

# DEPARTMENT 14

## YOUTH – RABBITS & CAVIES

SUPERINTENDENT: Doug Kukulis, 616-868-0286  
ASST: Gail Cross, 269-945-5740; Gail Robinson, 269-965-7516; Jackie DeArmond, 616-891-7629; Becky Rugg, 269-963-0795; Reba Stephenson, 269-672-7693  
TEEN: Alicia White, David DeArmond, Christopher DeArmond & Sara Glass  
Cavy Supt: Samantha Harthy; Jason Lindberg

JUDGING: Showmanship, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.  
Immediately Followed by Meat & Breed Classes  
Young Clovers Showmanship: 12:00 p.m.

EACH EXHIBITOR IN THE RABBIT AND CAVY PROJECT AREA IS REQUIRED (Mandatory) TO EXHIBIT AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT (Notebook, Poster or Exhibit) FOR EACH SPECIE SHOWN. (MEAT RECORDS AND PET NOTEBOOKS DO NOT QUALIFY.) IF YOU ARE SHOWING BOTH RABBITS AND CAVIES, TWO EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS WILL BE REQUIRED, ONE FOR EACH. **ALL EXHIBITORS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE MANDATORY RABBIT/CAVY MEETING IN MARCH IN ORDER TO SHOW AT FAIR. IF THIS MEETING IS NOT ATTENDED YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SHOW AT FAIR.**

1. Superintendent is to be informed on the number of pens each club/group needs when fair entries are due. Each exhibitor will be assigned a pen(s) and entry is to remain there for the duration of the fair.
2. No exhibit is to be placed in the building until examined by the superintendent or his/her representative. **Exhibits will be admitted on Saturday from 4-7p.m.** Exhibits must be in place by 7p.m. Saturday.
3. All animals must be removed by 7:00 am on Sunday after fair. Any animals remaining after that time will be disposed of.
4. During the fair, Monday-Saturday, the building will be open 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
5. Barn duty schedules will be posted for all clubs.
6. All animals including **pet/mixed** breed classes must be tattooed or ear tagged for identification in the left ear. All meat entries are required to have an official emblem tattooed in their left ear in addition to the required identification to qualify for entry. Tattooing will be done at a special meeting held for such, by a member of the executive committee or fair superintendent. Deadline for tattooing is June 15. Personal tattoo must be in rabbits left ear before official emblem can be tattooed. Your beginning record keeping notes (date of birth, weights and etc.) must be available to tattooer.
7. **HEAVY CROCKS are to be provided by the exhibitor for water.** Light plastic, light aluminum bowls, tin cans and chipped or broken crocks are not acceptable. Water bottles are recommended for cavies ONLY.
- 8a. Daily cleaning, feeding and watering is the responsibility of the exhibitor. Lack of barn space allows for NO feed, water or equipment storage. All cages to be cleaned by 10:00 a.m. every day. **If this is not done by 10:00 am the exhibitor's cage will be tagged. It will be the 4-Her's responsibility to contact the Superintendent or an Asst Superintendent to see why the cage(s) have been tagged. After 3 tags the exhibitor's animal(s) will be sent home & no premiums will be awarded.**
  - b. Upon removal of animals on Sunday, each exhibitor is responsible for cleaning, disinfecting and storing cages.
- 9a. **Pet/Mixed** Breed classes will be judged by ARBA standards. Exceptions: Pet/mixed breed classes which will be judged on condition (fur, body, etc.).
  - b. **All animals with the market emblem must be shown in a market class or it's respective breed senior class & make senior weight.**

