

4-H Market Rabbit Record

Year _____

Name _____ Club _____

Signature (I have completed this project) _____

4-H Age _____ Year in 4-H _____ Year in Project _____

(Check those that apply to this year:) Exhibition Meat Production
 Breeding Stock Wool Production

I have worked my project during this time period:

from _____ through _____, totaling _____ months

Picture of you and your Project here

NDSU
Extension Service
North Dakota State University

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Introduction

The 4-H Market Rabbit Record is for members wanting to learn to raise domestic rabbits for market. Market means meat, wool (angora breeds), to sell for show, or to sell as breeding stock. This project is suitable for those wanting to raise and sell rabbits for pets, but not for those wishing to raise a rabbit as a pet. *Those wishing to raise rabbits as pets are encouraged to enroll in the 4-H Small Pets project.*

Meat Project: 4-H'er keeps one or more does and breeds them to a suitable buck. Resulting litters are marketed as fryers at approximately 56-70 days of age. Selected rabbits are retained for breeding stock. Others are marketed as fryers or processed for home consumption. *4-H'er should raise at least one rabbit that is suitable for the meat project, if that 4-H'er is planning to participate in the county auction at Achievement Days.*

Pets or non-slaughter market: 4-H'er keeps one or more does and breeds her/them to a suitable buck(s). Resulting litters are marketed as pets, as breeding stock, or are plucked or sheared for their wool.

Objectives for Rabbit Project:

1. Learn basic principles of Animal Science.
2. Acquire skills in the selection, management, and marketing of healthy rabbits.
3. Learn and practice skills in selection, evaluation, judging, and reasons.
4. Learn and develop proper showmanship skills.
5. Develop presentation skills through public speaking, demonstrations, tours, judging, etc.

Minimum requirements:

1. Feed, care for, and keep records (i.e. this book) on *at least* one rabbit.
2. Participate in, or at least attend, one small stock show or exposition where rabbits are featured.
3. Participate in at least one judging event that contains at least one class of rabbits (such as a fair or county achievement day).
4. Participate in at least one rabbit showmanship event.

My personal goals:

___ **I accomplished my goals.**

___ **I didn't accomplish all my goals. (Explain:)**

Sources for this booklet include: "Rabbit Record" from Washington State University Cooperative Extension; "4-H Market Rabbit Record Guide" from West Virginia University Extension Service; "4-H Rabbit Record" from University of Arizona, Yavapai County Extension Service; "Indiana 4-H Rabbit Records"; and "North Dakota 4-H Swine Breeding Project Record" from NDSU Extension Service.

Project Inventory

An inventory at the start and the close of your rabbit project is a necessary part of your rabbit record. The beginning inventory lists all items on hand at the start of the project (animals & equipment) together with their value. Beginning inventory values are either (1) the amount paid or (2) the estimated market value of the stock or items at the start of the project. Inventory items purchased after the project starts will be entered as expenses and in the closing inventory. The closing inventory is the estimated market value. Use current market price for rabbits used in home consumption, or estimate 80 cents per pound live weight if unknown. In the closing inventory, give the actual value of remaining or partially consumed supplies (such as feed, shavings, medication, etc.) *Example: 10 pounds of rabbit feed @ \$9.00 per 50-pound bag would be worth \$1.80.* Items such as crocks, feeders, etc. should be depreciated at a rate of **15-20%** per year. *Therefore, a hutch purchased new for \$25.00 would be worth \$20 at the end of the year.* Items that are four years or older may be given a salvage value – generally the lowest percent depreciated after four years, or the fair market value one might expect to get if selling the item (*a four-year-old \$25 hutch would be valued about \$10.24*). If part of a larger operation, show estimated value only for that portion used for this project.

Opening Inventory	Value	Closing Inventory	Value
Stock (animals)		Stock (animals)	
Facilities, Equipment, & Supplies		Facilities, Equipment, & Supplies	
Building(s)			
Hutches or Holes			
Feeders			
Waterers			
Nest Boxes			
Grooming supplies			
Show supplies & fees			
Training table			
Reference Materials			
Feed (pellets & hay, etc.)		Feed (pellets & hay, etc.)	
Medications/health care items		Medications/health care items	
TOTAL Opening VALUE		TOTAL Closing VALUE	

Labor Record

This page is for your use in keeping a record of your labor. Calculate the average amount of time spent on your project each day and multiply by the number of days in the particular month. Add to this number any special or additional hours worked and enter the total amount in the "Total Hours" column. At the conclusion of your project, total the number of hours worked. Examples of work undertaken: feeding & watering (F&W), cleaning (C), breeding (B), record-keeping (R), traveling (T). Be as specific as you can when describing work undertaken.

Work Undertaken (hours)

Month	Daily Work (F&W)	Regular Work (R)	Regular Work (C)	Special Work (B)	Special Work (T)	Special Work (other)	TOTAL HOURS LABOR
Year Totals							

Date and Description of Special Work:

TOTALS : _____ number of hours X _____ rate* per hour = _____ Total Labor Cost**

*Rate should be an appropriate rate for this type of work and your experience level.

**Transfer Total Labor Cost to Financial Summary on page 7.

MARKET RABBIT PROJECT

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Year _____

Income

Stock – sold (page 4)	\$ _____
Stock – home use (page 5)	\$ _____
Wool/Fur – sold or home use (page 4)	\$ _____
Equipment – sold (page 4)	\$ _____
Other Products – sold (page 4)	\$ _____
Other Products – home use (estimated value)	\$ _____
Cash Awards, including fair premiums*	\$ _____

*auction money may not be received by close of year

Sub - total INCOME \$ _____

Closing Inventory on hand (page 3) \$ _____

TOTAL INCOME \$ _____

Expenses

Stock – purchased (page 4)	\$ _____
Equipment / Facilities purchased/rented (page 4)	\$ _____
Feed Cost (page 4)	\$ _____
Other (page 4)	\$ _____
[healthcare	\$]
[medications	\$]
[show expense	\$]
[miscellaneous exp.	\$] \$ _____

Labor Cost (page 6) \$ _____

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ _____

NET PROJECT INCOME **(+ or -)** \$ _____

Total Expense subtracted from total income equals net project income. If total income is less than total expenses, you have lost money on your project. Find the reason and make necessary changes if you are keeping the Market Rabbit Project as a business. Keep in mind, though, that not all projects make money. For example, a show rabbit has several show expenses and may not produce income, but the pleasure and experience of having the rabbit is well worth the expense. You must keep records to have a better idea from where the money comes and for what it is spent. Your good animals will appear on the closing inventory because of their value as breeders. You can cull and sell rabbits with poor records.

OVERALL PROJECT SUMMARY: (circle appropriate response, and explain)

This project was *worth / not worth* my effort because:

I *will / will not* continue in this project next year because:

