

Wood County 4-H Poultry Project Information



Helpful Information for your Poultry Project.

****The contents of this guide are meant to be just that, a **guide** and may be subject to change without notice. Be vigilant about referencing the Wood County Fair website for the most up to date information regarding the fair.**

Poultry Project Summary

There are several Poultry 4-H Projects that you can enroll in as a 4-H member. Below is a summary of each project:

4-H #	Title	Description
150CE	Chicken, Exhibition	Pen of two exhibition chickens: standard fancy, bantam fancy.
150CM	Chicken, Market	Broilers must be birds grown for meat.
150CEP	Chicken Egg Production: Hens & Pullets	Laying chickens used for egg production.
150DE	Duck, Exhibition	Pen of two exhibition large fowl: duck.
150DM	Duck, Market	Market ducks grown for meat.
150GE	Goose, Exhibition	Pen of two exhibition large fowl: geese.
150GM	Goose, Market	Market geese grown for meat.
150TE	Turkey, Exhibition	Pen of two exhibition large fowl: purebred turkeys.
150TM	Turkey, Market	Market turkeys grown for meat.
150H	Helmeted Guinea Fowl	Pen of two exhibition birds: guinea, quail, partridge, peacock, pheasant, pigeon.

Project Literature

You will need the following project materials for your poultry project:

- **Poultry Project and Record Book (\$8)** - Obtain and keep for the resource information it contains. Note: do not use for your annual record keeping (with the exception of the first year).
- **Wood County Livestock Project Record Insert (free)** - Download this document and use as your records for your project. You may also purchase one from the Extension Office for \$4. Obtain a new one each year. *You will need to bring this completed document to 4-H Project Interview Judging.

In Summary: obtain the first two books listed above and keep and use them for all years you are taking a Poultry Project. Each year: download a new Livestock Record Insert and use it to keep your annual project records.

****Note to those with Market Animal Projects;** as a food animal producer you are required, by law, to keep a record of any treatments, medications, drugs, etc. that are used for the health of your animal.



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Use the Treatment Record within your Wood County Livestock Record Insert to keep this information.

Optional Resources:

- The American Standards of Perfection: amerpoultryassn.com
- For articles and other research-based information: ohio4h.org/poultryresources
- Poultry Handbook – this handbook is a comprehensive guide to all that you need to know to raise poultry safely and successfully:

https://wood.osu.edu/sites/wood/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/livestock/Branded%20Poultry%20Handbook%20FINAL.pdf

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 4-H PARTICIPATION: * = Mandatory

Activity	Due Date	Location	Reference Page # (in this guide)
*Enroll in 4-H	No later than March 15	https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in	2
*4-H Project Interview Judging	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	2
Skill-a-thon	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	3

Activities that will take place prior to the fair

The following 4-H activities are described below.

4-H Enrollment

Membership requires enrollment in an authorized Ohio 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. Your 4-H club Advisor will assist you with the online enrollment process. Joining Ohio 4-H is a privilege and responsibility for individuals and is subject to the Ohio 4-H Code of Conduct and applicable policies of The Ohio State University. Members must remain in good standing with their 4-H club, meaning: attending a minimum of five meetings, completing a demonstration, fully participating, etc.

Project Interview

Project judging is an exciting time to showcase your hard work spent on your 4-H project. Our judges love talking with you and learning about your project. Please be patient and understand if a judge is running behind. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Judging Hints

- Arrive at the Junior Fair Building with your project book and record books. Remember to wear nice attire to judging. See Dress Code below.
- Check in at the registration desk.



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- Complete the top of a judging interview sheet. Be prepared to talk about your project, know what you did, how you did it, and what you learned. Be proud of your accomplishments! You worked hard. Have a seat, talk to friends and RELAX!
- If you are unable to attend the specified project interview judging day in July at the Junior Fair Building, your advisor may judge the project and provide a grade to the Extension Office by the required date.
- *Please note* To be eligible for awards (1st, 2nd, 3rd, honorable mention, and premier livestock interviewer) you must be judged on the day your project is assigned.