- c. Rabbits must be 3 months old or older to be shown in breed classes and weigh at least one half of minimum senior show weight. No unworthy rabbit(s) will be awarded a premium whether or not there is competition
- d. Due to bruising, meat rabbits can be shown ONLY in meat classes. They cannot be used in Showmanship or the Show of Champions.
- e. Cavies must be at least four (4) weeks old as of show day. No unworthy, undersize animal will be awarded a premium whether there is competition or not.
- f. ONLY purebred cavies may be shown in Sec. 21 - 23
10. No breeding during fair week. One animal to a cage with the exception of meat pens.
11. **PRE-REGISTRATION REGULATION**
  - a. All rabbits and cavies must be entered in the name of the bonafide 4-H, FFA owner or other youth. Rabbits and cavies must be owned by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Animals won in the raffle at the Barry County Show may also be exhibited at the fair.
  - b. All EXHIBITORS that plan to participate in the current fair are required to pre-register at the Extension Office by April 1.
  - c. All meat entries must be bred and raised by the exhibitor, with the doe being pre-registered at the Extension Office by April 1.
  - d. **Exhibitors will be limited to 5 breed and 2 meat entries on the MDA form due in June.** The number of entries per exhibitor is subject to the approval of the Superintendent and Barry County 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Developmental Committee Executive Board.
  - 11e. **No entry changes will be allowed at check-in or during the show. Extenuating circumstances need to be in writing to the Superintendent one week before check-in.**
  12. Exhibitors must handle their own animal during judging. Exceptions: breed classes due to conflict of showing other livestock species, then must be shown by another exhibitor.
  13. **JUDGING** - Exhibitors are asked not to leave the area until after judging is complete. Classes will not be re-judged if an exhibitor is absent. Reminder- The Best of Breed winners (those who win plates) will return at the end of the show to compete for Best in Show and Reserve. Meat classes, **Pet/Mixed** breed classes are not eligible.
  14. **FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP** – All exhibitors are required to participate in showmanship. **Dress code for showmanship is dark long pants, white long sleeve shirt or show coat with a white shirt under it; long hair tied back, closed toed shoes, no sandals, no jewelry or nail polish, no hats, neat and clean.** The showmanship animal must be shown in its own breed or **pet/mixed breed** class. Only ONE entry in showmanship classes per exhibitor. Exhibitor may not change showmanship animal during the show. First year exhibitors have the option of showing in the novice class or the appropriate class for their age. Classes will be judged using the Michigan 4-H Rabbit or Cavy Showmanship guidelines.
    - a. Rabbit Overall Showman. The first three places, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in each division will return and compete for the Kiwanis showmanship plaques as follows: Junior Plaque - novice 9-12, and Junior, Senior Plaque – intermediate, novice 13-18 and senior. The first place winner in each division shall receive a Showmanship pin.
    - b. Cavy Overall Showman. The first three places, 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in each division will return and compete for the Kiwanis showmanship plaque: Senior 15-18, Intermediate 12-14, Junior 9-11 and Novice 9-12. The first place winner in each division shall receive a Showmanship pin.
  15. **MEAT UNITS** - All meat entries must be bred and raised by the exhibitor, with the doe being pre-registered by April 1. Record keeping is required for all meat entries. Record notebooks must be validated by the superintendent or his/her representative at the time of check-in. Record notebooks must also be judged on Sunday 10am – 3pm. Each meat unit must have its own record keeping notebook (guidelines available from Ext. office). Exhibitor must be present for judging. Refer

to Small Animal Livestock Sale rules. **ALL MEAT UNITS** must be sold through Small Animal Livestock Sale. Only the Rabbit Judge may disqualify any meat unit that does not meet the basic criteria.

a. **MEAT RABBIT(S); FRYER PENS** - shall consist of three rabbits, same breed and variety, 3 1/2 to 5 pounds each in weight and not over 12 weeks (84 days) old. To be judged on meat type, condition & uniformity.

b. **SINGLE FRYER** - shall consist of one fryer rabbit weighing 3 1/2 to 5 pounds & not over 12 weeks (84 days) old. To be judged on meat type & condition. This rabbit CAN NOT be shown as part of the meat pen class.

c. **SINGLE ROASTER** - shall consist of one roaster rabbit weighing 5-7 pounds but not over 6 months (180 days) old. To be judged on meat type & condition. Refer to Small Animal Sale Rules.

16. **PROGENY CLASS** - Each entry shall consist of two rabbits/cavies owned by the same exhibitor. One shall be a senior and the second animal shall be one of its offspring. Rabbit offspring must be over 3 months but under 6 months of age. Cavy offspring must be over 4 weeks but under 6 months of age. These animals must also be entered in their respective breed class.

17. **CLUB HERD** - Shall consist of four animals. No more than two animals can be shown by one exhibitor. These animals will be judged on their own merits & how they fit together as a unit. The class can consist of any breed, sex or age group. A club may have more than one entry (exhibitor however can only have two entries in the class). Entry should be made under the club name. Ribbons awarded 1-6th place.

18. **RABBIT JUDGING CONTEST** - Four individual meat rabbits to be judged & oral reasons to be given. To be held Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Check-in at the rabbit barn. Ribbons awarded 1st-6th place.

19. **RABBIT/CAVY SKILL-A-THON** - A test of your knowledge related to rabbits/cavies will be held on Wednesday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

20. **RABBIT/CAVY NOTEBOOKS - EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS**. See Non-livestock, Notebooks Department for rules. Check in Saturday 4-8 p.m. Judging is Sunday 10am – 3pm. All notebook guidelines must be in notebook.

