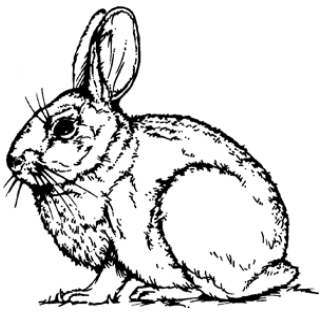
Revised 11-01-2024

4-H
Rabbit Project Book
20___



Project (Check one):

☐ **Breeding**

☐ **Meat Rabbit**

Name		Age (as of Dec 31st)		Junior or Senior
Club Name		Club Leader's Name		
Year in 4-H	Year in this project	County Exhibit	State Exhibit	Grade in School

Commitment to Stewardship and Welfare

I WILL:

1. Provide comfortable housing for my animal(s).
2. Feed my animal(s) on time each day.
3. Provide my animal(s) with clean water at all times.
4. Keep my animal(s) free from parasites.
5. Strive to keep my animal(s) in good health.
6. Be kind to animals and act in their best interest.
7. Complete mandatory quality assurance trainings.
8. Keep an accurate record of my projects.
9. Submit required paperwork and forms on-time
10. Always show good sportsmanship in competition.
11. Participate in 4-H Club activities
12. Complete my project requirements.

I UNDERSTAND that the presence of any drug, antibiotic or biological residue in my project animal at slaughter will result in the condemnation of the carcass and forfeiture of all sale proceeds and premiums. I certify that any drug, antibiotic or biological which may have been administered by me, or any other person, was done so in strict compliance with the manufacturer's label requirements.

Member Signature	Parent Signature
Leader Signature	Agent Signature

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

PROJECT PLAN

Before you purchase your animal, begin your project by completing a plan. Review your plan with your 4-H project leader.

Learning Goals – List 3 goals detailing what you hope to learn about and what skills do you want to practice while doing this project?

My goal for my project this year is to learn:	What I need to do to reach this goal

Planning Notes or Questions You Would Like Answered

Financial Plan

Expenses		Expected	Actual
Animal Purchase	a.		
Feed Costs	b.		
Treatment Expenses	c.		
Other Expenses	d.		
Exhibit Expenses	e.		
Total Expenses	f.		
Income		Expected	Actual
Animal Sales Income Needed to Break Even (same as f)	g.		

Project Finances Describe the financial agreements you have made with financial institutions, your family (parents) and/or other persons regarding this project.

Time Spent with Your Project Raising a 4-H animal project is a time commitment. In the Expected column, document the hours you estimate you'll spend on the items below and at the end of the project document your actual hours.

	Expected	Actual
Hours spent providing general care (daily feeding, watering, pen cleaning, etc.)		
Hours spent preparing for show (training, washing, etc.)		
Hours spent elsewhere (vaccination, veterinarian visits, quality assurance, etc.)		
Total number of hours spent with your project		

Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training/Completion Date

PROJECT MANAGEMENT RECORD

Record this information at the time you purchase your animal and start the project.

Name of Animal	Breed	Sex
Birthdate	Purchase Date	Tag /Tattoo #
Breeder Name & Contact Information		

Did you replace the original animal that you originally started the project with? If so, describe that experience and put the original animal's information below.

Treatments: List vaccinations, medications (includes medicated feed) and products used for internal and external parasite control. Treatment records must be kept for one year after the last day of treatment, whereas feed medications records must be kept for two years. Attach prescriptions and other medication information to the back of this Project Book.

Date Given	*Product Name*	*Purchased From*	*Lot Number*	*Expiration Date*	*Condition Being Treated*
a.					
b.					
c.					
d.					
e.					

Estimated Animal Weight	*Treatment Amount*	*Treatment Route[1] (Oral, SQ, IM, drench, etc.)*	*Who gave Treatment?*	*Withdrawal Time*	*Rx? (Yes/No)*	*Total Cost ($)*
a.						
b.						
c.						
d.						
e.						
** Feel free to duplicate chart onto separate sheet, if more space is needed.					***Totals***	

Other Expenses: List expenses for other items used in the project (cages, feeders, water bottles, etc.)

Date	*Item Description*	*Quantity*	*Item Cost ($)*	*Total Cost ($)*
** Feel free to duplicate chart onto separate sheet, if more space is needed.			***Totals***	

Estimated Exhibit Record: List estimated expenses for other items used in the project (transportation costs, lodging, pen fees, other supplies, etc.)

Date	*Item Description*	*Est. Total Cost ($)*
** Feel free to duplicate chart onto separate sheet, if more space is needed.	***Totals***	

FEED RECORD

Feed Purchased and Associated Costs. Record purchases of feed and supplements throughout the project period.

Date	*Name of Feed*	*Amount Purchased (lbs)*	*Cost per bag ($)*	*Total Cost ($)*
	Totals			

** Feel free to duplicate chart onto separate sheet, if more space is needed.

Did you have any issues feeding your animal or obtaining feed this year? Please explain.

Rabbit Knowledge and Skills I Gained This Year

Check 6-7 items below that you learned or improved in 4-H during the past year. Some may not apply to your project.