Dress Code Rule for All Junior Fair Exhibitors

The Junior Fair Dress Code is in effect for Livestock Shows and all Interview Judging Days.

- Livestock Shows and Livestock Interview Judging: exhibitors must wear a collared polo or buttoned shirt with some sleeve and nice blue jeans (no rips or cut-offs and no tank-tops, t-shirts or sleeveless tops) or your show coat.
- **Consequences for not following this rule may include class disqualification, or no interview until wardrobe is changed. This rule was adopted by the 4-H Committee and Junior Fair Board.

Skill-a-thon

This is where you have the chance to shine as an exhibitor. This is a contest to show who knows the most about their species. You will study various topics on poultry and then at 4-H Project Interview Judging, you will go into the skill-a-thon and answer the questions they pose for you. There are 2 levels: juniors (8-13 years old) and seniors (14-18 years old.) The exhibitors with the highest scores can earn ribbons and then have a chance to earn cash prizes.

- The Poultry Skill-a-thon is an activity that takes place prior to fair, at 4-H Project Interview Judging. It is a series of stations on topics you are learning about in your poultry project. The goal of the Skill-a-thon is to facilitate learning about your poultry project. It is not *expected*, but *highly encouraged* that you participate in the Poultry Skill-a-thon.
- A Poultry Skill-a-thon Study Guide is available to assist your learning. The Study Guide can be found on the Wood County 4-H web site:
https://wood.osu.edu/sites/wood/files/imce/Program_Pages/4H/skillathon/poultryskillstudy17.pdf
- Online practice quizzes:
<https://wood.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/livestock-information/animal-science-virtual-learning-lab>
- Prizes are awarded to exhibitors who perform well in the Skill-a-thon. Prizes typically include cash and rosettes which are handed out at 4-H Spirit Night in October.

Congratulations on the successful completion of your project!



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IMPORTANT DATES FOR FAIR PARTICIPATION: * = mandatory

Activity	Due Date	Location	Reference Page # (in this guide)
*Enroll in 4-H	No later than March 15	https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in	2
*4-H Project Interview Judging	Second Thursday in July	Wood County Fairgrounds Junior Fair Building	2
*Own Animals	See individual grids		9-11
*Quality Assurance	No later than June 1	With 4-H Advisor or at a county training	4
*Register with Fair	No later than June 1	FairEntry online website See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	6
Sign-up for Showmanship	No later than June 1	FairEntry online website See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	5
Turn in Drug Use Notification Form	Prior to Fair Weigh-In (market animals only)	See email from Jr. Fair Coordinator	5
*Barn Meeting	First day of Fair (am)	Wood County Fairgrounds	6
*Fair Weigh-In	Saturday (day before 1 st day of fair)	Wood County Fairgrounds	6
*Animal Show	Thursday am	Wood County Fairgrounds	7
Showmanship Show	Friday am	Wood County Fairgrounds	7
*Clean Pen	Last day of fair	Wood County Fairgrounds	5

See WOOD COUNTY FAIR Website

Project Requirement for Exhibition at the Wood County Junior Fair

Participation is an opportunity available to you because you are a 4-H member. Exhibition at the Wood County Fair, is not mandatory to fulfill the commitments of taking your 4-H project, but it is highly recommended. If you are interested in exhibiting a Poultry project at the Wood County Fair, you need to know and meet the exhibition requirements. Basic exhibition requirements include:

- You must be enrolled in 4-H (or FFA), no later than March 15th, in the project you want to exhibit.
- You must be a member in good standing of your 4-H Club; meaning attending a minimum of 5 meetings, completing a demonstration, fully participating, etc.
- You must own your bird(s) by May 1st or the specified hatch date for your project.
- You must participate annually in Livestock Quality Assurance Education, by the deadline of June



