

# Racine County 4-H Rabbit Project



Rabbit Booklet

2015

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## Choosing the right rabbit

### Factors to consider

**Size:** The breed of rabbit you choose should be small and light enough for you to handle easily.

#### *Four Class Rabbit Breeds*

Small (2-6 lbs)	Medium (over 6-9 lbs)
American Fuzzy Lop	American Sable
Britannia Petite	Belgian Hare
Dutch	English Angora
Dwarf Hotot	English Spot
Florida White	French Angora
Havana	Harlequin
Himalayan	Lilac
Holland Lop	Rex
Jersey Woolly	Rhineland
Mini Lop	Satin Angora
Mini Rex	Silver Marten
Netherland Dwarf	Standard Chinchilla
Polish	
Silver	
Tan	

**Senior Buck/Doe, 6 months and over**

**Junior Buck/Doe, under 6 months**

#### *Six Class Rabbit Breeds*

Large (over 9-11 lbs)	Giant (over 11 lbs)
American	Checkered Giant
American Chinchilla	Flemish Giant
Beveren	French Lop
Blanc de Hotot	Giant Chinchilla
Californian	Giant Angora
Champagne D'Argent	
Cinnamon	
Crème D'Argent	
English Lop	
New Zealand	
Palomino	
Satin	
Silver Fox	

**Senior Buck/Doe, 8 months and over**

**Intermediate Buck/Doe, 6-8 months**

**Junior Buck/Doe, under 6 months**

## Types of Rabbits

There are 48 recognized breeds of rabbits. There are 4- class and a 6-class rabbit.

### 4-Class Rabbit:

- Are usually smaller
- They are shown in 4 classes: Senior buck, Senior Doe, Junior Buck, Junior Doe
- They are sometimes called fancy rabbits.
- They are usually not used for food.

### 6-Class Rabbit

- Are usually large rabbits
- They are shown in 6 classes: Senior Buck, Senior Doe, 6/8 Buck, 6/8 Doe, Junior Buck, Junior Doe.
- They are sometimes called Meat Rabbits.

## Rabbit Management

You have decided to bring a rabbit home, now what? You will need:

- Cage with droppings pan
- Crock / Feeder
- Water Bottle or Bowl
- Pellet food / Hay
- Cedar shavings for pan
- Nail trimmers
- Nesting box if you plan to breed

### Cage:

An all-wire cage for a 6-7 lb rabbit should be at least 2 ft wide x 18 in high x 2 ft long

### Temperature:

Outside cages need a shady roof and protection from rain, wind, drafts, dampness and direct sun during the hot summer months. To cool a rabbit, put a gallon jug of frozen water in the cage. Put long wet towels on the sides of the cage and keep a fan running in the area if possible.

### Cage Cleaning/Sanitation:

Remove all droppings from the cage on a regular basis so that droppings do not reach wire bottom of cage. At least once a month, clean and disinfect the cage and tray. Use a mild bleach solution. Rinse well.

### Feed:

Rabbits need a balanced diet to grow and reproduce. Feed them commercially prepared 15%-18% protein rabbit pellet daily. The amount fed will vary with the age, weight and activity level of each animal. Small amounts of fresh hay and grain may also be given. Feed a doe and her litter all they will eat each day. (Feed the doe only 2-4 oz the first day after kindling to prevent caked udders). Give weaned bunnies all they will eat.

Do not overfeed or let uneaten rabbit pellets stay in the dish day after day. Store the feed in a water/air tight container away from the sun and moisture so the pellets keep their nutritional value.

Check to see if a rabbit is being fed enough or too much by feeling the skin covering the ribs and back bone. If it's too thin, feed it more; if too fat, feed less pellets and increase timothy hay until adequate weight. Check with the ARBA Standards book to identify your breed's proper weight limits.

	<i>Purina Complete</i>	<i>Nature Wise Premium</i>	<i>Purina Show</i>	<i>Purina Fibre3</i>	<i>Kaytee Premium Alfalfa Free timothy Fiber Diet</i>	<i>Purina Professional</i>	<i>Purina Garden Recipe</i>			
Crude Protein (Min)	16.00%	15.00%	16.00%	15.00%	13.00%	18.00%	14.00%			
Crude Fat (Min)	1.50%	3.00%	3.50%	2.00%	1.50%	1.60%	2.00%			
Crude Fiber (Min)	17.00%	15.00%	18.50%	20.00%	20.00%	14.50%	18.00%			
Crude Fiber (Max)	20.00%	18.00%	21.50%	25.00%	25.00%	19.00%	22.00%			
Calcium (Ca) (Min)	0.60%	1.00%	0.70%	0.80%	0.25%	0.80%	0.67%			
Calcium (Ca)(Max)	1.10%	1.50%	1.20%	1.30%	0.75%	1.30%	1.10%			
Phosphorus (Min)	0.40%	0.50%	0.40%	0.50%	0.30%	0.45%	0.40%			
Salt (NaCl)(Min)	0.50%	0.60%	0.50%	0.20%	0.25%	0.50%	0.20%			
Salt (NaCl)(Max)	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	0.70%	0.75%	1.00%	7.00%			
Vitamin A (Min)	4,650 IU/lb	3,630 IU/lb	4,800 IU/lb	4,650 IU/lb	3,000 IU/lb	4,800 IU/lb	3,500 IU/lb			

## Treats:

Safe treats in **VERY SMALL** amounts are:

- basil
- beet greens
- carrots/ carrot tops
- celery leaves
- dandelion leaves and flower
- dill
- mint
- parsley
- watercress
- wheatgrass
- apple
- banana
- blueberries
- cranberries
- pears
- raspberries
- strawberries

## What NOT to feed your Rabbit:

- lettuce
- beans
- cabbage
- cauliflower
- kale
- parsnips
- potatoes/peelings
- rhubarb
- spinach
- swedes
- tomato leaves

## Water:

Rabbits need plenty of fresh, clean ice-free water each day. Clean the crock or water bottle every few days with a mild bleach solution and warm soapy water. Rinse thoroughly. A doe and her litter will drink about a gallon of water a day / 12 oz daily for adults.

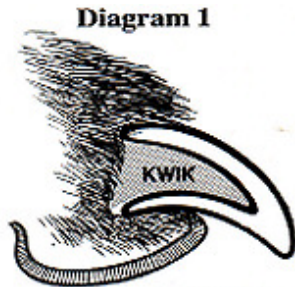
## Rabbit Grooming:

Use a damp rag or moisten your hands with water and slowly stroke the rabbit's fur from tail to head several times to remove loose fur. Do not stroke back and forth in both directions, as this will cause the fur to break. Rub your hands together to remove fur from hands. Gently stroke rabbit's fur from head to tail to smooth it down.

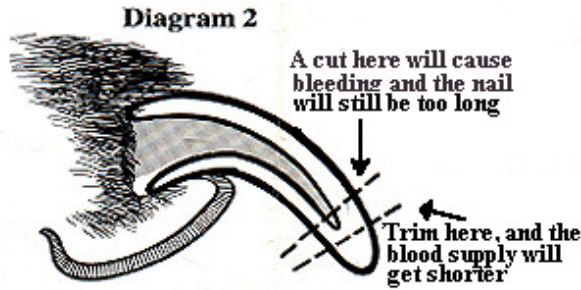
Baths – if at all possible, do not bath your rabbit. Rabbit's fur takes a long time to dry, and soaking them with water can lower their body temperature. If fur is dirty, spot clean it using a cloth dipped in warm water or a baby wipe.

Stains may be removed from white fur by using a baby wipe or by rubbing corn starch into the stain.

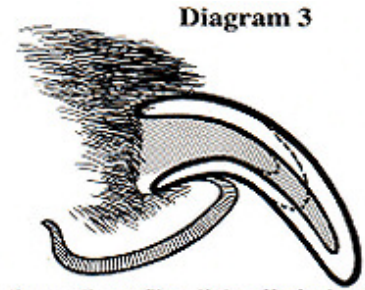
Nail trimming – use clippers that cut when handles are squeezed (can use cat nail clippers). Toenails have a vein that can be seen when held up to the light or back lit by a flashlight. This is difficult to see in rabbits with dark nails. Clip the end of the nail without clipping the vein. If you cut the vein, use styptic powder or press a cotton ball against the nail to stop the bleeding.



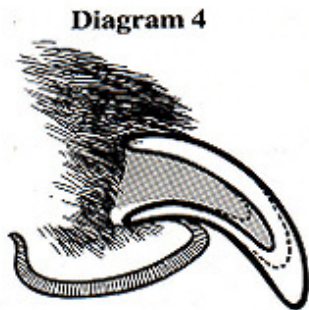
The blood supply (Kwik) in a short nail.



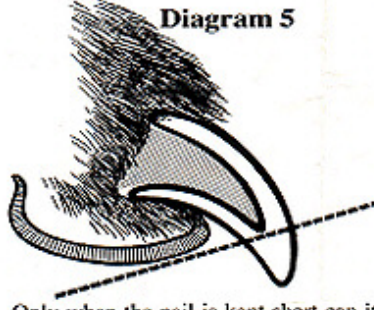
Note how the blood supply gets longer as the nail grows.



If you clip or file a little off of a long nail every few days, the blood supply will continue to recede.



As the nail gets shorter so does the blood supply.



Only when the nail is kept short can it be trimmed without bleeding. If the same cut had been made on the long nail in Diagram 2, it would have caused bleeding.



A properly trimmed nail.

[kiokeemastiffs.com.blogspot.com](http://kiokeemastiffs.com.blogspot.com)



## Breeds

There are currently 48 different recognized breeds by ARBA.





Images and breed listing © American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. 2014

**Popularity** is an important factor when choosing a breed of a rabbit. Some breeds are rare and it may be difficult to locate a breeder. On the other hand, some breeds are very popular. A good animal of the most popular breed may cost more than the less popular.

**Versatility and Demand:** If you choose to breed your rabbits, you will have to sell some of your babies. Choose a breed where the babies will be in demand.

