-one instruction from our experts. Cloverbuds will have their rabbit evaluated, receive instruction on showing and management tips and answer any questions.
- 39.** Registration is from 11:00 -noon at the cloverbud table. You will receive your remark card at that time.
- 40.** Only one rabbit per Cloverbud.
- 41.** Cloverbud tables will be open from 11 a.m. to noon. Bring your rabbit to the table any time during that period.
- 42.** Each Cloverbud will receive a participation ribbon.

Show Order

Rabbits are divided into 4 and 6 class breeds based on the ideal weight of 9 pounds)

4 class breeds:

Senior Buck
Senior Doe
Junior Buck
Junior Doe

6 class breeds:

Senior Buck
Senior Doe
Intermediate (6/8) Buck
Intermediate (6/8) Doe
Junior Buck
Junior Doe

Any fur classes for each breed in either division will follow their breed classes. Breed fur may consist of white and colored classes.

Many breeds have only one variety (color), while other breeds have several. In most breeds that have more than one variety, the varieties show in alphabetical order. For example, Satin varieties show in this order: Black, Blue, Broken, Californian, Chinchilla, Chocolate, Copper, Otter, Red, Siamese, and White. The fur class follows Best of Breed: White and Colored.

If there were rabbits of the Black and Blue Satin varieties at the show, the Black Satin variety rabbits show first, in the following order:

1. Senior Buck
2. Senior Doe
3. 6/8 Buck
4. 6/8 Doe
5. Junior Buck
6. Junior Doe

Then, because Blue follows Black in the alphabetical variety list, all Blue Satin classes show, in the following order:

1. Senior Buck
2. Senior Doe
3. 6/8 Buck
4. 6/8 Doe
5. Junior Buck
6. Junior Doe

All animals of the same variety show, followed by the next variety in the alphabetical list, and so on. When there are breeds with more than one variety, the judge selects a Best of each Variety (BOV). This animal can be either sex. Then selects a Best Opposite Sex Variety (BOSV) for this same variety. If the Best animal is a doe, the Best Opposite animal must be a buck, and vice versa. Animals earning these honors will compete further in the show for Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex.

Following all variety judging, all the Best and Best Opposite of Variety winners compete for the Best of Breed (BOB) and Best Opposite Sex (BOS) awards

. If the breed only has one variety, selection of the Best of Breed (BOB) and Best Opposite Sex (BOS) is the same manner.

At the completion of judging for all the breeds, all of the Best of Breed animals compete for:

- Best of Show/Reserve in Show
- Honorable Mention

Note: If you are uncertain whether you have a 4 or 6 class breed, check with the people staffing the registration table. Meat and fur winners do not compete for these awards.

Cavies

Cavy classes take place in the following order:

1. Senior Boar
2. Senior Sow
3. Intermediate Boar
4. Intermediate Sow
5. Junior Boar
6. Junior Sow

This is essentially the same format as rabbit classes, except that there are no 4 or 6 class breeds, only a Best in Show Cavy and Reserve of Show Cavy following all cavy judging.

Note: If a rabbit or cavy is entered in an Intermediate class, which is not recognized by the ARBA, it will automatically be entered as a Senior.

Recording Entries

Please record your entries according to varieties and show classes following ARBA show order.

Awards

The Awards Table will open as announced and will close shortly after the completion of judging. Ribbons, first- through fifth-place for each class may be picked up at this time..

Special Awards for Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex awards will be awarded to the top 15 rabbit breeds(as long as there are 10 rabbits entered in the breed) and top 3 cavy breeds (indicated by the number of entries on the day of the show). All other breeds receive Rosettes for Best of Breed and Best Opposite Sex. Medals for Best Overall Fur in each breed.

Special awards given:

- Best of Show—Rabbit
- Reserve in Show—Rabbit
- Honorable Mention—Rabbit
- Best of Show—Cavy
- Reserve of Show—Cavy

Michigan State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Scholarship & Youth Program Fund-Raiser

The Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show hosts the fund-raiser for the Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Scholarship and 4-H Rabbit and Cavy project area. The format for the auction is silent bidding and items may include live animals and other rabbit and cavy supplies. Information about the event is as follows:

The Silent Auction

Rabbits and cavies are by selected Michigan breeders will be up for silent auction beginning at 10 a.m. the day of the show. The auction is open to all bidders, who must register for buyer numbers before placing a bid. Obtain your buyer numbers at the Auction table. The silent auction will conclude at 2 p.m. or as announced.

Sale Animals

The rabbits and cavies donated to the auction are of various breeds, of show quality and in good health. They are carefully examined before being accepted for the auction, and will be available for inspection after 10 a.m. the day of the show.

Auction Refund Policy

Prospective buyers should inspect all animals they are interested in purchasing before the sale. There will be no refunds given after the auction is completed.