- 1st (for exhibitors taking the meat chicken, market duck, market goose, market turkey projects).
- You must register your animals in FairEntry online by the deadline of June 1st.
 - Sign up for all showmanship will be done in FairEntry. There will be no sign up at the fair. (Due on June 1st.)
 - You MUST present NPIP papers for your project birds at the Poultry Check-In/Weigh-in on Saturday (day before the 1st day of fair.) No NPIP required for Waterfowl.
 - All exhibits must meet the health requirements listed in the front of the Wood County Fair Book.
 - Laying Chickens are birds used for egg production. Broilers must be birds grown for meat.
 - Junior Division participants must be age 13 or under as of Jan. 1st, of the current year. Senior Division participants must be age 14 and over as of Jan. 1st, of the current year. First year division age 9 & 10 years old as of Jan. 1st.
 - All poultry (chickens & turkeys) brought to the Wood County Fair must either: a.) Come from a hatchery that is a participant in the National Poultry Improvement Plan and exhibitor has form NPIP-15 from the hatchery; b.) or be tested prior to the fair as negative for Pullorum or fowl typhoid by a licensed tester and have a copy of Form NPIP-15 to turn in at check-in.
 - Entries are limited to one pen per section except in the section Exhibition Birds where exhibitors may take two pens. However, these pens must be in different classes: example Bantam Fancy and Standard Fancy. Exhibitors may also take two classes in the Large Fowl section. Again, the pens must be two different classes: example Ducks and Geese.
 - All birds must be in possession as specified by date and property of the exhibitor.
 - The Show will include: a.) Thursday, Interview at cage by judge; b.) Friday, Showmanship Senior/Junior
 - Exhibitors of meat chickens, market ducks, market geese, meat turkeys must participate in the Quality Assurance training program no less than 45 days prior to show. (no later than June 14).
 - DUNF (Drug Use Notification Forms) must be completed through online enrollment only.
 - If an exhibitor is registered for pullets and they begin to lay prior to the fair, they will be moved to the hen class.
 - If an exhibitor is registered for fryers and they weigh over 5.5 lbs., they will be moved to the roaster class.
 - Care of Poultry: All exhibitors are responsible for the feeding, watering, and bedding of their poultry or fowl. Failure to do so will result in the following: a.) First warning. Written warning; b.) Second warning- loss of premium; c.) Third warning - removal from the grounds, forfeiture of awards, and loss of show privileges for the following year.
 - Waterers and feeders should be securely fastened to the cage with base at least 2 inches above bedding. Exhibitors must check the condition of pens, food, and water several times a day!
 - Replacement of poultry due to injury or disease is permitted at the discretion of the Junior Fair Poultry Committee.
 - All Junior Fair exhibitors must follow the Wood County Junior Fair Dress Code for all judging and shows. Long sleeve white shirt or lab coat. Jeans not torn or ripped. Closed toed shoes. Members will practice good sportsmanship and show ethics.
 - Cages must be cleaned DAILY and must be cleaned before final removal from the barn.



FairEntry and Fair Rules

Each exhibitor is responsible for creating a fair entry for every animal that you plan to bring to the fair. Registering in 4-HOnline does not register you for fair. You register for fair in the FairEntry online program (with instruction from the Junior Fair Coordinator) by June 1st. Instruction on this will likely take place at one of your club meetings (another reason it is very important to attend meetings). Your Advisor will be able to answer questions about the Fair entry process.

When you choose to become a Junior Fair Exhibitor; you are responsible for knowing the general Fair rules and the Department rules for the project you are exhibiting. These can be found on the Wood County Fair website or in the Fair Book under Junior Fair Rules, poultry. You should also be familiar with Ohio Revised Code Sections 901.70, 901.71, 901.72, 901.73, 901.74, 901.75, 901.76, 901.99 and 2925.94. These govern all livestock shows in the state of Ohio.

Activities that will take place at the Wood County Fair

The following Fair related activities are described below: Arrival/departure, Barn Meeting, Weigh-in, Classes Posted, Showmanship and Show, Junior Fair Sale.

Arrival & Departure

Check the Fair Schedule and/or ask your Advisor to confirm the window of time you must arrive with your animal(s) to the fairgrounds. Upon arrival, find your assigned cage and unload your poultry efficiently, so as not to create a line. There are Barn Superintendents in the barn on arrival day to answer questions.