### **Other factors to consider when selecting a breed.**

- **Temperament:** Are they a breed that is calm or hyper?
- **Grooming:** Do they have long hair that needs to be brushed often?
- **Care:** Are they a breed prone to skin conditions or other health issues?  
Do you have a proper place to keep your rabbit?

### **What to look for when purchasing a rabbit?**

- Is the rabbitry clean?
  - Do the animals around look healthy?
  - Are the animals clean?
  - Is the rabbit active and bright eyed?
  - Are its eyes clear and shiny?
  - Is its nose clean and not runny?
  - Are the teeth on top over the bottom?
  - What sex is it?
  - Is the bottom of the foot padded with fur, not bare or raw?
  - Are the insides of its ears clean?
  - Age of the rabbit
- If you answer “no” to any of the above questions, DO NOT buy the animal.

Keeping life expectancy in mind when purchasing rabbits...

Different rabbit breeds have different life expectancies, and, of course, any number is just an average. Rabbits should be expected to live at least 5 years; they can live as long as 15 years. Medium- and large-sized rabbits tend to live longer than dwarf rabbits. Breeding rabbits can easily produce litters until they are three to four years old. Some does will have litters have litters until even older. Keeping this in mind, you must be willing to commit to having them around for a number of years.

## Body types:

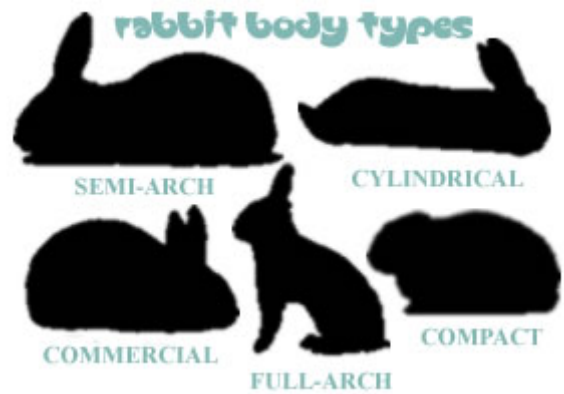
Commercial: New Zealands, Californians, Rex, French lops, Angoria's (meat and fur)

Compact: Holland Lop, Mini Rex

Cylinder: Himalyan

Full-Arch: Checkered Giant, Tan, Rhinelander,

Semi-Arch: English Lop, Beveren, Flemish Giant



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## Fur types:

Angora: Angora's and Jersey wooly, Fuzzy lops

Rex: Rex and Mini Rex

Satin: Satin and Mini Satin

Normal: Californian, Holland Lop, Polish

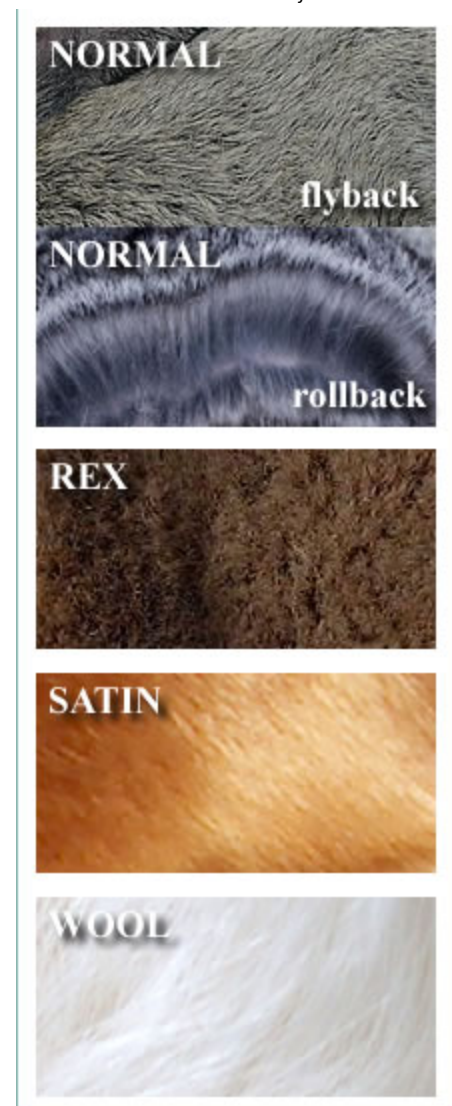
## Meat Rabbits

### Meat Pen:

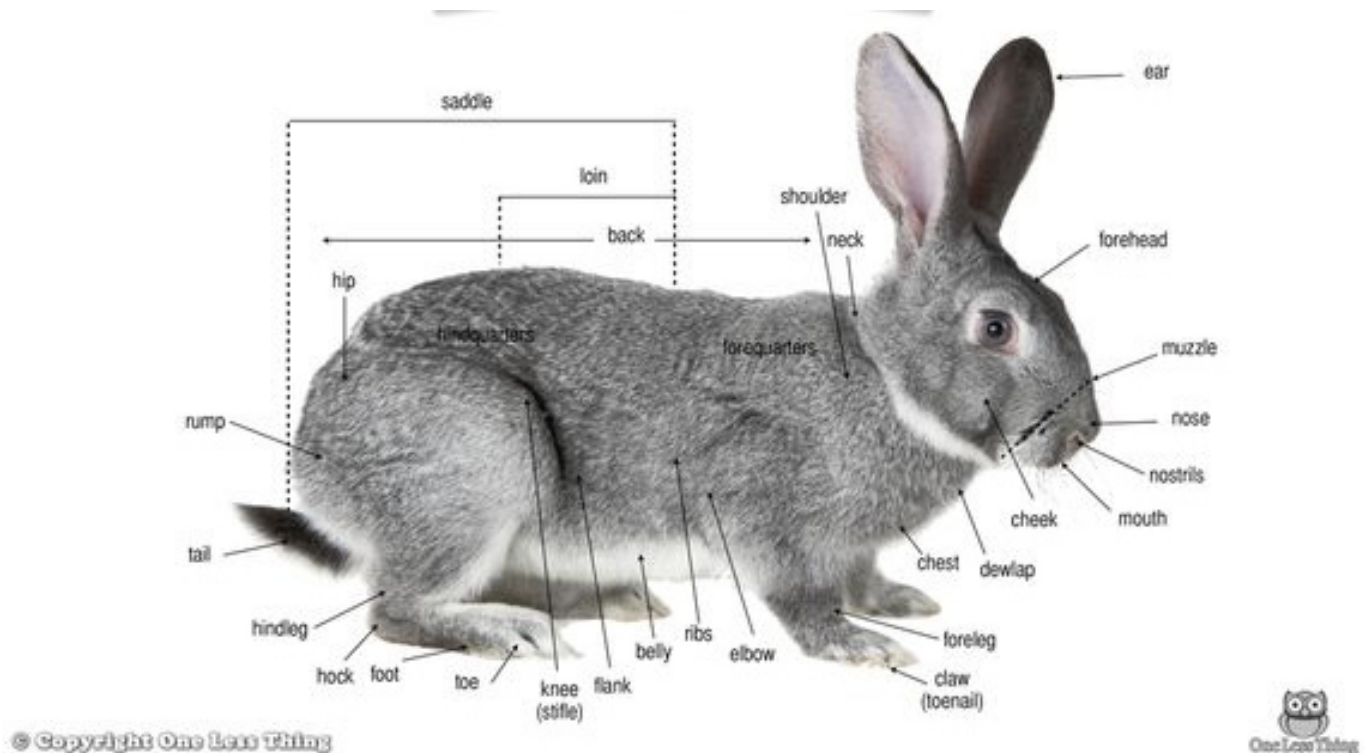
Three (3) purebred 6-class rabbits, not over 69 days old. Must weigh between three (3) lbs. and five (5) lbs, either sex, not to be shown in any other class. 6-class breeds include breeds raised mainly for meat and fur with a 6/8 month class.

### Single Fryer:

Purebred 6-class breeds, not over 69 days old. Must weigh between three (3) lbs. and five (5) lbs, either sex, not to be shown in any other class. 6-class breeds include breeds raised mainly for meat and fur with a 6/8 month class.



## Anatomy of a Rabbit



## General Rabbit Health

Body Temperature: Average range 102.2 - 103.2, low as 101.9 / high as 103.7

Respiratory Rate: Average of 53 breaths per minute (38-60 range)

Heart Rate: Average of 205 beats per minute (range 205-250)

## Basic Care

Cleaning:

- Clean your feeding and water dishes. If it is dirty clean it.
- Clean your hutches and drop pans weekly.
- Do at least biannual disinfecting.
  - \*Wash all cups and bottles with bleach water and let air dry.
  - \* Wash your hutches with bleach water
  - \* Clean the walls and floor around your cages
  - \* Disinfect your nesting boxes

Keep your food storage containers clean and dry.

Keep your rabbits dry and out of drafts.

Make sure your rabbit area is properly ventilated

Isolate sick rabbits from your other rabbits. This will prevent spreading disease

When getting a new rabbit, keep it away from your existing rabbits for at least 10 days.

Maintain proper nail/dew claw length

### **General Tips:**

Early detection can make all the differences. Some disease can kill a rabbit quickly.

Check your rabbit often and ask:

- Do they have an appetite?
- Are they losing weight?
- Do they have discharge from their eye or nose?
- Do they have tumors or growths on their body?
- Do their eyes look dull instead of alert?
- Do their eyes have spots on them?
- Do they seem lethargic, or uncomfortable?
- Do they have diarrhea?
- Do their feet have sores?

If you lose a rabbit, remove it immediately. Disinfect the cage, food and water bottles immediately.

## **Common Diseases / Symptoms / Treatment**

### **PASTEURELLA [SNUFFLES]**

Many breeders believe that all rabbits carry the *Pasteurella multocida* organism in their respiratory tract. This is not true! Though some may indeed carry the infection, there are many which do not. *Pasteurella* manifests itself in many forms. The most common is what is referred to as snuffles. This is a purulent discharge from the nose. Should you see matting on the inside front paws you can most assuredly blame *Pasteurella*.

**Symptoms:** The first signs of the disease are sneezing and discharge from the nose and or eyes. Not every sneeze is indicative of the presents of *Pasteurella*. A rabbit may sneeze when it gets water up its nose while drinking, or it may have an allergy to something in the area. Hay dust, colognes etc. These sneezes will have a clear watery discharge or none at all. If there is persistent sneezing with matting of the inside of the front paws and a colored discharge from the nose or eyes it is safe to assume the rabbit has a *Pasteurella* infection. This is an extremely contagious disease for which there is **NO CURE!** There are treatments which will mask the symptoms but the rabbit remains

contagious. Any rabbit which you treat places your whole herd at risk of infection. The Pasteurella germ can be carried on your clothing and person. It is of extreme importance that you change your clothes and wash thoroughly before going near any other rabbits. Isolate any sick rabbit immediately and care for the herd first and the isolated animal last. Disinfect its cage and any other equipment the rabbit came in contact with.

**Treatments:** Rabbits can be treated with a number of antibiotics but to this point none have been successful in bringing about a cure. The best treatment for Pasteurella is prevention.

**Prevention:** Ventilation is important in snuffles control since both humidity and ammonia are involved in the spread and growth of this condition. Ammonia is present in rabbit urine, having it build up in the atmosphere has a bad effect on both humans and rabbits. If you can smell it while walking through your rabbitry, think how it is affecting your rabbits. By removing the urine and feces from the rabbitry you are decreasing the amount of ammonia in the surrounding area.

## COCCIDIOSIS

There are two types of Coccidiosis Intestinal and Live Form. The disease is caused by a protozoan parasite which attacks the bile duct or the intestinal tract. There are ten different species of the genus Eimeria which may infect the intestine. Generally these are not of much concern, unless a case of enteritis makes an appearance. This can lead to enterotoxemia and or Mucoïd enteropathy, although enterotoxemia has been reported in rabbits which are free of Coccidiosis. Liver Coccidiosis is a problem as it causes white spots on the liver which renders the rabbit uneatable.

**Symptoms:** Include lack of appetite, rough coat, loss of weight, poor weight gain, potbelly, listlessness and diarrhea. All of which often lead to death.

**Treatment:** The best treatment is the use of sulfaquinoxaline in the drinking water as the only available water for 5 days on, 5 days off then 5 days on again... [One teaspoon per gallon of water] Repeat the treatment in 30 days to get any hatchlings. DO NOT use the treated rabbit[s] as a food source for at least 30 days after the last treatment.

**Prevention:** Brush the cling-ons from the cage floor within 24 hours. This will aid greatly in preventing the spread of Coccidiosis. Do not allow fecal contamination of the feed or water.

## EAR MITES

Are caused by the parasite *Psoroptes Cuniculi* which is a mite that likes to make its home in the rabbit's ear canal. They irritate the rabbit to the point that the scratching can lead to infection.

**Symptoms:** Shaking of the head, scratching the ears, and a brown waxy crusty substance will appear after awhile if not attended to.

**Treatment:** Place a few drops of any type of oil in the ears and massage the base of the ear gently to work the oil in. The oil will drown the mites. Treat one to three times a day for three days. Repeat in ten days to get hatchlings.

## FUR-MITES

Will look like flakes of dandruff. It is caused by: *Chyletiella Parasitivorax* and *Listrophorus Gibbus*. They occur most commonly on the back of the neck. An over-population may cause Dermatitis.

**Symptoms:** An unthrifty coat, loss of fur around the face, neck and back.

**Treatment:** A good Cat flea powder, Listerine mouthwash rubbed into the infected area will make short order of the Mites. You can also use a droplet the size of a small green-pea of Ivermectine/Zimectrine Horse Paste Wormer. Repeat treatment in ten days. Do NOT use treated animal as a meat source for at least 30 days after last treatment.

## WEEPY EYE

Is caused by *Staphylococcus* or *P. multocidia* which is the most common cause. You will see inflammation of the conjunctiva. There is often a history of respiratory infections and or snuffles. It could also be caused by a blocked tear duct.

**Symptoms:** You will take notice of matted fur in the corner of the rabbit's eye[s] and under the lower lid. Also look for any discharge or wetness from the eyes.

**Treatment:** Many breeders use neomycin eye ointment three times a day for three or four days. The drug of choice is Penicillin G injectable used as eye drops.



## SORE-HOCKS

Sore-Hocks are a genetic problem. The condition is easily noticed by the open wounds on the footpads of the afflicted rabbit. Part of the cause is poorly furred footpads and long often uncut toenails.

**Symptoms:** Noticed by the open sores on the feet which can rapidly lead to secondary infections. Often the rabbit sits in the corner and for the most part is inactive.

**Treatment:** You should breed toward well furred footpads. Use of Preparation H will help heal the sores. Place a board or piece of drywall large enough for the rabbit to sit on. Do not allow it to get dirty or it will become a source of infection. Change or clean it often.

## WOOLBLOCK or HAIRBALL

Is caused by the rabbit ingesting too much fur during the cleaning process.

**Symptoms:** Rabbit fails to eat and becomes listless. The stomach becomes taut, firm to the touch as the condition worsens. A quick response is essential if you are to save the rabbit.

**Treatment:** Regular grooming of normal furred rabbit and shearing of the wool on all fiber animals will go far in helping to prevent this condition. You can use Cat hairball remedies. You can also use the enzyme papain or bromelain which is found in Pineapple and Papaya. Use the fresh fruit as the caning process kills the enzyme. You can also use Adolph's meat tenderizer [same enzyme] mixed with enough water to feed with a needled syringe. Give one to three times a day until rabbit returns to normal.

**Prevention:** you should provide grass hay to the rabbit's diet on a regular basis. At least two to three times a week. The long fiber keeps the hindgut working properly. You should see string of pearls [cling-ons] hanging from the cage floor. This is a sure sign that the hay [long-fiber] is doing its job. Brush the cling-ons from the wire within twenty-four hours to aid in the prevention of coccidiosis.

## MALOCCLUSION

Is when the rabbit's teeth are overgrown, this can be a genetic problem or can be caused by the rabbit yanking its teeth out of alignment by pulling on the cage wire. For teeth which are not a genetic problem one can resort to clipping the teeth on a regular basis to allow the rabbit to properly masticate its food. A genetic problem is best handled by removing the rabbit permanently.

## RED URINE

This is really not a disease; it has to do with the diet which is not much of a problem at all.

**Cause:** Red urine does not actually contain blood at all. It is normal; rabbit's urine can manifest itself in a veritable rainbow of colors without it being problematic. Red urine is caused by alkaline. Some feeds like Alfalfa can produce red urine. The red color comes from Phenolic compounds [tannins] which are found in forages and feed ingredients. Calcium is also excreted in the urine on occasion.

**Treatment:** THERE IS NONE! As it is not a disease.

**Prevention:** Most commonly found in rabbits which are on a high Legume hay diet.

## HEAT STRESS

Stress can greatly affect your rabbit's health. It is something you should always be aware of. Conditions which can cause stress are; 1. A long day away from familiar surroundings. 2. A radical change in temperature. 3. Fright and loud noises. 4. The birthing process. If you know your rabbit will be going through one of these ordeals or one has just occurred unexpectedly you can use one of these remedies: You can mix one part Gatorade to four parts water and give as drinking water. This will add electrolytes or you can add one or two teaspoons of Tang to a gallon of drinking water.

Heat stress occurs during extremes of hot weather especially if there is not enough air circulation through the rabbitry. If you notice your rabbit getting wet around the face and or breathing hard; dip the rabbit in a bucket of tepid water. In emergency extreme measures must be taken if there is to be any chance at all of saving the rabbit. Don't be afraid to spray cool water on a rabbit or in an emergency dip the rabbit into a bucket of tepid water not ice water. Keeping the rabbit's nose and mouth above water. During warmer months you can freeze soda bottles or milk jugs half full of water. Place these in the cage with your rabbit[s] when temperatures exceed 80 to 85degrees. They will lie against them to cool themselves.

## DIARRHEA

Take immediate action at the first sign of diarrhea. This could be a life and death situation for any rabbit especially the very young. STOP ALL treats as they are the most likely cause of the problem. Feed plenty of long-fiber grass-hay and oats will work well. You may even want to stop the pelleted feed. When the stools return to normal slowly add the pelleted feed back to the diet while continuing to give grass hay on a regular basis. Two to three times a week if not more often.

## Disease Prevention

### Detecting Illness and Disease in Your Rabbit

Through frequent and careful inspection, you can recognize when an animal is sick. This may not be easy for the beginner, but it becomes easier with experience.

Make sure you:

- Examine your animals daily.
- Note how much food and water are consumed and the nature and quantity of wastes.
- Color, fur condition, breathing, nasal discharges and ear carriage (the way the ears are held) are indications of health.
- Isolate sick animals until they recover.
- Do not handle sick animals until after you've cared for the healthy ones. Make sure you wash your hands afterwards!
- Dispose of all dead animals.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all contaminated hutches and equipment as soon as possible.

When diseases do occur:

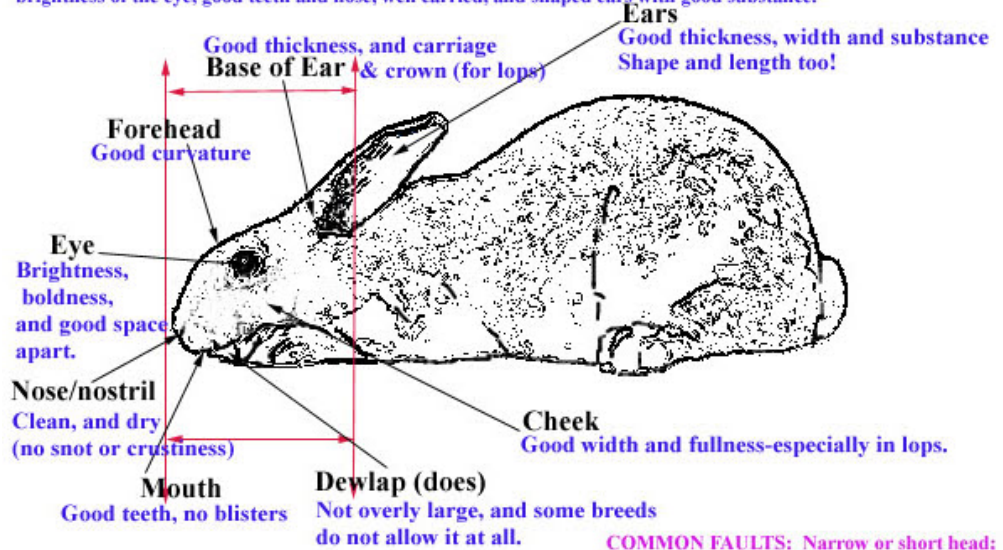
- Consult your veterinarian, and ask first whether the treatment will be practical or economical.
- Be sure the veterinarian knows the true economic value of the animals involved, so that he or she can recommend treatments.

You can take a sick animal to the veterinarian's office, but sometimes he may want to visit your herd.

# Showmanship

## Head/Ear

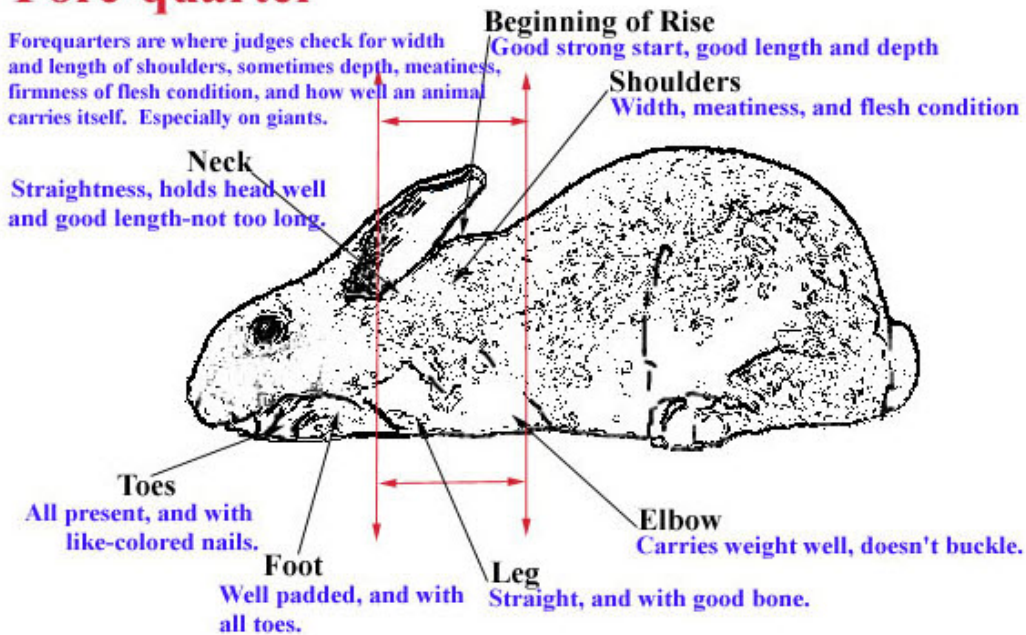
The head and ears are focused on the width, length, and curvature of the head, brightness of the eye, good teeth and nose, well carried, and shaped ears with good substance.



**COMMON FAULTS:** Narrow or short head; thin, droopy (or controlled), mishapen, (lacking crown) ears, too much dewlap (some) and sick nose and eyes, and bad teeth.

## Fore-quarter

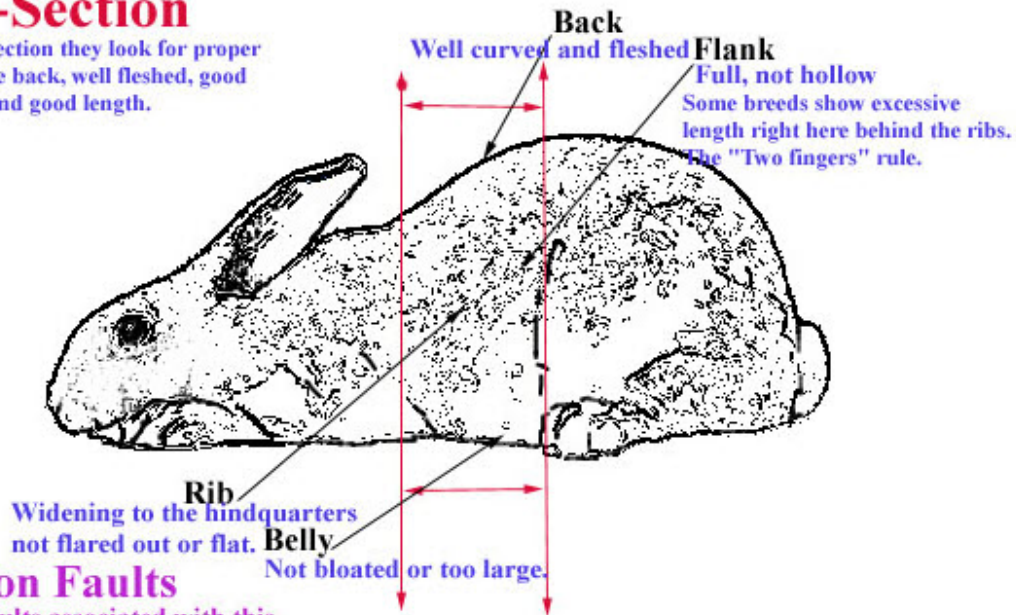
Forequarters are where judges check for width and length of shoulders, sometimes depth, meatiness, firmness of flesh condition, and how well an animal carries itself. Especially on giants.



**COMMON FAULTS:** Narrow, long, and/or low shoulders, poor carriage (of self) and poor bone, flabby condition.

## Mid-Section

In the Mid-section they look for proper peak over the back, well fleshed, good rib spread, and good length.



## Common Faults

Common faults associated with this area of the rabbit are: rib flares-causing the rabbit to look flat, hollow behind the ribs in the flank or in the loin (HQ) and a pot belly.

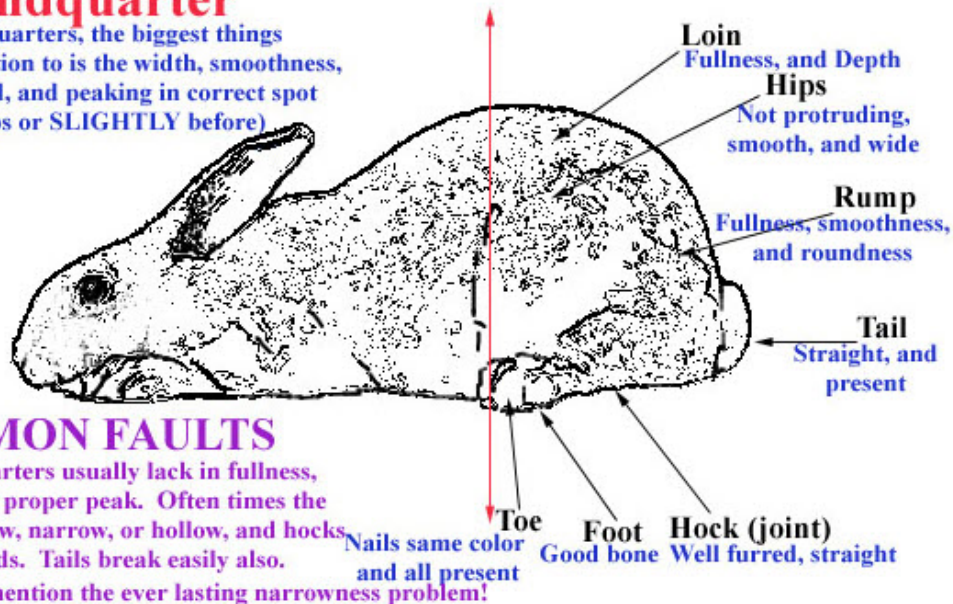
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[Dog Problems](#)

[Origami L](#)

## Hindquarter

In the hindquarters, the biggest things to pay attention to is the width, smoothness, well rounded, and peaking in correct spot (over the hips or SLIGHTLY before)



## COMMON FAULTS

The hindquarters usually lack in fullness, roundness, or proper peak. Often times the loin is shallow, narrow, or hollow, and hocks turn outwards. Tails break easily also. And not to mention the ever lasting narrowness problem!

[www.justrabbits.com](http://www.justrabbits.com)

## How to Show a Rabbit

### 1. Carry a Rabbit

To carry a rabbit, tuck the head under one arm and support the rabbit's weight by placing the other hand under the rump. One hand supports the weight of the rabbit, while the other hand controls the rabbit. Keep a firm grip since a rabbit dropped from this position can easily break its back. You may remove your hand when you feel confident about being in control. If the judge asks you to move to a different spot on the table, always pick up the rabbit for carrying before moving to a new location.

### 2. Pose a Rabbit

When you arrive at the exhibit table place the rabbit on the table immediately and pose it. Pose the front feet even with the eyes. Rear feet should be firmly on the table with toes even with the haunch (thigh joint) with tail up. Facing left is the natural position for a right handed presenter.

### 3. Checking Ears

Check the ears for bugs or sores, legible tattoo in rabbit's left ear, torn or missing portions of ears that distract from general appearance, ear carriage.

### 4. Check Eyes

Check each eye for signs of blindness or abnormalities. Check for Walleyes or moon eye (milky appearance), unmatched eyes (two eyes not the same color), spots or specks in the eye, off-colored eyes (any color other than breed standard). Abnormal eye discharge.

### 5. Turn Rabbit Over

Turn the rabbit over, supporting the rabbit on the table. The rabbit will remain in this position until checking the tail. Be sure to continue holding the ears with one hand.

### 6. Check Nose

Check nose for sign of cold. The animal shows a white nasal discharge when they have snuffles. Matted fur on the inside of front legs may indicate presence of cold.

### 7. Check Teeth

With your hand over the area of the eyes, place a thumb and index finger on each side of the split lip and push back lips to expose teeth. You are checking for tooth defects such as malocclusion broken or missing teeth.

## **8. Check Front Legs**

Extend the front legs to check for straightness. Run your index finger and thumb the length of each front leg.

## **9. Neck Area**

Check neck for a dewlap (some breeds do not allow a dewlap), fur mites, fungus and abscesses.

## **10. Check Front Feet**

Check toenails by pushing thumb into center of paw. Push back fur with index finger if necessary to see toenails. Don't forget to check dew claws. You are checking for missing or broken toes, toenails, unmatched toenails on corresponding feet (including dew claws), and proper color toenails for the breed as stated in the breed standard.

## **11. Check Body for Rupture or Abscess**

Run your hand over the chest and abdominal area to check for any abscesses, tumors, swollen teats, or abnormalities. Ruptures may appear as lumps or large bumps under the skin, normally in the belly area. Abscesses may appear as red lumps or sores in the belly, neck, or chin areas, or under the legs.

## **12. Check Rear Legs**

Extend rear legs out straight by placing your cupped hand ahead of the rear legs and pushing toward the feet. Legs should not be bent, bowed, deformed or cow-hocked.

## **13. Check Hocks**

Check the bottom of the hind feet for sore hocks. You are checking for sore, infected or bleeding areas. Bare areas may indicate fungal growth.

## **14. Check Gender**

Check for the sex of the rabbit. Place your thumb below the vent area and push toward front of rabbit with the index finger. You are also checking for signs of vent disease (scabby, reddened sex organ), a split penis and testicles. All bucks in the regular show classes must show two normally descended testicles at the time of judging. Juniors must show both or neither testicle because juniors showing only one descended testicle at the time of judging would be disqualified from competition.

## **15. Check Tail**

Return the rabbit to its posed position. Check to determine: if tail is straight, permanently set to either side or permanently out of line. A screw tail or bob tail will disqualify an animal from judging competition.

## 16. Check for Surface Color, Under color, Ring Color, Foreign Spots, or Smut

Check the fur for foreign colored spots (white spots in colored animal, or colored spots in white animal, unless specifically accepted in the breed standard). Check for color. Check surface color. Check under color and/or ring color by stroking fur forward or blowing into fur over the entire body. Wrong under color, colors other than called for in the breed standard, white hairs (excessive white hairs in a colored section) are disqualifications.

## 17. Fur Quality and Cleanliness

Stroke fur toward rabbit's head to show fur going back into natural position, either fly back/rollback. Check density (standing/upright fur) such as Rex, Mini Rex, Silver Fox, by patting and blowing into several areas. Some wooled breeds, such as Angoras and Fuzzy Lops should be felt and blown into check density. Stroke rabbit from head to rear for a molt condition. Check for stains on fur.

## 18. Evaluation of Overall Balance

Pose the rabbit for evaluation. Check front, rear and side views for overall balance. Locate each of the following with your hand: shoulders, rib spread and fullness of loin. Check hindquarters for fullness by stretching your hand across width and depth of the rump. Check hips for smoothness and fullness by running your hand over the top of the hip to the tail.

# Showmanship Questions

## First Year Study Questions

1. What is kindling? **A Term used to indicate the birth of young**
2. What is Molting? **When a rabbit is losing its winter coat**
3. What is a baby rabbit called? **Kit**
4. What is the difference between a standard rabbit and a lop rabbit? **Lop ears**
5. What is ear lacing? **A colored line for fur that outlines the sides and tips of ears**
6. How often should you feed your rabbit? **Once a day**
7. Where should your rabbits tattoo be? **Left ear**
8. How Many toe nails does a rabbit have? **5 front & 4 back**
9. What is a dewlap? **A fat roll under the chin on a Doe**
10. Does every breed have a dewlap? **No Polish have a pencil neck**
11. How much pellets should a rabbit get daily? **An ounce per pound is a good rule of thumb**
12. What does ARBA stand for? **American Rabbit Breeders Association**
13. What does WSRBA Stand for? **Wisconsin rabbit breeds Association**
14. At what age dose a kit open its eyes? **10-14 days**
15. What is the gestation of a rabbit? **28-32 days**



16. What is a butterfly? **A nose marking found on some breeds of rabbits**
17. How many teeth does a rabbit have? **28**
18. What age is considered a Junior? **Under 6 months**
19. What is the Standards of Perfection? **A book that list the standards of each rabbit breed**
20. What is the normal temperature of a rabbit? **102.5**
21. What is malocclusion? **Abnormal teeth**
22. What is conjunctivitis? **Eye infection**
23. What are ear mites? **Disease that causes scabs in the rabbits ears**
24. Who are the Superintendents at the Fair? **Louise Paul and Ashley Jones**
25. What is a Pedigree? **The certificate of a rabbit that shows it's lineage**

## 9-11 Years

You will need to know the first year questions plus the ones listed below

1. **What is base color or under color?** The fur color at the base of the fur shaft.
2. **What is an abscess?** A sore on the rabbit that is infected
3. **Can you show a rabbit with an abscess?** No this rabbit should stay home.
4. **Can a rabbit have bowed legs?** If it does this is a disqualification.
5. **What causes bowed legs?** It can be caused by a Kit sliding on a slipper surface in the nest box.
6. **What is Snuffles?** A respiratory infection that is usually characterized by a runny nose.
7. **What is Carriage?** 1) The manner in which a rabbit carries itself. The style or characteristic pose of a rabbit. 2) The style in which a rabbit carries its ears.
8. **What is Density?** The property or quality of a thick coat of fur. The number of fur fibers in a given area
9. **What is Pot belly?** A distended condition of the abdominal cavity, usually found in young rabbits. A disqualification from completion.
10. **What is Wry Tail?** An abnormal tail, bent, twisted or carried to one side.
11. **Can you show a neutered or spayed rabbit?** Only in the pet class
12. **What is Smut?** Abnormal color on a white pointed rabbit ( Californian or Himalayan)
13. **What is the age or a Single Fryer?** 69-72 days old
14. **What is the Weight of a Single Fryer?** 3-5 pounds
15. **On a broken colored rabbit what percentage should be colored?** More than 10% but less than 50%

## 12-14 Years

You will need to know all of the previous age questions plus the ones listed below.

1. **What does Racy mean and name a breed that has it-** Slim, Trim , alert and hare like in appearance (Rhinelander, Checkered Giant, English Spot or Belgian hare)
2. **What is a Charlie?** An extremely lightly marked animal in marked breeds or broken group. A Charlie usually has colored eyes, light eye circles.

3. **What is Ear Carriage?** The holding or carriage displayed by a rabbits' ears when they are relaxed, normal pose.
4. **Where is the Jowl Located?** One of the lateral halves of the mandible.
5. **What are guard hairs?** The longer, coarser, protruding hair of the coat
6. **What is Ring Color?** The color of the intermediate portion of the hair shaft in Agouti patterned animals.
7. **What Breed has spine markings?** English spots, Rhinelander, Checkered Giants
8. **What is Vent disease?** A venereal disease in rabbits that affects both sexes this is indicated by a scabby, reddened sex organs and often exuding pus.
9. **Where is the saddle located?** The upper portion of the back. 2) the marking on Dutch where the white fur ceases and the colored fur begins on the upper part of the body.
10. **What is Staple Length?** The length of Angora fiber or wool.

## 15 Years and Older

**You will need to know all the previous questions, plus the ones below.**

1. **Where is the Stop?** The markings on each rear hock of a Dutch.
2. **Small breed rabbits should have food pellets with what % fat content?** Less than 2%
3. **What's the benefit of fiber in a rabbit's diet?** Aids in digestion and keeps the GI tract clear.
4. **Are bell ears a real thing? If yes, what are they?** Ears that have large, heavy tips with a distinctive fall or lop
5. **Is hog fat a real term? If yes, what is it?** The condition of a rabbit obviously over-fattened and, as a result, out of proportion to the true type of the breed.
6. **Name two things that you can do to promote the Racine County Rabbit Project**
7. **Name two breeds of rabbits that are compact body type:** Dutch, Dwarf Hotot, Havana, Holland Lop, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Silver, Thrianta, Jersey Wooly, Lilac, Mini Satin, Standard Chinchilla, Amer Fuzzy Lop, English Angora
8. **How many lop-type rabbits are there?** Four
9. **How many breeds have specific body markings for their breed?** Seven – Dutch, California, checkered giant, English spot, harlequin, himilayan, Rhinelander
10. **Why is it important to keep your rabbitry area properly ventilated? What can you get a build up of that is harmful?** Ammonia – generated as a result of the breakdown of urine. The rate at which ammonia develops depends on the rabbits' diet (higher protein, more ammonia) and air temperature (higher the temperature, the faster the development). Ammonia is a heavy gas and will settle to the floor of a building. If there is no air flow in the building to remove it, the concentration of ammonia will rise up in the building....Ammonia has a detrimental impact upon the health of rabbits.
11. **Rabbits product how many type of rabbit droppings?** Fecal pellets and ceotropes
12. **What are cecotropes?** Droppings that contain natural bacteria and fungi that provide essential nutrients and protect the rabbit from harmful pathogens

13. **Can a doe be pregnant with two litters at the same time? True / false and why.** Does have two uterine horns, so yes, they can indeed conceive a second litter. Not advised though!
14. **How many generations are required for an official pedigree?** Three
15. **What types of information do you capture on an pedigree?** Dam, Sire – ear tag, color, breed, weight, # legs, Grand Champion #, Cage # Winnings
16. **How long should you quarantine a new rabbit before introducing to your herd?** Minimum 2 weeks
17. **Name the parasite that causes ear mites.** Psoroptes cuniculi.
18. **What is first thing you should do if your rabbit has diarrhea?** Remove food and feed timothy hay only. Ensure they have water supply.
19. **Name two causes of stress for a rabbit** – radical change in temperature, change of scenery, change in diet, loud noises, other animals
20. **What should you use to clean your cages with several times each year?** One part bleach / 10 parts water. Air dry.