About the Scholarship Fund

Information about the Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Scholarship is available from your county MSU Extension office or at

http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships

Congratulations to our 2023 Scholarship Winners!

Audrey Johnston - Lapeer County
Morgan Childers - Oakland County
Rose Spero - Saginaw County
Rylee Carncross - Clare County

Expo Activities

Be sure to check out the other opportunities that are available on show day:

SHOWMANSHIP

Pre-entry is required by January 19th.

Rabbit

Procedure

1. **Non-refundable entry fee of \$2.00 collected at time of preregistration.**
2. Age divisions will be decided based on entries
3. Participants will complete the steps of rabbit fitting and showing as outlined in the Rabbit Fitting and Showmanship Member's Guide (4-H 1268).
4. Participants will compete in front of a judge(s) individually.
5. The judge(s) will ask the participant 1 or more oral questions.
6. The judge(s) will also take the participants preparation, attitude, and behavior into consideration when scoring.
7. A rabbit may only be shown once.
8. Participants must be the owner of the rabbit they bring for this contest.
9. There are no spectators allowed in the judging area.

Awards

Placing ribbon will be awarded to 1st through 10th place individuals in each division.

CAVY

Procedure

1. **Non-refundable entry fee of \$2.00 collected at time of preregistration.**
2. Age divisions will be decided based on entries
3. Participants will complete the steps of cavy fitting and showing as outlined in the Cavy Fitting and Showmanship Member's Guide (4-H 1345).
4. Participants will compete in front of a judge(s) individually.
5. The judge(s) will ask the participant 1 or more oral questions.
6. The judge(s) will also take the participants preparation, attitude, and behavior into consideration when scoring.
7. A cavy may only be shown once.
8. Participants must be the owner of the cavy they bring for this contest.
9. There are no spectators allowed in the judging area.

Awards

Placing ribbon will be awarded to 1st through 10th place individuals in each division.

Enter the following contests on the day of show!

Breed ID Contest

Procedure

1. Participants will identify and record the name of the breed and the showroom classification. (Showroom classification is how the rabbit/cavy enters in a show as it appears in the current ARBA Standard of Perfection. Example: French Lops show in Solid Pattern or Broken Pattern.)
- 2.
3. Up to 90% of the contest will consist of rabbits. A minimum of 10% of the contest will consist of cavies.
4. There are no spectators allowed in the contest room.
5. In the event of a tie, 3 of the animals breed and showroom classification will be used to break the tie. These animals will be determined prior to start of the contest.
6. Entry fee of \$2.00

Awards

Placing ribbon will be awarded to 1st through 10th place individuals in each division.

Educational Display

Procedure

1. Entry fee of \$2.00
2. Educational display must be the work of the youth participant and created within the last 12 months.
3. Display subject/theme should directly relate to rabbits or cavies, which educates the viewer about a rabbit or cavy related activity.
4. Judging is based on how well they present information, their general appearance, and their importance to the modern day rabbit and cavy industry.
5. Copyrighted characters (such as Snoopy and Charlie Brown of the “Peanuts” comic strip, etc.) may not be used.
6. Displays can be made using any of the following:
 - a. Poster-board
 - b.
 - c. Trifold
 - d. Other light bases
 - e.
7. The back of display must include the following information:
 - a. Name
 - b. County
 - c. Age Division
 - d. Resources
8. Tables provided for displaying.
9. All posters must be in the contest area by 9:00 a.m.
10. Sample score sheets are available at:
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Rabbits>

Photography

Procedure

1. Entry fee of \$2.00
2. Photography entry must be the work of the youth participant and created within the last 12 months.
3. Photography entry must contain at least one rabbit and/or cavy.
4. The back of photo must include the following information:
 - a. Name
 - b. County
 - c. Age Division
 - d. Camera used
5. Photos evaluated based on photographic composition standards including focus/clarity/rule of thirds, lighting, color, leading lines, perspective, depth, etc.
6. Print photos on quality photo paper. Commercial processing is strongly encouraged.
7. Photo is to be of standard size 4 x 6, 8 x 10, or 5 x 7
8. Exhibit photographs on white or black mat board or white or black foam board and must be larger on all sides than the print. All parts of the photo must be visible.
9. Photographs should be on the contest table by 9:00 a.m.

Awards

Placing ribbon will be awarded to 1st through 10th place individuals in each division.

Vendors

Vendors will be selling rabbit and cavy show equipment and supplies that you may not be able to find locally.

MSU Concessions

Youth will be able to buy snacks and lunch the day of the show at the MSU Concessions booth in the Pavilion.

Become a State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo & Show Sponsor

Sponsorship Levels

Bronze Clover	Silver Clover	Gold Clover	Platinum Clover
\$5.00 - \$25.00	\$26.00 - \$50.00	\$51.00 - \$100.00	Over \$100.00
Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Minimum amount purchases a Best Opposite Sex Award	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sponsors Best and Best Opposite Breed Award Set	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sponsors multiple breeds, contests and/or awards given during Best in Show	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sponsors multiple breeds, contests and/or awards given during Best in Show

Sponsor a Table - \$250.00 receive benefits of a Platinum Clover and sponsor sign over the table.

To make your sponsorship donation mail to:
Glenda Weiss, MSU Extension, 121 Maple #319, Mason, MI 48854

Thank you to the 2023 Rabbit and Cavy Show Sponsors!

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Just for Fun Rabbit and Cavy Club</i> ● <i>Hillsdale 4-H Small Animal Association</i> ● <i>Katie Holcomb</i> ● <i>Amanda Grieves</i> ● <i>Teresa Boike</i> ● <i>Rosemary Reams</i> ● <i>Susan Young</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Martha Woolston</i> ● <i>Amanda Grieves</i> ● <i>Colleen Wood</i> ● <i>King Family</i> ● <i>Kay Pattengill</i> ● <i>Whitley Rabbit Farm</i> |
|--|---|

A very special Thank You to the Michigan State Rabbit Breeders Association for the use of show tables and supplies! Michigan 4-H sincerely appreciates EVERYTHING that your membership does to support our programs!

Sponsorship Form

Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show

Thank you for your support of the 2024 Michigan State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show. Your sponsorship will be utilized to support awards for both the show and expo educational activities (showmanship, photography, breed identification, and educational display).

Youth participating in the show learn time management, how to care for others, planning, organization skills to name just a few things. The expo contests allow youth to showcase their photography skills and learn new topics as they develop their educational exhibit. Youth learn about new breeds of rabbits and cavies in preparation and during the breed identification contest as well as time management as they squeeze this contest into their busy day. Showmanship allows youth to hone their skills in showmanship as well as decision making, self-motivation and their self esteem to name a few.

Please select your level of sponsorship by checking the level and indicating the amount of the sponsorship.

Bronze Clover	Silver Clover	Gold Clover	Platinum Clover
Minimum \$5.00	\$20.00 - \$50.00	\$51.00 - \$100.00	Over \$100.00
Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Minimum amount purchases a Best Opposite Sex Award	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sponsors Best and Best Opposite Breed Award Set	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sign at one table indicating sponsorship Sponsors multiple breeds, contests and/or awards given during Best in Show	Sponsorship posted at 2024 show Included in sponsor list for 2025 catalog Sign at multiple tables indicating sponsorship Sponsors multiple breeds, contests and/or awards given during Best in Show

_____ **Sponsor a Table - \$250.00 receive benefits of a Platinum Clover and sponsor sign over the table.**

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Mailing address _____

Return this form and sponsorship to: Glenda Weiss, MSU Extension, 121 E Maple St #319, Mason, MI 48854

Driving Directions to Michigan State University Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education

From Northern Michigan: Follow US 27 south to 127 south. Follow 127 south to Trowbridge Road (exit 9). Follow Trowbridge Road east to Farm Lane. Turn south (right) onto Farm Lane and follow Farm Lane across the intersection with Mt. Hope Road. The Pavilion is on the west side of Farm Lane between Mt. Hope Road on the north and Forest Road on the south.

From Grand Rapids and Western Michigan: Follow I-96 to Business 496 east (exit 95). Follow 496 east to Trowbridge Road (exit 9). Follow Trowbridge Road east to Farm Lane. Turn south (right) onto Farm Lane and follow Farm Lane across the intersection with Mt. Hope Road. The Pavilion is on the west side of Farm Lane between Mt. Hope Road on the north and Forest Road on the south.

From Detroit and Southeast Michigan: Follow I-96 to the Okemos Road exit (exit 110). Go north (right) on Okemos Road about 2 mile to Jolly Road. Turn west (left) on Jolly Road. Follow Jolly Road west to College Road. Turn north (right) on College Road. Follow College Road north to Forest Road. Proceed north across Forest Road into the Pavilion entrance off College Road. The Pavilion is on the west side of Farm Lane between Mt. Hope Road on the north and Forest Road on the south.

From Flint and Northeast Michigan: Follow I-69 to the Business 69/East Lansing exit. Follow Business 69 (also called Saginaw and Old M78) west to Hagadorn Road. Turn south (left) on Hagadorn Road. Follow Hagadorn south to Mt. Hope Road. Turn west (right) on Mt. Hope Road. Follow Mt. Hope Road west to Farm Lane. Turn south (left) on Farm Lane. The Pavilion is on the west side of Farm Lane between Mt. Hope Road on the north and Forest Road on the south.

From Jackson and Southern Michigan: Follow 127 north to Trowbridge Road (exit 9). Follow Trowbridge Road east to Farm Lane. Turn south (right) onto Farm Lane and follow Farm Lane across the intersection with Mt. Hope Road. The Pavilion is on the northeast corner of Forest and College Roads.