If you are not going to sell your poultry through the Junior Fair Livestock Sale; check the time that animals are released at the end of fair week; meaning this is the time you can re-load and take your animal home.

Barn Meeting

Check the Fair Schedule for the time of the Barn Meeting. Usually, a Barn Meeting for all Poultry Exhibitors will be held on Sunday morning of the Fair.

Weigh-In for Meat (Market) Pens

Only market animals are weighed. This usually takes place on Saturday (day before the first day of the fair.)

Check the Fair Schedule, and listen at the Barn Meeting, for the weigh-in time for market chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese. You MUST bring your animals to the scales at the correct time to be eligible to show. There will be Barn Superintendents in the Barn to direct and help you get to the scales, but you (or your representative) MUST be present to get your animals weighed.



Classes Posted

Once the appropriate animals are weighed, classes will be created by dividing in approximately equal size classes based on their weights. These classes will be posted on the poultry barn bulletin board. It is your responsibility to review the class posting for accuracy. Check to see that weights are correct. If you have questions about the class posting, contact the Junior Fair Coordinator immediately for assistance. All other classes, with birds that are not weighed, also check the Poultry Barn bulletin board for class listings and report any discrepancies immediately.

Showmanship and Show Classes

All judging will take place at the cage unless the judge requires an alternative arrangement. There are 3 different types of classes within the Poultry Show:

1. Showmanship Classes: in these classes the judge is evaluating the showmanship skills of the exhibitor (you!). These classes are divided by the age of the exhibitor. You must sign-up to compete in showmanship when you make your fair entry (by the June 1st deadline.) These classes will be posted in the Poultry Barn. Check the posting for accuracy. If there is an error on the class listing or if you need to drop from Showmanship, notify the Junior Fair Coordinator immediately. Participation in your Showmanship class is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.
2. Exhibition (Fancy) Poultry Classes: in these classes the judge is evaluating the conformation of the animals.
3. Market Poultry Classes: in these classes the judge is evaluating the conformation of the animals. These classes are divided by the weight of the meat poultry. Following weigh-in, these classes will be posted in the Poultry Barn. Check the posting to see which class you are in. It is required to participate in showing your poultry to be eligible for awards and to be eligible to sell your animals (where applicable) in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.

The Poultry Show will begin with market and exhibition classes one day, then showmanship classes the next day. Check the Fair Book and/or Fair website for the current year show order. Check the Barn Bulletin Board and listen for announcements on show day for any updates.

Champion Project Award Qualifications

More details to come.

Junior Fair Livestock Sale

Make sure you are signed up for the online Livestock Showcase and Sale in FairEntry by June 1st. Refer to the sale section of Fair Book to ensure all steps have been completed.



Finishing Your Poultry Project

When the project year is concluded, it's time to thank the people that have helped you with your project. It's a great idea to send thank you notes to:

- The buyer(s) of your animal if you participated in the Junior Fair Sale.
- Your 4-H Advisors.
- Other folks who helped you with your project.
- The sponsors of any awards, ribbons, banners, or other recognition you received.

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<https://www.woodcounty-fair.com/>



Below is a summary of the basic information, from the Fair information and rules, for the Poultry projects.

2023 Wood County Fair POULTRY Requirement Summary

Broilers (Meat Chickens – Pen of 2)