## County Fair Rules and Regulations

### DEPARTMENT 8 JUNIOR CLASS RABBITS

Superintendents, Louise Paul and Ashley Jones

- A. Livestock exhibitors are required to comply with all of the statutory and regulatory provisions of the State of Wisconsin relating to animal health. See the current animal health regulations in the front of this book.
- B. Each exhibitor shall be allowed one entry per premium number with a maximum of ten (10) rabbit class entries per exhibitor, not including Junior Showmanship.
- C. All rabbits must be permanently earmarked (Tattoo).
- D. Rabbits must meet —Standard of Perfection minimum weight for their breed of class and age
- E. MEAT PEN: Three (3) purebred 6-class rabbits, not over 69 days old. Must weigh between three (3) lbs. and five (5) lbs, either sex, not to be shown in any other class. 6-class breeds include breeds raised mainly for meat and fur with a 6/8 month class.
- F. SINGLE FRYER: Purebred 6-class breed, not over 69 days old. Must weigh between three (3) lbs. and five (5) lbs, either sex, not to be shown in any other class. 6-class breeds, include breeds raised mainly for meat and fur with a 6/8 month class.
- G. Rabbits must be in place in the Rabbit Barn by 8:30 pm, Tuesday of Fair Week. Check in will be from 5:30 to 8:30 on Tuesday of Fair Week.
- H. Any rabbit showing symptoms of disease when checked in by the Superintendent and the Fair Vet, in or during the Fair, will be removed immediately from the Fair. Owner must make arrangements for removing the animal from the fairgrounds.
- I. All carrying containers for animals are to be removed from the building as soon as animals are in place. Show boxes will be placed according to space available.
- J. No rabbits will be allowed on the fairgrounds unless they are entered in the fair.
- K. Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday of Fair Week.
- L. All entries must be shown by exhibitors unless allowed by the superintendent.
- M. All exhibitors are required to wear proper show attire of long sleeves and appropriate long pants.
- N. Entry tags must be presented to the clerk at the time the class is being judged.
- O. No "For Sale" signs will be allowed on the cages.
- P. Rabbits cannot be removed from the Barn until approved release time. Rabbit Decorations cannot be removed until 9:00 pm on Sunday evening.
- Q. All rabbits exhibitors will be required to participate in barn duty and is required to participate in the Auction. See Rabbit Office at the fair for more details and sign up board. You will be required to sign in and out
- R. Each exhibitor will be required to pay two (2) dollars when checking in rabbits to offset the cost of wood shavings and trophies. This must be paid by Thursday prior to the show.

- S. Any pet rabbit shown in the pet class must be a mixed breed. No purebreds will be allowed to enter the pet class unless this is the only breed you have. If you are showing a rabbit in a breed class you can not show a rabbit of the same breed in the Pet Class
- T. All rabbits must have a resting board in their cage. This can be wood, plastic grate or tile. No cardboard or carpet please. There will be plastic grates available for purchase if you do not have one.
- U. Danish Judging System will be used for all classes.

Class Descriptions for 4 Class Breeds:

Seniors - 6 months of age and older

Juniors - Under 6 months of age

Class Descriptions for 6 Class Breeds:

Seniors - 8 months of age and older

6/8 (Intermediates) - 6 months of age and under 8 months of age

Junior - under 6 months of age.

		Blue - \$2.00	Red - \$1.75	White - \$1.50	Pink - \$1.25				
Division	Class								
		Sr. Buck	Sr. Doe	6/8 Buck	6/8 Doe	Jr. Buck	Jr. Doe		
1	American Fuzzy Lop	1	2			3	4		
2	Jersey Woolly	5	6			7	8		
3	Any Other 4-Class Breed	9	10			11	12		
4	Any Other 6-Class Breed	13	14	15	16	17	18		
5	Beveren	19	20	21	22	23	24		
6	Californian	25	26	27	28	29	30		
7	Champagne D' Argent	31	32	33	34	35	36		
8	Crème D' Argent	37	38	39	40	41	42		
9	Dutch	43	44			45	46		
10	Flemish Giant	47	48	49	50	51	52		
11	French Lop	53	54	55	56	57	58		
12	Holland Lop	59	60	61	62	63	64		
13	Mini Lop	65	66			67	68		
14	Mini Rex	69	70			71	72		
15	Netherland Dwarf	73	74			75	76		
16	New Zealand	77	78	79	80	81	82		
17	Palomino	83	84	85	86	87	88		
18	Polish	88	89			90	91		
19	Rex	92	93			94	95		
20	Satin	96	97	98	99	100	101		

A trophy will be presented to the Top Show Person in each age group.

Rabbits used for showmanship must be entered in the fair and shown in a breed class

21	Silver Marten	102	103			104	105		
22	Pet Rabbit	Bucks - 106				Does - 107			
23	Meat Pen				108				
24	Single Fryer				109				

**BEST OF BREED**

**BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX**

**BEST IN SHOW**

**BEST RESERVE IN SHOW**

**BEST OF THE OPPOSITES**

Best in Show Trophy Donated By: Southern Lakes Rabbit Club

Best of the Opposites Donated By: ARBA Judge Cindy Stelloh

**RIBBON & TROPHY**

**RIBBON & TROPHY**

**RIBBON & TROPHY**

**RIBBON & TROPHY**

**RIBBON & TROPHY**

Division 25 - Showmanship

Danish Judging System

All rabbit exhibitors are encouraged to enter the Showmanship contest.

Blue - \$3.00    Red - \$2.50    White - \$2.00    Pink - \$1.50

Class No.	Entry
1	First Year Rabbit Project Member (Any Age)
2	Rabbit Project Members, 9 - 11 Years Old
3	Rabbit Project Members, 12 - 14 Years Old
4	Rabbit Project Members, 15 Years Old and Over

A trophy will be presented to the Top Show Person in each age group.

Rabbits used for showmanship must be entered in the fair and shown in a breed class

### **Best Darn Barn**

Clubs are encouraged to keep their rabbits and properties in the most attractive appearance throughout the Fair. Contest guidelines are as follows:

- A. Cleanliness in the care of exhibit and animals must be maintained.
- B. Behavior of exhibitors is to reflect the best of 4-H/FFA, breed association, or other youth organization.
- C. Club name and boundaries of club exhibit to be clearly marked.
- D. Prizes will be awarded to the clubs.
- E. Shavings under the cages are to be changed on Friday by 6:00pm

### **RABBIT MEAT SALE**

- A. Rabbits for auctioned are limited to 6-class breeds used for commercial meat production. These include New Zealand, Satin, Champagnes, Californian, etc. This may also include Silver Martens or Giant Chins.
- B. Any Junior Fair exhibitor having 6 class breeds may select one rabbit, meat pen, or single fryer to sell at the auction from his/her entries. Rabbit(s) sold must be the same as entered in the fair. (i.e. if entered as single fryer, must be sold as single fryer)
- C. A fee of \$2.00 per rabbit sold will be assessed from each exhibitor's sale check sold in the Auction.
- D. All rabbits selected for the meat auction shall be properly finished and of marketable quality. The Rabbit Superintendent and Committee reserve the right to reject any rabbits found unsuitable for the sale.
- E. Animals to be sold must be registered with the Superintendent on Thursday from 5:00pm to 6:00pm or on Friday of Fair Week between 8:00 a.m. and NOON. Rabbits will be weighed at time of registration for the sale. Sign-up includes both handing in the Drug
- F. Sheet signed by a parent and signing the Sales Sheet at the Rabbit Office. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- G. These forms will be available at check in but cannot be turned in until sign up times
- H. Rabbits must weigh no less than four (4) lbs to be sold in the Rabbit Meat Auction.
- I. Any rabbit to be sold must be less than 1 year old.
- J. To participate in the Auction you must also have another rabbit entered.(not including showmanship)


### **Tips for Fair**

**Appearance:** Demonstrate good posture, keep eye contact with the judge throughout the presentation, smile, dress neatly, remove chewing gum, hats. Pull long hair back, no fingernail polish, no jewelry, closed toes shoes only (no flip flops or sandals) full length jeans and white lab coat/long sleeve buttoned up shirt is to be worn.


**Knowledge:** Demonstrate quick, confident and correct response to questions asked about your rabbit.

**Actions:** Carry out actions in a confident manner, always being considerate of your animals, fellow showmen and the judge. Demonstrate a gentle and smooth flowing presentation.

# Record Book Entries



Racine County 4-H  
**Project Record Sheet**



Use one sheet for each project. You can make copies.

Name: xxxxxxxx Age: xx Club: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Project: Rabbits # of Years as a project member: 3

Project Leader: xxxxxxxx

Project Meetings Held: 4 Number that I attended: 4

Project Talks or Demonstrations

Title	Where Given
Regular Meetings	leader home
ARBA Showmanship Speaker	COB

Project Tours

Nature of Tour	Where
_____	_____
_____	_____

Project Entries

What Shown	Where	Ribbon
Netherland Dwarf Sr Doe	County Fair 20xx	Blue
Netherland Dwarf Sr. Buck	County Fair 20xx	Blue
Mini Lop Jr. Buck	County Fair 20xx	Blue
Showmanship	County Fair 20xx	Red

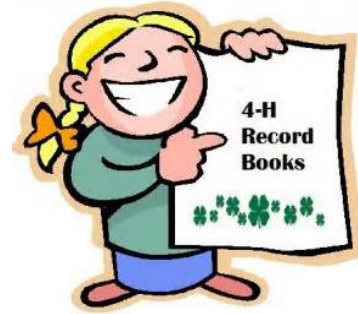
Project Evaluation

What this project means to me \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (over)

1



Beginning Inventory

Rabbit stock \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Supplies \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Beginning Inventory 1. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Project Expenses

Rabbit Food & Supplies \$ 140.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Mini Lop Buck \$ 25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Nesting Box \$ 15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Project Expense 2. \$ 180.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Project Income and/or Value

Fair ribbons \$ 7.75 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Income and/or Closing Value 3. \$ 7.75 \_\_\_\_\_

Summary

Income and/or Closing Value	(3)	\$ 7.75 _____
Expenses and/or Original Cost or Value	(1&2)	\$ 180.00 _____
Net Gain or Loss		\$ 172.25 _____

Parent's Comment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


Leader's Comment (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. 4-H Extension provides equal opportunity in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.

