RABBIT RULES
The following rules shall be used to govern the rabbit events at the Greene County Fair. These rules are in conjunction with, and do not supersede, the general rules governing the fair established by the Senior Fair Board. If an incident occurs, either having a contradiction of rules or not having a rule covering the incident, the Rabbit Committee will resolve the conflict. All rabbit projects shown at the Greene County Fair (except for Pet Rabbit) must be purebred pedigreed American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) recognized.

These “Project Numbers” are to be used when you sign up for your Rabbit Projects.

#225 – Breeding Rabbits – Members must secure by May 15 and may exhibit from 3 to 20 “Exhibit Classes” for their second year and up. This number of exhibits is not connected to your Market Rabbits in Project #226. First year exhibitors must enter 2 rabbit classes. Members will use book #225. First year exhibitors may NOT take a Doe and Litter or a Matched Breeding Pair.

#226 – Market Rabbits – This is a stand alone project and does not have to be taken in conjunction with #225. First year exhibitors ARE ALLOWED to take this project. Members may breed or purchase a meat pen. If purchased the rabbits must be in possession by July 15. We will hold a tag for ALL meat pen and single fryer rabbits. Rabbits MUST be brought to this tag in and tattooed by the Rabbit Committee to be shown at the Greene County Fair. Rabbits not tagged in by the Rabbit committee on this date WILL NOT be allowed to be entered into the Greene County Fair Show. NO EXCEPTIONS. Only one Meat Pen and one Single Fryer may be entered by a single exhibitor. An exhibitor may tag in a maximum of eight rabbits.

#227 – Pet Rabbit – Only one rabbit is exhibited. Pet rabbit must come for pre-fair judging, but pet rabbit exhibitors may also enter their rabbit in the PET RABBIT CLASS at the fair. This is not mandatory, but if member chooses to do this, the rabbit must stay at the fair all week and must be tattooed if it will be entered in the Pet Rabbit Class. Showmanship, judging, and royalty contests are open to the Pet Rabbit project, however, Pet Rabbit exhibitors are not eligible for Champion Project. These rabbits can participate in Costume Contest.

All rabbit exhibitors are encouraged to have access to #228R, the Rabbit Resource Handbook.

*If an exhibitor cannot meet the minimum requirements, they must contact the Rabbit Committee to discuss the situation.

*Exhibitors may show multiple rabbits within each age group in a particular breed. This is an update for the 2021 Fair. For example you could show 2 junior bucks in the Mini Lop Breed. We are allowing this to accommodate more rabbits at the fair. This change does not affect Meat Pen Rules. Exhibitors who are eligible to enter a Meat Pen may still only enter ONE Meat Pen.

Special Notes
1. All rabbit projects must be purebred pedigreed stock, except “Pet Rabbit” class.
2. Members should read and complete appropriate project guide. Have members include pedigree for all rabbits. When a rabbit is purchased from a reputable breeder, they should receive a pedigree. For
second year rabbits, members should be able to demonstrate the ability to make pedigrees for the rabbits they breed.

3. All rabbits being purchased for use in the current membership year must be secured by May 15 with the exception of meat pen rabbits and Pre Juniors which need to be secured by July 15.

4. First year rabbit exhibitors must take 2 rabbit projects.

5. Second year and up exhibitors must exhibit 3 to 20 rabbit classes.

Please note: Exhibitor’s fair grade is assigned by the Rabbit Committee, not the judge. Exhibitor’s fair grade will be determined by:

1. All rabbits must be purebred pedigreed stock, except pet rabbit projects.
2. Exhibitors must fulfill the number of projects suggested for each project number.
3. All rabbits must be tattooed prior to fair check-in.
4. All check-in and check-out procedures followed.
5. Proper care, feeding and cleaning of cages and aisles done according to Rabbit Committee specifications throughout the week of the fair. It is recommended that cages are cleaned daily by 2:00 pm.
6. All registration materials turned in by established date.

Exhibitors wishing to privately sell rabbits will be permitted to advertise (by using signs and procedures established by the Rabbit Committee) after the rabbit show. Private sale rabbits will not be released until general release time established by the Greene County Agricultural Society.

*Exhibitors may show against themselves. We have removed the 1 rabbit per class rule this year to allow more rabbits at the fair

Fair Exhibit Classes

*Any and all of these classes marked with an asterisk may be obtained from the doe and litter class. Ages are determined on the day of the fair check-in.

| * Pre-Jr. Buck | Male animal up to 3 months of age |
| * Pre-Jr. Doe | Female animal up to 3 months of age |
| Jr. Buck | Male animal between the age of 3 to 6 months |
| Jr. Doe | Female animal between the age of 3 to 6 months |
| 6-8 Buck | Male animal between 6 to 8 months |
| 6-8 Doe | Female animal between 6 to 8 months |
| Sr. Buck | Male animal 8 months of age or older |
| *Sr. Doe | Female animal 8 months of age or older |
| * Meat Pen (Commercial Breeds Only) | Consists of three animals of the same breed and color, each weighing between 3.5 and 5.5 pounds and not over 69 days of age. To be the most competitive, the meat pens should be uniform in weight, size, and condition as possible. |
| * Pet Rabbit | One Rabbit only. You must be taking Pet Rabbit Project #227. Rabbit stays in barn all week like the other rabbit projects. |
| * Single Fryer | One animal weighing between 3.5 to 5.5 lbs. and not over 69 days of age. |
| Doe and Litter (No nest boxes allowed) | Fancy litters must be at least 6 wks to 8 wks old and shall not exceed 56 days of age. Commercial litters must be at least 6 wks old and shall not exceed 69 days of age. To be most competitive, the litter should be uniform in size, weight, and condition. A
commercial litter should consist of at least 4 kits. Small breed doe and litters should consist of at least 2 kits and must have additional containment wire around the lower perimeter of the cage to prevent kits from exiting the cage. You must be at least a second year exhibitor to take this project.

Matched Breeding Pair

This pair is to be at least 6 months of age or older. Members are to choose a Buck and Doe that they think would produce a good litter if the best qualities of both rabbits were combined. You must be at least a second year exhibitor to take this project.

Rules:

1. **Securing Rabbits for Breeding Rabbit Project #225** – Rabbits must be secured by the member by May 15 of the participating year to be eligible for county fair competition with the exception of: Pre-Jrs., and Litters exhibited as Doe and Litter. These projects must be bred and raised by member. Due to death or disability of animal, members may substitute until mandatory registration. Members (at least second year) may substitute only from his or her own stock after registration, with approval by the committee. Members will be allowed to replace one class within the duration of that project.

2. **Mandatory Registration** – Exhibitors (or a representative) will be required to register all rabbits that will be exhibited at the Greene County Fair on a date held in early June (check calendar), at which time, all registration paperwork containing breed, age and sex will be completed. There will be no additional entries after this date. All rabbits must be tattooed by this date or they may be brought to the June 12th Tag-in and Clinic for tattooing except Meat Pen and Single Fryer rabbits. Rabbits previously tattooed need not be physically brought on this date; just rabbits needing tattooing. If exhibitors are unable to attend registration session, they may turn registration papers in to the Extension Office prior to registration date.

3. **Tattooing** – All rabbits, except kits (babies), being exhibited at fair are to be permanently ear tattooed in the left ear prior to being taken to the county fair. All rabbits except Meat Pens, Single Fryers, and Pre-Jrs may be tattooed at the June 12th Tag-in and Clinic. All Meat Pens, Single Fryers, and Pre-Jrs that come from the Doe and Litter class must be tattooed at the July 24th tag in.

4. **Rabbit Sales** – Only Commercial Rabbit Meat Pens will be sold in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. 4-H and FFA members are to indicate by 12:00 noon following show of fair week if they do not wish to sell their Meat Pen. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Meat Pens must be sold. Meat pens must be weighed on the evening of fair check-in, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. only. Tattoos will be verified at this time. If rabbits cannot be verified from the July 24th tag in, they will not be allowed to be exhibited. A total of four rabbits will be allowed to weigh for Meat Pen and Single Fryer classes. Any unnatural forced consumption of water, feed, or other substance will be subject to disqualification. There will be no re-weighs. Any rabbit being sold through the Junior Fair Sales may be requested to provide pedigree to the buyer at the time of the sale.

5. **Equipment** – Watering/feeding crocks (no hanging water bottles permitted) and bedding (pine savings only, no straw or cedar shavings allowed) must be provided by the exhibitor. It is suggested that heavy (ceramic) crocks be used to maintain clean hutches and adequate water/feed for the rabbits. No nest boxes allowed. False bottoms are MANDATORY for each rabbit cage at the fair. Instructions are available for making false bottoms or they can be rented or purchased at the fair.

6. **Clothing** – Members exhibiting rabbits or competing in any rabbit contest are expected to wear white long sleeved shirts, white show coats, or a button down show shirt with a show type apron along with jeans and closed toed shoes.

**Commercial Breeds**: Americans, Crème D'Argent, Angora (Giants), Flemish Giant, Beveran, Hotot, Californian, Lop (English), Champagne D’Argent, Lop (French), Checkered Giant, New Zealand, Chinchilla
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(American), Palomino, Chinchilla (Giant), Satin, Cinnamon, Silver Fox, or any other breed sanctioned by ARBA.

**Fancy Breeds:** American Fuzzy Lop, Havana, American Sable, Himalayan, Angora (English), Jersey Wooly, Angora (French), Lilac, Angora (Satin), Lop (Holland), Belgian Hare, Lop (Mini), Britannia Petite, Mini Rex, Chinchilla (Standard), Netherland Dwarf, Dutch, Polish, Dwarf Hotot, Rex, English Spot, Rhinelander, Florida White, Silver, Harlequin, Silver Marten, Tan, Lionhead, or any other breed sanctioned by ARBA.

**RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST**

**Procedure:** The contest will be conducted and scored according to state 4-H standards. Helpful information can be found in the Rabbit Resource Book and in the ARBA Standard of Perfection (available from the American Rabbit Breeders Association).

**Rules:**
1. Open to any 4-H or FFA member with a rabbit exhibit at the Greene County Fair.
2. Contestants must wear long sleeved shirts, show coats, or a button down show shirt with a show type apron.
3. Contestants must stay out of the contest area until they compete.
4. There will be three divisions: Beginning (ages 8-10), Intermediate (11-13), and Advanced (14 and up).
   Note: Age is as of January 1 of the current calendar year.

**RABBIT JUDGING CONTEST**

**Guidelines and Rules:**
1. Open to any 4-H or FFA member who has a rabbit exhibit at the Greene County Fair and any adults.
2. All contestants must sign up before the contest begins.
3. The person in charge of the contest can excuse a contestant or place them anywhere in the order of judging to prevent conflict with other departments.
4. The objective is to judge each rabbit like a rabbit show judge would do. Mark the score sheet for each rabbit, placing each rabbit lettered A, B, C and D in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place. Sign your sheet and turn it in to the person in charge. Contestants must write legibly.
5. The correct answer will be determined by the visiting judge.
6. We may use live animals this year. Multiple breeds may be judged. If live animals are not available we will be using pictures showing 3 views of each rabbit: side view, top view, and back view of four different rabbits of the same breed.
7. The contest will be in an area with different breeds or the rabbit's pictures. Four contestants will be in the area at a time and will rotate between the tables with a two-minute time limit for each breed.
8. One person, the timer, will signal time to start judging. The timer will also give a warning when there is twenty (20) seconds remaining.
9. No contestant is allowed in the judging area prior to having judged the animals.
   a. Divisions: Beginning (age 8 -10), Intermediate (age 11-13), and Advanced (age 14 and up). Note: Age is as of January 1 of the current calendar year.

**Rabbit Costume Contest**
1. Contestant must be a 4-H or FFA member and must show an exhibited rabbits at the Greene County Fair.
2. You must sign-up in advance of the contest. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the Rabbit Barn. 3. Will take place on Wednesday of fair week at 7:00 p.m.
4. An exhibitor may dress up only one single rabbit.
5. Rabbit costume may be purchased or homemade. Contestants can dress up to match their rabbit.
6. Costumes MUST be appropriate, which is determined by the committee.
7. Committee will provide an uneven number of judges.
8. Awards will be awarded after the contest.

**Breeding Rabbit Birth Dates for 2021 Fair**

- Meat Pen and Single Fryer = 5/26/2021
- Seniors = 12/03/20 and earlier
- 6/8 = 12/04/20 - 02/03/21
- Juniors = 02/04/21 - 05/03/21
- Pre-Juniors = 05/04/21 and after
- Fancy D&L = 06/08/21 - 06/22/21
- Commercial D&L = 05/26/21 - 06/22/21
- Matching Breeding Pair = 02/03/21 and earlier

**Recommended Breeding Dates for Meat Pens and Single Fryers**

- 4/25/2021: This is 100 days prior to the show day. Remember that each individual rabbit must weigh between 3.5 and 5.5 pounds. Any under or overweight rabbits will be ineligible for placing in the show. Underweight animals are also excluded from the sale.