Exhibit Limit	Must bring 1 pen of 2 fryers or 2 roasters. Meat breeds only and may enter only one class (fryers or roasters.)
Ownership Deadline	Roasters: Must have been hatched on or after June 4, 2023 and owned within 48 hours of hatch date. Fryers: Must have been hatched on or after June 16, 2023 and owned within 48 hours of hatch date.
Tag-in Required	None
Quality Assurance	Youth exhibitors must participate in Quality Assurance Education (QA) by June 1 st to be eligible to show. View 4-H Calendar of Events for training dates and/or seek information from Advisor.
Project Interview	Interview Judging – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00–6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Skill-a-thon	Poultry Skill-a-thon – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Fair Weigh-in	Pen of 2 Weigh-in: Saturday (day before the 1 st day of the fair) 12-2pm at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Junior Fair Poultry Judging	Thursday of fair at 8:30 am at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Showmanship Judging	Friday of fair at 8:30 am at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Entries	Online at FairEntry by June 1 st . See email from Junior Fair Coordinator with details.
Weight & Other Requirements	Fryers – 6-8 weeks old. Each bird must weigh a minimum of 4 lbs. and a maximum of 5.5 lbs. Any pen with an individual bird which is not within this weight range is ineligible for champion or reserve champion. Maximum pen weight is 11 lbs. Any pens over this weight will be shown in the roaster class. Roasters – 8-10 weeks old. Each bird must weigh a minimum of 5.5 lbs. and a maximum of 8 lbs. Any pen with an individual bird which is not within this weight range is ineligible for champion or reserve champion. Maximum pen weight is 16 lbs.
Health Requirements	Must present NPIP hatchery papers at Poultry Check-In/Weigh-in on Saturday (day before the 1 st day of fair.)



**Fancy Poultry, Pullets, Exhibition Ducks, Exhibition Geese, Exhibition Turkey,
Helmeted Guinea Fowl (guinea, quail, partridge, peacock, pheasant, or pigeon)**

Exhibit Limit	Only 1 entry per class. These exhibits consist of 1 or 2 birds. See Fair Book for Class Details.
Ownership Deadline	May 1
Tag-in Required	None
Quality Assurance	Not Required
Project Interview	Interview Judging – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00 – 6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Skill-a-thon	Poultry Skill-a-thon – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Fair Weigh-in	None
Junior Fair Poultry Judging	Thursday of fair in the morning at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Showmanship Judging	Friday of fair in the morning at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Entries	Online at FairEntry by June 1 st . See email from Junior Fair Coordinator with details.
Weight & Other Requirements	Not eligible for Junior Fair Livestock Sale.
Health Requirements	Must present NPIP hatchery papers at Poultry Check-In/Weigh-in on Saturday (day before the 1 st day of fair.) No NPIP required for Waterfowl.



Market Turkeys, Market Ducks, Market Geese

Exhibit Limit	Turkeys: One bird of either sex (one pen). Ducks and Geese: Two birds of opposite sex (one pen).
Ownership Deadline	Turkeys: Possession date by May 1 st . Suggested hatch date: Hens – March 25; Toms: April 15 Ducks: Possession date by June 10 th . Suggested hatch date: on or after June 10 Geese: Possession date by May 21 st . Suggested hatch date: on or before May 1
Tag-in Required	None
Quality Assurance	Youth exhibitors must participate in Quality Assurance Education (QA) by June 1 st to be eligible to show. View 4-H Calendar of Events for training dates and/or seek information from Advisor.
Project Interview	Interview Judging – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00 – 6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Skill-a-thon	Poultry Skill-a-thon – Thursday, July 13 from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Junior Fair Bldg., Fairgrounds
Fair Weigh-in	Saturday (day before the 1 st day of the fair) 12-2pm at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Junior Fair Poultry Judging	Thursday, August 3 in the morning at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Showmanship Judging	Friday, August 4 in the morning at the Poultry Barn, Fairgrounds
Entries	Online at FairEntry by June 1 st . See email from Junior Fair Coordinator with details.
Weight & Other Requirements	Turkeys: Must weigh over 10 lbs. by fair. The ideal weight is 23-28 lbs. Only birds 15-35 lbs. will be eligible for Champion or Reserve Champion Turkey. Turkeys may be debeaked, de-toed, or any practice accepted in the commercial production of meat turkeys. Ducks: Market ducks will be a pen of two, each weighing 6-8 lbs. Geese: Market geese will be a pen of two, each weighing 9-13 lbs.
Health Requirements	Must present NPIP hatchery papers at Poultry Check-In/Weigh-in on Saturday (day before the 1 st day of fair.) No NPIP required for Waterfowl.

***Only Market Turkeys, Market Broilers, Market Ducks, and Market Geese will be included in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. ***

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<https://www.woodcounty-fair.com/>

Guide Credit: Christy Leeds, 4-H Extension Educator & Assistant Professor – Union County, Ohio