21. **EACH EXHIBITOR IN THE RABBIT AND CAVY PROJECT AREA IS REQUIRED (Mandatory) TO EXHIBIT AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT** (Notebook, Poster, or Exhibit) (Meat Records and **Pet/Mixed** Breed Rabbit/Cavy notebooks do not qualify). If you exhibit both rabbits & cavies you must do one educational project for each specie. Incomplete projects will disqualify entry. Each exhibitor must write one Thank-you & have it available at check-in. Two will be required if exhibiting both rabbits & cavies.

22. **RECORD KEEPING** - Class includes records or notebook required for meat class(es). See Non-livestock, Notebooks Department. Failure to present completed records for meat classes in a three ring binder at time of check-in disqualifies the entry. Check in will be Saturday with judging on Sunday & exhibitor must be present for interview. Meat Class Record Keeping Notebooks must be on display at the Small Animal Livestock Auction, Thursday.

23. **PET/MIXED BREED RABBIT CLASS** - The purpose of this class is to give the single rabbit owner, who keeps his/her animal as a pet/mixed breed, an opportunity to show & exhibit their project. The rabbit will be judged on its own merit and not by the ARBA standard.

a. **Pet/Mixed** Breed Judging with Notebook-Exhibitors must comply with pet/mixed breed class guidelines available at the Extension Office. Failure to present a completed notebook at time of check-in disqualifies the entry.

b. There is a limit of one **pet/mixed** breed rabbit per child. Exceptions can be brought before the Barry County 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Developmental Committee. The family cannot own or raise other rabbits.

24. **PET/MIXED BREED CAVY CLASS** - The purpose of this class is to give the cavy owner, who keeps his/her animal as a pet/mixed breed, an opportunity to show & exhibit their project. The cavy will be judged on its own merit and not by the ARBA standard.

a. Pet/Mixed Breed judging with Notebook-Exhibitors must comply with Pet/Mixed Breed guidelines available at the Extension Office. Failure to present a complete notebook at time of check-in disqualifies the entry.

b. There is a limit of one **pet/mixed** cavy per child. Exceptions can be brought before the Barry County Rabbit/Cavy Developmental Committee. The family cannot own or raise other cavies.

c. If you know your cavy is not purebred you **MUST** enter that cavy in the PET/MIXED BREED CLASS, regardless of how the cavy looks.

d. **Pet/Mixed** Breed Class Plate winner is NOT eligible for Best In Show.

### Section 1- RABBIT SHOWMANSHIP

#### Premiums for Classes Listed Below

A - \$5.00; B - \$4.00; C - \$3.00

#### Class

3700. Senior division (ages 15-19).

3701. Senior novice division (ages 13-19, showing first year only).

3702. Intermediate division (ages 12-14).

3703. Junior division (ages 9-11).

3704. Novice division ages 9-12, showing first year only).

3705. Junior Showmanship - Grand Champion Plaque and ribbon - Reserve Ribbon.

3706. Senior Showmanship - Grand Champion Plaque and ribbon - Reserve Ribbon.

3707. Best overall champion – Trophy only.

#### Premiums for all Classes in Sections 2-17 Listed Below

1st- \$4.00, 2nd - \$3.50; 3rd - \$3.00

4th - \$2.50, 5th and 6th - Ribbons only

### Section 2 - MEAT RABBIT(S)

(See Rule #15)

#### Class

3710. Market Pen of three rabbits 3 1/2-5 lbs. each, and not over 12 weeks (84 days) old. Champion Trophy and Ribbon - Reserve Ribbon only.

3711. Single fryer - one rabbit 3 1/2-5 lbs. and not over 12 weeks, not to be chosen from Class 3520. Champion Trophy and Ribbon - Reserve Ribbon only.

3712. Market Roaster one rabbit over 5 lbs. but not over 7 lbs. and not over 6 months (180 days) of age. Champion Trophy and Ribbon - Reserve Ribbon only.

### Section 3 – PET/MIXED BREED RABBIT CLASS

(Notebook required, See Rule 23)

#### Class

3725. 1st year.

3726. 2nd year and up.

3727. Best of Breed - Champion Trophy and Ribbon. Reserve Ribbon Only.

### Section 4 - CALIFORNIANS

#### Class

3730. Senior Buck - over six months of age.

3731. Senior Doe - over six months of age.

3732. Junior Buck - three months old but under six months of age.

3733. Junior Doe - three months old but under six months of age.

3734. Best of Breed - Champion Trophy and Ribbon Reserve Ribbon only.

Same classes and premiums for each of the breeds listed below as in Section 4.

**Section 5 - NEW ZEALAND**

(All Colors)

**Section 6 – REX**

(All Colors)

**Section 7 - SATIN**

(All Colors)

**Section 8 - ANY OTHER HEAVY BREED  
PUREBREDS**

(American, Beveren, Champagne D'Argent, Checkered Giant, American Chinchilla, Giant Chinchilla, Cinnamon, Hotot, Crème D'Argent, Giant Angora, Flemish Giant, French Lop, English Lop, Palomino, Silver Fox)

**Section 9 - DUTCH**

(All Colors)

**Section 10 - FLORIDA WHITE**

**Section 11 - MINI LOP**

(All Colors) **Section 12 - ANY OTHER MEDIUM BREED  
PUREBREDS**

(English Angora, French Angora, Satin Angora, Belgian Hare, English Spot, Harlequin, Havana, Lilac, Rhinelander, Silver, American Sable, Silver Marten, Standard Chinchilla, Thrianta)

**Section 13 – HOLLAND LOP**

(all colors)

**Section 14 - MINI REX**

(all colors)

**Section 15 - NETHERLAND DWARF**

(All Colors)

**Section 16 - ANY OTHER LIGHT BREED  
PUREBREDS**

(Britannia Petite, Dwarf Hotot, Himalayan, Jersey Wooly, Polish, American Fuzzy Lop, Tan, Mini Satin)

**Section 17 – BEST OF SHOW**

**Class**

3740. Best of Show – Grand Champion Trophy and Ribbon; Reserve Ribbon.

**RABBIT – SPECIAL EVENTS**

1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> place, Ribbons only

See Superintendent to enter these events:

- Progeny Class – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Trophy Club Herd
- Meat Rabbit Judging
- Rabbit Skill-a-thon
- Rabbit/Cavy Breed ID Contest

**Section 18 - CAVY SHOWMANSHIP  
Premiums for Classes Listed Below**

A - \$5.00; B - \$4.00, C - \$3.00

**Class**

- 3750. Senior Division (ages 15-18).
- 3751. Intermediate Division (ages 12-14).
- 3752. Junior Division (ages 9-11).
- 3753. Novice Division (ages 9-12 showing first year only).
- 3754. Overall top showperson will be presented Grand Champion ribbon and trophy – Reserve ribbon only.

**Section 19 – LONG HAired COAT  
(Peruvian, Silkie, Coronet, Texel)  
Premiums for Classes in Sections  
19 thru 22 Listed Below**

1<sup>st</sup> - \$4.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$3.50; 3<sup>rd</sup> - \$3.00  
4<sup>th</sup> - \$2.50, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> – Ribbons only.

**Class**

- 3760. Senior Boar – over 6 months of age.
  - 3761. Senior Sow – over 6 months of age.
  - 3762. Junior Boar – under 6 months of age.
  - 3763. Junior Sow – under 6 months of age.
  - 3764. Best of Breed – champion Trophy and Ribbon. Reserve Ribbon Only.
- Same classes and premiums for each of the breeds listed below as in Section 19.

**Section 20 – SMOOTH COAT  
(American, Satins, and White Crested)**

**Section 21 – ROUGH COAT  
(Abyssinian and Teddy)**

**Section 22 – PET/MIXED BREED  
(Notebook Required, See Rule 24)**

**Section 23 – CAVY BEST OF SHOW**

**Class**

3765. Best of Show – Grand Champion Trophy and Ribbon. Reserve Ribbon. Winners of trophies from Section 19 – 21 will compete for these awards. (\*Mixed Breed/Pet is not eligible for this award.)

**CAVY SPECIAL EVENT**

Trophy and 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, Ribbons only  
See Superintendent to enter this event:  
Cavy Progeny Class  
Cavy Club Herd

**POCKET PETS**

Superintendent: Larissa Tolan, 269-945-0400  
Teen: Daniel Soghomonian  
**Judging: 6:00 P.M. Wednesday**

Participants must have all exhibits examined.

1. Pocket pets include the following: fresh water aquarium fish, tame house birds, reptiles - (non-poisonous, pet store type, under 4 foot in length) lizards (no alligators or crocodiles), turtles (pet store type, must have 4 inch diameter shell), rodents - rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils, chinchillas, hedgehogs, frogs, hermit crabs and newts.
2. All Pocket Pets must be pre-registered by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Proof of vaccination MUST be turned in by pre-registration.
3. All animals are to be brought to the fairgrounds on show day in secure, escape proof cages or containers. Fish should be brought in a one gallon container. Birds should have their wings clipped and beaks trimmed.
4. Member must be able to properly handle their animal(s), know the breed or type, sex and age of the animal(s), habitat, grooming & feeding needs, and breeding & birth habits. Remember: you are being judged on your knowledge of the animal(s) you're showing!
5. A veterinarian may be available an hour before judging to examine all animals.
6. A notebook and/or educational exhibit must accompany each animal. Guidelines for notebooks and/or educational projects are available at Extension office.