

2026 Rabbit Expectations Packet

Superintendents: Abby Briggs (517-812-3181) & Melissa Cozart (517-917-8995)

Preferred Communication Method: Please sign up for the Band App using the link <https://band.us/n/a1ac08C7P9m8q> our group is called JCF Rabbits

Email: jcfrabbitsupers@gmail.com (this email is NOT checked daily)

Deadline:	Event/Task:
May 1 st	Possession Date for Animals
May 5 th	Deadline for possession check paperwork to be submitted via Google Forms
Mid-June?	Approximate date to turn in fair entries to the fair office. (This will be the final entry, no second Google Form to fill out this year.)
July 14th	Possession date for purchased fryers
July 26th	Pre-Fair Clean-Up 12pm
August 7th	Check-in to Fair between 5pm and 8pm (Check-in and Show times may still change)
August 9th	Rabbit Show starting at 8:30am (Check-in and Show times may still change)
August 10th	Rabbit Costume Contest 6pm
August 16th	Rabbit check out and barn cleanup 9-11

MARKET CLASS RABBITS:

There are (5) projects within the Market Rabbit class. See Below. A market rabbit may only be registered in 1 of these classes.

1. Market Pen of (3 Fryers)
2. Commercial Single Fryer
3. Homegrown Single Fryer
4. Commercial Single Roaster
5. Homegrown Single Roaster

Project	Possession Date	Age/Weight Requirement
Meat Pens	Homegrown	Less than 70 days 3.5-5.5lbs
Commercial Fryers	July 21st	Less than 70 days 3.5-5.5lbs
Homegrown Fryers	Homegrown	Less than 70 days 3.5-5.5lbs
Commercial Roasters	May 1st	Less than 6 months 5.5-9lbs
Homegrown Roasters	Homegrown	Less than 6 months 5.5-9lbs

BREEDING CLASS RABBITS:

Must be one of the 53 recognized ARBA rabbit breeds and varieties to be shown. The Standard of Perfection is the resource to check your breed and color variety.

<https://arba.net/> *Any animals disqualified during the show may not be sold at the auction.

Possession Check: Possession check via Google Forms this year. The link will be posted on the Small Animal Facebook Page and on the JCF Rabbits Band App page. Please contact the Superintendents if you have issues or questions. The deadline to submit is May 5th.

Fair Registration: Prior to the fair, we need to know which animal(s) you will be bringing to the fair. In the past a second Google Form was utilized. This year your registration will all be done through Fair Entry and changes cannot be made after you have submitted your Fair Entry.

Pre-Fair Clean up: Wire cutters, power washers and hoses are always needed. We will spend a couple of hours taking everything out of the barn, power washing it, and setting it up for the fair.

At Fair Check-In: Some paperwork will need to be completed at the fair (quality assurance, auction forms, by-laws, \$5 per 4-H member, Informational Paragraph and picture, showmanship, costume class). All animals will receive a health check, market animals will be weighed, and all dishes will need to be disinfected. Your animals must have tattoos before check-in! Unrecognized breeds/varieties or mixed-breed animals will not be accepted. Disqualified animals will not be permitted to sell in the auction.

Barn duty sign-up will be part of the fair check-in. Each member must sign up for 1 hour for each pen registered at the fair. If there are gaps in sign-up times, these will be filled using a lottery list of all registered rabbit project members. (This means, you may be assigned more than a total of 2 hours of barn duty time during the week.) During Barn Duty: sweep the center and outer aisles, check the water and welfare of rabbits, and answer the public. NEVER feed someone else's rabbits and ALWAYS get a Superintendent if you think there is an issue/problems or questions/concerns. You MUST be in the barn for your entire barn duty! Make sure you are dressed appropriately while on barn duty. You are the face of 4-H to the public.

Show Day: Starts at 8:30 am with showmanship followed by the Meat and Breed classes. Order to be judged at each table will be posted by the table as well as on the Band App. A change from previous years is one person may follow a member to the judging table during market/breed only and listen to the judge's comments. Only 4-H members may put a rabbit on the table or take it off. If there is a conflict with another species being shown, please make arrangements with another 4-H member to get your rabbit on and off the table.

Showmanship - Black pants, closed-toe shoes (preferably black), and white shirt or lab coat.

Market and Breed Show - Club/Small animal t-shirt or appropriate (conservative) show clothes. No sweats or clothes with holes, no tank tops/midriiffs shirts or very short shorts, etc. Superintendents and judges could ask you to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by them. If you have any questions please contact Superintendents.

COSTUME CONTEST: Costume contest will be Monday evening at 6pm. There will be 4 divisions same as Showmanship. Cloverbud, Junior, Intermediate, Senior. Registration will be a rabbit check in on Friday. Only Jackson County 4-H registered rabbits are eligible for costume contest. Costumes must be safe and comfortable for rabbits. Judges will be looking for 3 criteria: Originality, Creativity, and Pizazz! There will be one winner in each category.

Check Out and Post Fair Clean Up: ALL Rabbit exhibitors are responsible for participating in the Sunday barn clean-up after the fair. Clean-up will begin at 9am and will run until complete. Barn clean-up date/time could change. All animals must be checked out by a superintendent, bring the Auction Receipt if you have purchased an animal.

Informational Paragraph: (To be turned in at check-in) One Paragraph (5-8 sentences) teaching people who come to the fair about one aspect of your rabbit project. On the same piece of paper include one picture of yourself and your rabbit(s). You might focus on a new breed you are raising. Breeding your own project for the first time. An issue you faced and had to learn about and overcome. A rabbit event/show you went to and what you learned or accomplished. Please make sure you have someone proofread your paragraph before printing. These will be displayed above and below rabbit cages at the fair.

New things and changes from previous years!

- There will not be a second Google Form to fill out for final possession. Your Fair Entry registration will be the final information collected and used for your rabbit entries.
- Rabbit show will be in the covered arena.
- Four rabbit entries will be accepted for each 4-H member, only two can be market projects, and only one of the market projects may be a market pen project.
- One person may follow a member to the judging table during market/breed only and listen to the judge's comments (NOT showmanship). This will allow feedback to be heard by the 4-H member and an adult so that the comments can be used to help improve future projects. This will look similar to what the standard format at an open show looks like.
- All Market Projects will be housed in the same section of the rabbit barn.
- Cloverbuds will take place on Tuesday of fair week. Time TBA, will be later in the day. This will allow all cloverbud species to participate in one day.