2

<b>American Pedigree</b>			
<b>Breeder:</b>		<b>G. Sire:</b>	<b>G.G. Sire:</b>
<b>Sire:</b>	<b>Ear No.</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>
<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Weight:</b>	<b>Color:</b>	<b>Color:</b>
<b>Color:</b>		<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>G/C No.</b>
<b>G/C No.</b>		<b>Winnings:</b>	<b>Winnings:</b>
<b>Winnings:</b>			<b>G.G. Dam:</b>
		<b>G. Dam:</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>
		<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Color:</b>
		<b>Color:</b>	<b>G/C No.</b>
		<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>Winnings:</b>
		<b>Winnings:</b>	<b>G.G. Sire:</b>
<b>Name:</b>			<b>Reg No.</b>
<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Ear No.</b>		<b>Color:</b>
<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>Birth:</b>		<b>G/C No.</b>
<b>Sex:</b>	<b>Weight:</b>		<b>Winnings:</b>
<b>Color:</b>		<b>G. Sire:</b>	<b>G.G. Sire:</b>
<b>Winnings:</b>		<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>
		<b>Color:</b>	<b>Color:</b>
		<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>G/C No.</b>
		<b>Winnings:</b>	<b>Winnings:</b>
			<b>G.G. Dam:</b>
<b>Dam:</b>		<b>G. Dam:</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>
<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Ear No.</b>	<b>Reg No.</b>	<b>Color:</b>
<b>Color:</b>		<b>Color:</b>	<b>G/C No.</b>
<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>Weight:</b>	<b>G/C No.</b>	<b>Winnings:</b>
<b>Winnings:</b>		<b>Winnings:</b>	<b>G.G. Sire:</b>
			<b>Reg No.</b>
			<b>Color:</b>
			<b>G/C No.</b>
			<b>Winnings:</b>
			<b>G.G. Dam:</b>
			<b>Reg No.</b>
			<b>Color:</b>
			<b>G/C No.</b>
			<b>Winnings:</b>



I hereby certify that this pedigree is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Example of a standard rabbit pedigree form*  
[www.wagnersbunnyhaven.com](http://www.wagnersbunnyhaven.com)

You have a number of resources available to you – utilize your Jr. Leaders, Project Leaders and Fair Superintendents if you have questions or concerns.

## Glossary of Terms

ARBA	American Rabbit Breeders Association
Abscess	A localized area of infection resulting in a lump filled with a white pasty substance
Agouti Pattern	A hair shaft that has three or more bands of color, with a definite break between each color. Usually has dark slate at the base, with two or more alternating light or dark bands of color, which is further interspersed with contrasting guard hairs. The head, feet, and ears usually have ticking. Eye circles, belly, under jaws, underside of tail, and triangle are much lighter and do not carry ticking.
Albino	White rabbit with pink eyes caused by a recessive gene
Back	The entire top part of the rabbit from neck to tail. The backbone and vertebrae are in the back.
Bangs	The longer wool appearing at the front base of the ears and top of the head in some wool breeds
Bell Ears	Ears that have large, heavy tips with a distinctive fall or lop
Belly	The lower part of the body containing the intestines – the stomach
BEW	Blue-eyed white – white bunny with blue eyes resulting from two Vienna genes
BIS	Best In Show – the rabbit of any breed judged to be the best at a show
Blemishes	Flaws or defects, especially those that affect appearance
Bloom	The vitality and finish of a coat in good condition
BOB	Best of Breed – judged to be the best Holland at that show
Bob Tail	A tail noticeably shorter than normal. A disqualification from competition
Boots	The colored markings on the feet and legs of Pointed Pattern rabbits



BOS	Best Opposite Sex – judged to be the best Holland of the opposite sex of the BOB. If a buck is BOB, then a doe is chosen BOS and vice versa.
BOSV	Best Opposite Sex of Variety – judged to be the best broken (or solid) of the opposite sex of the BOV. Competes for the BOS but not BOB award
BOV	Best of Variety – judged to be either the best broken or best solid at that show. Competes for the BOB and BOS awards
Breed	A race or special class of domestic rabbits that have specific fur markings and texture, share, size and growth. A breed may be further divided into varieties
Breeder	One who breeds or raises a special variety or varieties of rabbits. The breeder follows standards or rules to keep the breed strong and healthy
BRIS	Best Reserve in Show – the rabbit of any breed judged to be second best at a show. This BRIS does not have to be the opposite sex of the BIS. Often written RIS.
Broken	A white rabbit with patches of color. A broken black has black patches, a broken tort has tort patches, etc.
Buck	An unaltered male rabbit
Bull Dog Head	A short, broad, bold head, with a definite masculine appearance
Butterfly	A nose marking found on some marked breeds and Broken varieties. The wing portions cover the whisker bed and upper lip, with the body or nose fork extending up the center of the face
Butting Teeth	A form of malocclusion, where the incisors overlapping the lower incisors in proper structure. A disqualification from competition.
Caked Teat or Breast	The swollen, hard, milk-filled mammary gland caused by excess production of milk
Carriage	The manner in which a rabbit carries itself. The style or characteristic pose of a rabbit. / The style in which a rabbit carries its ears.

Charlie	A rabbit with two broken-pattern genes which result in a minimally patterned rabbit
Cheeks	The sides of the face beneath the eyes
Chinning	Rabbits have scent glands under their chin. They will mark other items or people with their chins to put their individual scent on you so that other bunnies will know you are claimed. This is known as chinning and they all normally do this to any object they want to claim for themselves, or to mark as part of their territory.
Choppy (or Chopped Off)	A condition in which a rabbit is not well filled out and rounded in the loin and rump area
Chromosomes	The genetic makeup if cells that reproduce themselves. This is where the DNA is. A domestic rabbit has 44 chromosomes (22 pairs), cotton tails have 42, and hares have 48.
Circling	Rabbit term used primarily during bonding when both bunnies are running in a tight circle chasing each other. (Do not let this happen for more than 15 seconds if possible. It never has good results.)
Class	1. A group of rabbits that fall into the same gender, pattern and age group. 2. Age group of the rabbit. Either Junior, Intermediate or Senior
Classification	A system of arranging the judging within different breeds. Typically a group of rabbits that fall into the same gender, pattern and age group.
Cobby	A rabbit term meaning stout and stocky: short legged.
Cold	An infection localized in the nose. Usually characterized by repeated sneezing and the discharge of fluid from the nose. Sometimes accompanied by matted fur on the inside of the front feet. A Disqualification from Competition. (Note: In judging, the matted fur is only an indication and shall not be considered as conclusive evidence of a cold).
Compatible	In eye color, normal color that complements or matches the body color.
Condition	The overall physical state of a rabbit in relation to its health, cleanliness, fur and grooming.

Conjunctivitis	Inflammation of the inner membrane of the eyelid and sometimes the portion of the membrane that covers the white of the eye. A Disqualification from Competition.
Convention	The national rabbit show held by ARBA and sponsored by a local rabbit club for all breeds usually held in the Autumn (Fall). Many US states hold conventions as well.
Coprophagy (Cecotrophy)	The normal practice of the rabbit consuming some of the droppings (nutrient-rich cecotropes from its anus - soft night feces) directly from the anus. Rabbits recycle their food for nutrients and protein and other compounds that are essential for their good health.
Cow Hocks	Hind legs that turn inward at the hock causing the foot portion to turn outward from the body. A Disqualification from Competition.
Creamy	A rabbit term meaning light colored. The color of cream.
Crossbreeding	Mating individuals of different breeds. Thus making a non showable rabbit.
Crown	A strong basal ridge of cartilage at the top of the head between the ear base on some lop-eared breeds.
Cull	A breeder goes through a litter selecting ones he/she wishes to keep. The rest are sold (or eaten, if they're a meat breed.)
Culling	The process of selecting only the best rabbits from a litter for future breeding and show stock by selling or slaughtering the least desirable specimens from a litter.
Dam	Female rabbit that produced an offspring. A rabbit's dam is its mother.
Definition	1. The sharpness and clarity of a color break on a hair shaft, as the ring color in Agouti fur. 2. Sometimes used to describe color contrasts.
Density	The property or quality of a thick coat of fur. The number of fur fibers in a given area.

Depth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Measurement downward from the top line of the body to the lowest portion of the body.</li> <li>2. Sometimes used to describe the extension of color down the hair shaft.</li> </ol>
Dew Claw	An extra toe or functionless digit on the inside of the front leg.
Dewlap	A pendulous fold of loose skin which hangs from the throat. Common in does. (linked to doe being of baby bearing age). When the rabbit is altered (fixed) the dewlap will normally disappear. Should be in proportion to the total body size. Not accepted in some breeds.
Disqualification or DQ	One or more permanent defects, deformities, or blemishes that make a rabbit unfit to win an award in competition or to take part in an exhibition.
Doe	An unaltered or intact female rabbit.
Dominant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A dominant gene is stronger than a recessive gene. A dominant gene always shows up first. For example, if a chestnut agouti (castor, sandy, etc) carries self (non-agouti) the rabbit would appear as a chestnut agouti. The self gene will not show.</li> <li>2. Refers to the top rabbit either in a pair or warren of rabbits. This rabbit will want attention from the other rabbit(s). They can be demanding and bossy.</li> </ol>
DQ	Disqualification from showing. DQ's may be either permanent (such as a missing toe, malocclusion, or nonshowable color) or temporary (illness). Most common is over the weight limit, bad teeth, or illness present.
Drags	Intrusions of color markings into a white marking area or vice versa.
Dressing	See Processing.
Ear Canker	An inflamed scabby condition deep inside the ear. It is caused by an infestation of the ear canal by rabbit ear mites. A Disqualification from Competition.
Ear Lacing	A colored line of fur which outlines the sides and tips of the ears.
Ear Number / Tattoo	A series of numbers and/or letters tattooed into the rabbits left ear. Usually no more than 5 are in the ear. A circled R may be tattooed in the left ear if the rabbit has been registered.