I learned or improved my ability to…

Beginning Skills

- ☐ Identify 5 breeds of rabbits and tell at least 2 characteristics of each, including origin.
- ☐ Identify 10-15 parts of a rabbit.
- ☐ Describe 7 differences between rabbits and hares.
- ☐ Identify equipment needed to raise a rabbit.
- ☐ Compare alternatives and then purchase or make a rabbit wire hutch or small animal cage.
- ☐ Visit local rabbitry and observe the way the rabbits are managed. Give report to your club.
- ☐ Identify the symptoms and treatments for common health problems for rabbits.
- ☐ Identify methods of controlling external parasites.
- ☐ Read a story about a legendary rabbit, such as "The Tale of Peter Rabbit, to 4-H Cloverbuds.
- ☐ Identify methods of controlling internal parasites.
- ☐ Demonstrate how to sanitize equipment and facilities used for your animal.
- ☐ Identify the nutrient requirements for a healthy rabbit.
- ☐ Learn and practice steps to properly handle a rabbit and demonstrate these steps.
- ☐ Describe the characteristics to a good quality meat rabbit should possess.
- ☐ Find information about the American Rabbit Breeders Association and describe 5 things you learned.
- ☐ Assemble a box of show supplies that will be needed at the fair.
- ☐ Other (optional):

Intermediate Skills

- ☐ Present reasons on a class of four rabbits.
- ☐ Identify rabbit disqualifications.
- ☐ Learn what medications can be given to rabbits orally and by injection.
- ☐ Identify the parts of your animal's digestive system.
- ☐ Learn correct showmanship techniques for your rabbit.
- ☐ Trim your rabbit's nails.
- ☐ Make a rabbit tattoo box and tattoo your rabbit.
- ☐ Name 5 rabbit by-products and explain their uses.
- ☐ Give a talk on ways to prevent disease in a rabbit and how to prevent disease in a rabbitry.
- ☐ Become a member of ARBA.
- ☐ Give 2 reasons for losses in newborn litters and measures that will help prevent these losses.
- ☐ Describe 5 outlets to market rabbits.
- ☐ Identify and recognize diseases affecting rabbits.
- ☐ Develop a promotional display to promote rabbits.
- ☐ Learn how to process a rabbit for meat.
- ☐ Learn how to cook rabbit meat.
- ☐ Tan a rabbit pelt and learn how to care for a rabbit pelt.

Advanced Skills

☐ Determine criteria for keeping or culling rabbits.

☐ Learn the importance of genetics in breeding.

☐ Help organize a rabbit showmanship clinic.

☐ Help a new 4-H member select a project rabbit.

☐ Learn how to determine pregnancy in rabbits.

☐ Learn how to palpate a doe.

☐ Compost rabbit manure and use as fertilizer.

☐ Identify the feed ingredients listed on the rabbit feed tag and classify them as to their primary use: protein, minerals, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins or water.

☐ Identify rabbit body types and identify types of rabbit fur.

☐ Design a rabbitry.

☐ Present a program on sportsmanship and ethics as related to 4-H rabbit projects to your 4-H club.

☐ Give a speech or demonstration on how to select good breeding stock from a litter or rabbits.

☐ Learn the steps for registering your rabbit.

☐ Discuss the nutritional value of rabbit meat and compare and contrast that with other types of meat.

☐ Explain why it is important to know the skeletal structure of a rabbit when you are raising commercial rabbits.

☐ Take responsibility for my own words and actions

☐ Following the steps for processing a rabbit, process at least 5 meat rabbits.

☐ Track normal conditions of a healthy rabbit and how to detect signs of illness.

☐ Learn to take your rabbit's pulse, temperature and respiration.

☐ Other (optional):

Appendix Section: Attach newspaper articles, feed labels, medication labels, or other artifact, etc., that support your Livestock project)

- For digital photos: Click “TOOLS” in the tool bar, click ‘EDIT PDF”, click “ADD IMAGE”, select your image, and position on the page and click.

MY PROJECT CONCLUSION

1. What are some observations from working with your rabbit(s) throughout the course of the project?

2. What would you change or do the same the next time you begin a rabbit project? For example: different feed, different breed, etc. you would start with.

3. Referring to the *Learning Goals* you wrote on Page 2, did you achieve your learning goals? What was most helpful in achieving them? What problems did you experience?

RABBIT PROJECT BOOK SCORE SHEET

Name:_____ **County:** _____

Category: _____ **Ribbon Color:** _____ **Judge's Initials:**_____

Instructions: Check one box for the statement on each row that best describes each record book section/criteria. Provide points for each row and specific details in the comment boxes if necessary.

	PTS	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement	Comments
Cover Page - Complete with signatures		*(5)*	*(4-3)*	*(2)*	*(1)*	
Project Plan Goals - Realistic, age/skill appropriate and documents what member wants to learn.		*(15-11)*	*(10-6)*	*(5-2)*	*(1)*	
Financial Plan & Project Finances - Expected column completed, Actual column completed, along with any financial agreement.		*(15-11)*	*(10-6)*	*(5-2)*	*(1)*	
Summary of Time Spent with Project Animal & YQCA Date - All sections are completed.		*(5)*	*(4-3)*	*(2)*	*(1)*	
Project Management Records – Completed project animal information, treatment records, other expenses, exhibit expenses and feed expenses.		*(15-11)*	*(10-6)*	*(5-2)*	*(1)*	
Knowledge & Skill Sheet, & Appendix– Member documented 6-7 new skills learned from their skill level section. Also added proper documents to Appendix page.		*(5)*	*(4-3)*	*(2)*	*(1)*	
Project Conclusion – Completed with well thought out responses to questions.		*(25-20)*	*(19-10)*	*(9-5)*	*(4-1)*	

** Blue = 85 - 77 pts Red = 76 - 68 pts White 67 pts or lower

Please include any other specific comments or suggestions for improvement here: