

Market Rabbit Record Book



For 4-H Market Rabbit and Pen of Three projects.



The 4-H Motto

“Learn to Do by Doing”

The 4-H Pledge

I pledge

My Head to clearer thinking

My Heart to greater loyalty,

My Hands to larger service,

My Health to better living,

For my club, my community, and my country.

The 4-H Grace

(Tune of Auld Lang Syne)

*We thank thee, Lord, for blessings great
on this, our own fair land.*

Teach us to serve thee joyfully,

with head, heart, health and hand.

Acknowledgements:

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The Creed of the 4-H Stock Keeper

I will:

1. Provide comfortable and sufficient quarters for my livestock.
2. Feed my livestock on time each day.
3. Provide animals with clean water at all times.
4. Keep my animals free from parasites.
5. Strive to keep my livestock in good health.
6. Learn as much as possible about the best methods of feeding and caring for livestock.
7. Strive to improve the breeding and quality of my livestock, and of the livestock in my community, from year to year.
8. Be kind to animals.
9. Always be a good sport in competition.
10. Keep an accurate record of my projects.
11. Complete my project and take part in all the activities of my 4-H club each year.

I have read and agree to abide by this creed.

Your Signature _____ Date _____



4-H AWARE Program

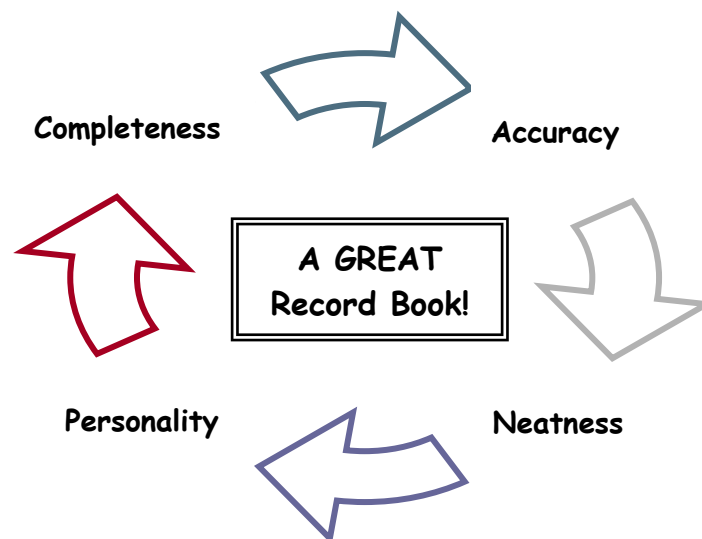
Your leader should review the 4-H AWARE program. AWARE is Animal Welfare, Animal Rights Education and being a rabbit 4-H member, this is an important topic. When you are at the fair, make sure that people know your animal has feed and water and explain the care of your animal. Before the fair, review all the aspects of your project and any questions that could be asked and try to have the answers at your stall.

About Your Record Book

Why do we keep records in 4-H?

- To record information about your animal.
- To record the work you have done.
- To record your club activities.
- To learn the importance of keeping accurate records in any business.
- So you can see the actual costs involved in completing your project. Without records, you cannot accurately tell how much of a gain or loss you have made on your investment.

What is involved in a Great Record Book?



- **Completeness** - A good record book has all the required information completed, including achievement day and an evaluation of your project year.
- **Accuracy** - Your figures and information should be accurate and up-to-date. Be accurate when weighing your feed and your animal.
- **Neatness** - Neatness is important in your record book. We realize that you are working on your record book throughout the year and will do your best to keep your book neat.
- **Personality** - This is the story of your project and experiences. Be original and personal in the information you keep in your book. Add photographs (with captions), newspaper and magazine articles on you, your club, your project type and 4-H. Your record book will be important to you for many years.

Flexibility is the Key!

The key to this rabbit record book is flexibility. Start by putting these pages in a three ring binder. Add extra pages if you need more room. Make this your personal record book. Remember that this a record book of YOUR WORK WITH YOUR PROJECT!

Hints for Keeping Good Records

Helpful Hint: Keep a calendar and a pen somewhere handy to your animal. Whenever you change the feed, or your animal is treated or vaccinated, you can quickly grab your calendar and mark it down. When it is time to write the information in your record book, the information is easy to find and accurate.

- Read the instructions for each section carefully. Make sure that you know in advance which records you must keep in that section. If you have any questions, ask your leader, he or she is there to help you!
- If you do not know feed prices, there are many people you can contact. Your club may decide to set prices at the start of the project year. Consult your parents, Internet websites, local radio reports, feed companies, your local agriculture specialist, your leader, your neighbor and so on. Prices will vary during the year.
- Be consistent in your units for weight. No matter which type of units you use (metric or imperial) use the same type of units through your entire book.
- Keeping records is a good business procedure. A good record book will be important in future projects for your decision-making. . For market rabbit projects you must keep records for at least 60 days. Your achievement day must be included in the 60 day record period.
- Keep your records up-to-date! Problems are caused by forgetting to record last month's feeds, or not recording changes in the feeds.
- Be accurate in your feed weight so you can accurately reflect the costs of maintaining your project.
- Include all costs, no matter how small. This will give you a true picture of your actual costs.
- Identify any purchases or losses of equipment during the project year.

About Me and My Club

About Me

My name _____

Address _____

My age at January 1st this year _____

This is my _____ year in 4-H

About My Club

Club Name _____

Number of members _____

This club has been operating for _____ years.

Name

Phone Number

Club Leader(s):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Club Executive:

President _____	_____
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Vice President _____	_____
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Secretary _____	_____
-----------------	-------

Treasurer _____	_____
-----------------	-------

Press Reporter _____	_____
----------------------	-------

Safety Officer _____	_____
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More About Me

I joined 4-H this year because...

This year in 4-H, I hope to accomplish...

This year I will contribute to my club by...

About My Market Rabbit Project

Name of Animal _____ Date of Birth _____

Purebred or Crossbred _____ Breed _____

4-H Eartag/Tattoo _____

Dam Breed and Name _____

Sire Breed and Name _____

Date purchased _____ Purchase price or initial value _____

Purchased from: Name _____ Farm/Breeder _____

Include a photograph here, taken within the first two months of the project year. Be sure to put a title and date.

(Add more pages to show all of your photographs from throughout the year.)

4-H Year Planning

Complete this section at the beginning of the 4-H year.

How many and what kinds of animals will you care for (market rabbit or pen of three)?

What will you do to take care of them (example: feed, exercise, grooming)?

What goals do you want to accomplish with your project (example: fit to frame)?

What activities do you want to try (example: a regional 4-H event, judging rally)?

Caring for My Animal

Check the things that you are already doing well to care for your animal.
Check which ones you can improve on.

I'm already doing	I want to improve	Care
		Prepare facilities before I get my animal.
		Provide adequate housing and bedding.
		Feed my animal daily and on a regular schedule.
		Feed a balanced ration.
		Provide access to good quality water at all times.
		Control internal and external parasites.
		Train animals to be handled at a young age.
		Have a planned health program to prevent disease.
		Observe animals daily and get treatment for those needing it.
		Aware of the signs that my animal is in pain or is suffering.
		Keep feed and treatment records.
		Be aware of an animal's comfort (physical and mental).
		Minimize or eliminate all procedures or circumstances that may cause stress to my animal.
		Take the time to understand the behavioral needs (e.g. companionship) of my animals.
		Transport my animal safely and with concern for them.

Market Rabbit Management

Your animal requires regular care and management. Here is the place to explain what you regularly do for or with your animal on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Be as specific as possible. Use the “Caring for My Animal” checklist on the previous page as a guideline for this page.

Remember to list the following:

- Feeding and watering practices
- Bedding
- Grooming
- Check health
- Clean cage, feed and water containers
- Manure removal
- Checking and repairing equipment as needed

What I do for / with my project animal...

Daily:

Weekly:

Monthly:

Equipment Inventory

This page will be used to keep track of all equipment that the member owns and all the items will be assigned a value. The Equipment Inventory will be continuous from year to year and should be transferred to the current Record Book each year. Do not include items that you put in Other Costs.

Example:

Date	Equipment Item	Value of Purchased Equipment of Carried Forward	10% Depreciation (\$)	Remaining Value to be Carried Forward (\$)
<i>April 1, 20XX</i>	<i>Food Dish</i>	<i>\$8.50</i>	<i>\$0.85</i>	<i>\$7.65</i>
<i>April 15, 20XX</i>	<i>Water Bottle</i>	<i>\$7.00</i>	<i>\$0.70</i>	<i>\$6.30</i>

Date	Equipment Item	Value of Purchased Equipment of Carried Forward	10% Depreciation (\$)	Remaining Value to be Carried Forward (\$)
Total Depreciation Costs				

Monthly Feed Record

Weight measured in gr / oz (circle one)

Include the values of pellets, hay, and veggies that your project animal receives. For each month in the feed chart, record your weight values in grams or ounces and your price values in cents. At the bottom of the chart calculate your subtotals in grams/ounces and cents, and then convert the total value into kilograms/pounds and dollars.

If your market rabbit(s) are still nursing include that in the feed chart with a cost of \$0. Once your market rabbit(s) do start consuming solid feed, calculate and record only the weight and value of the feed your project animals are eating. This can be done by weighing the amount of feed provided to the whole litter and dividing it by the number of kits in the litter.

Monthly Record For: April (Example for your reference)

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed [1]	Weight of feed per day gr/oz [2]	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz [3]	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz [4]	Monthly Feed Cost (¢) [5]
	[1]	[2]	[3] = [1] x [2]	[4]	[5] = [3] x [4]
Nursing	30	-	-	0 ¢	0 ¢
Pellets	15	100 gr	1500 gr	0.045 ¢	67.5 ¢
Hay	15	50 gr	750 gr	0.01 ¢	7.5 ¢
Subtotals			2250 gr (A) 2.25 kg		75 ¢ (B) \$0.75

Monthly Record For:

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed	Weight of feed per day gr/oz	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz	Monthly Feed Cost (¢)
Subtotals			Total (A1) kg	gr	Total (B1) \$ ¢

Monthly Feed Record

Weight measured in gr / oz (circle one)

Monthly Record For: _____

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed	Weight of feed per day gr/oz	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz	Monthly Feed Cost (¢)
Subtotals			Total (A2) kg	gr	Total (B2) \$ ¢

Monthly Feed Record

Weight measured in gr / oz (circle one)

Monthly Record For: _____

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed	Weight of feed per day gr/oz	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz	Monthly Feed Cost (¢)
Subtotals			Total (A3)	gr	Total (B3) \$ ¢

		kg		
--	--	----	--	--

Monthly Feed Record

Weight measured in gr / oz (circle one)

Monthly Record For: _____

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed	Weight of feed per day gr/oz	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz	Monthly Feed Cost (¢)
Subtotals			Total (A4) gr kg		Total (B4) \$ ¢

Monthly Feed Record

Weight measured in gr / oz (circle one)

Monthly Record For: _____

Feed (nursing, pellets, hay, veggies)	Number of days on feed	Weight of feed per day gr/oz	Monthly Weight (number of days x weight of feed per day) gr/oz	Price per Weight Unit gr/oz	Monthly Feed Cost (¢)
Subtotals			Total (A5) gr kg		Total (B5) \$ ¢

Total Feed Amounts and Expenses

Month	Monthly Weight of Feed (from pg 11-13)		Monthly Feed Cost (\$) (from pg 11-13)
	(A1)		(B1)
	(A2)		(B2)
	(A3)		(B3)
	(A4)		(B4)
	(A5)		(B5)
Total Feed (kgs/lbs) = A1+A2+A3+A4+A5		Total Feed Expenses (\$) = B1+B2+B3+B4+B5	

Market Rabbit Project Feed Information

Attach a Feed Ingredient Slip/Nutritional Analysis from your rabbit pellets. If a slip is not available, please describe your feed source as best as possible.

Did you change your feed or your feeding program during the course of the project?
If yes, why and how did it change?

How did you determine how much to feed your animal?

Health and Veterinary Record

Animal(s)' Veterinarian: _____

Veterinarian's Phone Number: _____

Record all health management practices and treatments given to your project animal(s). It should include any vaccinations, de-worming, or other treatments you provide to your animal. Add more pages as you need them.

Date	Animal(s) Treated	Condition/Problem	Treatment Given	Cost (\$)
Total Health and Veterinary Expenses				

Medications

It is important to record medications and when they are through the animal's system (withdrawal). Remember to document ALL medications or medicated feeds and withdrawal times.

Date Administered or Fed	Medication Name (Medication added/included in feed and approximate amount of medication)	Withdrawal Time (Instructed)	Withdrawal Complete (Date)

Withdrawal Time Affidavit

I, _____ (print), of the _____ 4-H Club, attest that to the best of my knowledge, the withdrawal times of the medications and/or medicated feeds administered to my market rabbits were strictly adhered to. I understand that it is my responsibility to monitor withdrawal times in my market animals to protect the safety of the food supply.

<i>4-H Member's Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Parent or Guardian Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

My Market Rabbit Project Planning

Goal Setting

To achieve success with your 4-H market rabbit project, it is important you know the estimated final weight of your animal and keep track of your progress toward that goal throughout the feeding period. Determining the finished weight and average daily gain are important in setting goals for your project and then deciding on a feeding plan to reach that goal.

Generally market rabbits will finish out at 4-6 lbs (1.8-2.7 kg) depending on the size of the breeds frame.

Identify what frame size your market rabbit(s) have based on their breed.

Small Frame examples: Florida White, Havana

Medium Frame examples: New Zealand, Californian

Large Frame examples: Flemish Giant, French Lop

Complete this chart and select a goal weight for each market rabbit based on its frame size.

Rabbit ID or Name	Initial Weigh Date	Initial Weight (kg or lbs)	Frame Size Based on Breed	Goal for Finished Weight (kg or lbs)

Use the following formula to calculate the required Average Daily Gain for each rabbit to reach its goal finished weight.

Rabbit ID or Name	Goal Finish Weight	-	Initial Weight	=	Total Gain Required	/	Number of Days in Feed Period	=	Targeted Average Daily Gain)ADG)
		-		=		/		=	
		-		=		/		=	
		-		=		/		=	

Growth Chart

Now that you have your estimated final weight(s) and your targeted average daily gain(s) you can make a chart to help you track your animal's progress. In the chart below plot the predicted growth curve (based on the average daily gain) and then plot the actual weight of your animal(s) at various times during the feeding period to determine if you are "on target". Compare the actual growth curve with the targeted growth line. Are there any adjustments needed in how much you are feeding?

1. Once you have selected your market rabbit(s), mark its/their initial weight(s) at the appropriate location on the left-hand side of the table.
2. Mark the estimated final weight at the appropriate location for the number of weeks in the feeding period (if you plan to market your rabbit 8 weeks after the initial weigh in, the final weight should be charted at 8 weeks).
3. Chart the predicted growth by connecting these 2 points with either a straight or curved line; based on your predicted average daily gain.
4. Continue to weight your rabbit(s) once a week for the duration of the project marking the weight at the appropriate locations on the table (week 1, week 2 ...etc.) Connect these points to chart the rabbit's actual growth. Use a different colour for the actual and predicted growth so it will be easy for you to compare.

8 lbs											
7.5 lbs											
7 lbs											
6.5 lbs											
6 lbs											
5.5lbs											
5lbs											
4.5 lbs											
4 lbs											
3.5 lbs											
3 lbs											
2.5 lbs											
2 lbs											
1.5 lbs											
1 lb											
0.5 lbs											
Initial Weigh-in	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	

If you are raising more than one market rabbit chart each rabbit's growth separately; each on separate charts or all on the same chart using different colours. Also, record your animal's weight in the Project Weight Record Table (page 6).

Market Rabbit Project Weight Record

For weights taken after the Initial Weigh-In. Remember to keep plotting your weights on the Growth Chart to track your actual gains versus your predicted gains.

Rabbit ID or Name:				
Weigh Date	End Weight	Start Weight	Weight Gain	Average Daily Gain (divide weight gain by # of days since last weigh in)

Rabbit ID or Name:				
Weigh Date	End Weight	Start Weight	Weight Gain	Average Daily Gain (divide weight gain by # of days since last weigh in)

Market Rabbit Project Weight Record continued

Rabbit ID or Name:				
Weigh Date	End Weight	Start Weight	Weight Gain	Average Daily Gain (divide weight gain by # of days since last weigh in)

My Market Rabbit Project Other Expenses

In this section you will record your other costs to prepare your project for achievement day. Please feel free to include attachments of actual expenses with your record book. The types of expenses to include on this sheet are Bedding, Grooming Supplies, Show Entry Fees, Marketing of Animals and Miscellaneous Expenses. Do not include anything in this section that was already listed on the health record or equipment inventory

Date	Type of Expense	Amount
Total Other Expenses		

My Market Rabbit Project Show Record

In this section, you will list the shows you attended with your project animal(s). If you earned prize money, put the value in the income portion of the table.

Date	Show and Judge	Class	Prize Earned	Income
Total Show Income				

My Market Rabbit Project Financial Summary

Income:

Sale price or estimated value of animal(s) at end of project	\$	<input type="text"/>
Total show income (page 23)	+	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL INCOME	=	<input type="text"/>

Expenses:

Purchase Price or initial value of animal(s) (page 6)		<input type="text"/>
Depreciation Cost (page 10)	+	<input type="text"/>
Total Feed Expenses (page 14)	+	<input type="text"/>
Health and Veterinary Expenses (page 17)	+	<input type="text"/>
Other Expenses (page 22)		<input type="text"/>
TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES	=	<input type="text"/>

Profit or Loss Calculation:

Total Income	-	Total Project Expense	=	Profit or Loss
<input type="text"/>	-	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text"/>

1. Did you have a profit or loss?

2. If you had sold this animal at today's market price, would you have made a profit or loss?

Indicate the current market price per weight unit.

Using this current market price per weight unit and the total weight of your Market Rabbit(s) determine the total market price of your project.

Market Price - Expenses = Real Life Profit or Loss

Note: The person who bought your project supports you, as a 4-H member, by paying a premium price (more than market value). You are expected to send a thank you note to your buyer.

My Animal's Performance

If you completed a pen of three project add the weight of the three animals together for this section.

Final Weight - Initial Weight = Total Weight Gain

	-		=	
--	---	--	---	--

Total Weight Gain / Number of Days on Feed = Average Daily Gain

	-		=	
--	---	--	---	--

Junior members, continue on page 25. Senior members continue to work through the calculations.

Feed Cost per Kilogram or Pound of Weight Gain

Total Feed Cost (from Expense Record) = Feed cost per kilogram or pound of Weight Gain

Total Weight Gain

	=	

This tells you how much it costs to feed your animal(s) for one kilogram or pound of gain in weight. This does not include your other expenses.

Feed Cost per kilogram or pound of Weight Gain

Total Project Expense - Initial Value = Total Cost per kilogram or pound of Weight Gain

Total Weight Gain

	-		=	\$

Breakeven Sale Price Needed to Cover All Costs

Total Project Expense = Breakeven sale price needed to cover all costs

Actual Sale Weight

	=	

Record of My Project's Progress

Include photographs with captions of your project and your 4-H year on photo pages.

Month	Comment - How did your project do this month, questions, comments?
	Member: Leader Initial:
	Member: Leader Initial:
	Member: Leader Initial:
	Member: Leader Initial:
	Member: Leader Initial:
	Leader Initial:

Leader's Comments (for entire 4-H year)

My Market Rabbit Project Photo Album

Be creative. The more photographs, the better! A completed record book should at least have a beginning photograph and a finished picture. You are encouraged to be in the photo with your project animal and include more photographs. You should also include captions on your pictures that at least include the date of the photograph. You may use additional pages.

Club Activity Log

It is important to always keep track of the meetings, field trips and events you participate in and learn from your experiences. Describe with detail what you did, what you learned and what you completed during the year with your club or on your own.

Date	Meeting, Field Trip, At Home or Event	What you learned or accomplished
<i>Feb. 20, 20XX</i>	<i>Club Public Speaking</i>	<i>Gave my speech and gained confidence as a speaker</i>

Date	Meeting, Field Trip, At Home or Event	What you learned or accomplished

My Market Rabbit Project Year Summary

What I learned this year

This section is to be completed at the end of the 4-H year. It is meant to help you look back on all that you have learned during the past year. Look back on the goals you set for yourself at the beginning of the year. How well did you meet those goals?

How did you improve or learn the skills you wanted to learn?

How did you accomplish the goals you set for yourself?

What new activities did you try?

In what way did you help or teach others?