Embryo	A kit in the early stages of development inside the doe.
Enteritis (or diarrhea)	Inflammation of the intestinal tract which can often be a fatal illness of the digestive system characterized by diarrhea and brought on by stress, excessive carbohydrate consumption and/or weaning. Rabbit's poop pellets should be firm and dry looking and slightly smaller than marbles.
Entry	Entries are rabbits that will participate in a particular show.
Extension	1. Length of leg and limb. 2. Depth of color carried down a hair shaft.
Eye Bands	The color around the eye on Dwarf Hotot or Hotot.
Eye Circle	Even marking of color around both eyes. Example: Checkered Giant.
Eye color	The color of the iris. The circle of color which surrounds the pupil of the eye.
Faking	Any dying, plucking, trimming or clipping so as to alter appearance. (Includes coloring toenails, powdering and indiscriminate use of grooming preparations designed to alter the natural condition or appearance.)
Faults	Imperfections. Conditions or characteristics that are unacceptable and will result in lower show placing but not disqualification. Examples: broken toenails, cheek spots to large and poor tail carriage.
Fecal Pellet	Small brown round or oval rabbit poop.
Fiber	Term used by people who like to spin and knit with various animals' hair/fur. Rabbits hair is a fur technically, but also commonly called fiber or even wool. Familiar breeds of rabbits that are used for fiber related crafts are Angoras.
Fine Coat	A coat of fur too fine in texture, lacking body. Guard hairs are weak and thin in structure. Lacking the proper amount of guard hairs.
Finish	The desired degree of perfection in condition. Fully prime coat, color and flesh. A coat of a rabbit that either lacks finish (poor condition, molting, etc) or has a good finish (well groomed, not molting) could mean the difference between winning and losing.

First (1st) Runner Up	Reserve to BIS - This is the 2nd place rabbit to who won BIS
Flabby	The condition of a rabbit when the flesh or fur hangs loosely. Not trim and shapely.
Flank	The sides of the rabbit between the ribs and hips and above the belly.
Flat Coat	Fur lying too closely to the body. Lacks spring or body as noted by touch. Usually a fine coat coupled with a lack of density.
Flat Shoulders	A trait that occurs when the top line over the shoulders is noticeably parallel to the surface of the judging table. A lack of continuous arch from the neck over the shoulders.
Flesh Condition	The general health and state of a rabbit's skin. If a rabbit is "rough" in flesh it means the skin over the backbone is very loose and thin. Bones are easily felt. Most common in rabbits suffering from some illness, not being fed enough, or does coming off weaning litters.
Flopping	Maybe after grooming a rabbit just flops over on his or her side, letting their belly hang out and their eyes roll back in their head - this is a bunny flop and things don't get much better than this - your rabbit is totally happy.
Fly Back	The property of fur that causes it to return quickly to its normal position when stroked toward the head of the rabbit.
Flying Coat	The condition of a coat that is loose and fluffy caused by undue length and thinness of under wool and weak guard hairs.
Foot	The part of the leg on which the rabbit stands. On the foreleg, that portion below the ankle or pattern. On the rear leg, that portion below the hock joint.
Forehead	The front part of the head between the eyes and the base of the ears.
Four Class Rabbits	Rabbit show category for all breeds having ideal adult weight under 9 pounds. There are four show classes for these rabbits: senior bucks, senior does, junior bucks, and junior does.

Forequarters	The portion of the body starting with the neck, back to and including the last rib.
Fostering	The use of a doe other than the dam to nurse and raise young kits. Should be done with kits of the same age/size. This is usually only done for the sake of giving the kits a better chance of survival if their litter is too large to support all of them, or if a mother rejected her litter.
Free Range	A rabbit that is NEVER in a cage or hutch. (This is possible. I have 2 free range bunnies - they are never in a cage or a hutch).
Fringes	The wool appearing on the ears of some woolen breeds. Falls between the tassels and the bangs.
Fryer	A young meat animal, which for show purposes, cannot be over 10 weeks of age or weigh over 5 lbs
Furnishings	The tassels and fringes on the ears, the bangs and head side trimmings on some wooled breeds.
Genotype	The genetically inherited characteristics and potential of the rabbit stock. For example the genotype of a chestnut agouti is: A_B_C_D_E_
Gestation	1. The period of time between breeding and birthing or kindling. 2. The period of time that a doe carries young in its uterus. Pregnancy. Normal length is 28-32 days.
GI Stasis	A disruption of the normal propulsive ability of the gastrointestinal tract. The GI tract slows down and doesn't process food like it should. They can be many causes which can lead to an obstruction, impaction or constipation. This is life threatening.
Glossy	The reflection of luster or brightness from naturally healthy fur in rabbits. Improved by grooming.
Grand Champion	A rabbit that has earned three or more legs, at least one of them being a senior leg, under at least two different judges. To obtain a grand champion number and certificate, the legs must be submitted with a fee.

Grooming	Rabbits are usually very clean about themselves. They will lick and clean themselves which is referred to as grooming. If a rabbit gets wet, it will try and lick or groom itself dry and might obsess over having wet fur. Over Grooming is when a rabbit licks itself so much in the same place over and over, their fur comes out and bare skin is exposed.
Group	A broader classification than variety, usually applied to color groupings.
Guard Hair	The longer, coarser, projecting hair of the rabbit's coat which offers protection to the undercoat and furnishes wearing quality to the coat in addition to providing sheen.
Hairline	A narrow white line running between the ears, connecting the blaze and collar (can be seen on the Dutch).
Herd	The name used to describe a group of rabbits.
Herdsmen Points	One herdsman point is awarded to each owner of a rabbit for each different rabbit that wins a Best of Breed or Best Opposite Sex in sanctioned shows. Herdsman points are indicators of the depth of the quality of a particular herd.
Heterozygous	This means that the rabbit is not pure for a certain gene. It carries a recessive gene. For example, "Aa" instead of "AA".
Hindquarters	The after-portion or posterior section of the body, made up of loins, hips, hind legs, and rump.
Hip	The thigh joint and large, muscular first joint of the hind leg.
HLRSC	Holland Lop Rabbit Specialty Club - national specialty club for Holland Lops. All Holland Lop breeders should belong to HLRSC.
Hock	The middle joint or section of the hind leg between the foot and hip.
Hog Fat	The condition of a rabbit obviously over-fattened and, as a result, out of proportion to the true type of the breed.
Hole	The rabbit's cage or home.



Homozygous	This means that the rabbit is pure for a certain gene. It does not carry a recessive gene and it cannot produce certain colors. For example, "AA" instead of "Aa".
Hump Back	The condition of having a hump or protrusion on the back, marring a gracefully arched outline.
Inbreeding	A breeding program involving the mating of closely related rabbit stock, such as brother and sister.
Inherited	The degree to which a trait or characteristic is passed on from a parent to offspring.
Inner Ear	The concave (curved inward) portion of the ear.
Interloper	A rabbit coming in from another area, not part of the warren or family but an outsider.
Intermediate	A show class term referring to rabbits that are at least 6 months old and no older than 8 months and that fulfill the weight requirements of the breed. Most common in larger breeds
Inventory	A list of everything on hand that is necessary to the project. A beginning inventory is taken at the start of a project year. An ending inventory is taken at the close of a project year.
Junior	A show class term referring to rabbits that are under 6 months of age and that fulfill the weight requirements of the breed.
Kindling	The process of giving birth to kits.
Kindling Box	A box provided to does so that she can make a nest and have babies in it. Also called a nest box.
Kisses	When a rabbit licks you to you show affection. They love you.
Kit	Baby rabbit.
Knee	The second joint of the leg, connecting the thigh and leg. In animals, more properly called the "hock". The second joint of the foreleg is the elbow.

Knock Kneed	See Cow Hocks.
Lagomorph	The Order that rabbits and hares belong to. Family Leporidae. Rabbits are not rodents!
Lapin	1. French word for rabbit 2. In the fur trade, it is dyed rabbit fur.
Lazy Tail	A tail that is slow to assume its normal position when it is moved.
Leg	A leg is earned by winning in an ARBA-sanctioned show as long as there are three exhibitors and five rabbits competing for the win. For example, first place in a class of five or more bunnies showed by three or more different exhibitors would earn a leg. For classes without enough exhibitors and/or bunnies, it may be possible to earn a leg by winning BOSV (if there are sufficient numbers of the related sex in the variety), BOV (if there are sufficient numbers in the entire variety), BOS (if there are sufficient number in the related sex of the breed) or BOB (if there are sufficient numbers in the entire breed). A rabbit may only earn one leg per judging.
Line breeding	Breeding programs involving the mating of rabbits that are both descended from the same animal but are related several generations back. For example: mating first cousins, uncle to niece, or aunt to nephew.
Litter	Young rabbits of a doe born at the same time.
Live Weight	The weight of a rabbit before it is dressed for market.
Loin	The part of the back on either side of the spine and between the lower rib and hip joint.
Loose Coat	The condition of fur lacking density in the undercoat, coupled usually with fine guard hairs and resulting in lack of texture. Does not indicate a slipping coat.
Lopped Ear	Pendulous ear. Not carried erect. Falling to the side or front.
Luster	Brightness and brilliance of fur.

Malocclusion	A misalignment of teeth. An inherited defect where the upper and lower jaws do not let the teeth meet, resulting in long, uneven teeth extending out of the rabbit's mouth.
Marked	A rabbit's fur usually white, which is broken up by an orderly placement of another color. Also refers to rabbits that carry the pattern of the Tan variety.
Massive	A rabbit term meaning bulky and heavy. Ponderous or large.
Meatloaf	When a rabbit sits on the ground lying on all four legs with their legs tucked under their body so that a roll of fur surrounds the ground and no legs can be seen or detected at all. Known as sitting meatloaf style.
Meaty	The quality of being able to carry a large proportion of meat for the size and type of rabbit. A noticeable meatiness at the forequarters, back, saddle, loins, and haunches.
Molt (Moult)	The process of shedding or changing the fur twice each year. The baby or nest fur is molted at two months. The first natural coat of fur is fully developed at 4 to 6 months.
Moon Eyes	The condition of having a milky film over the cornea or appearance similar to a moonstone. colored eyes having an extremely light iris, giving the eye a glazed appearance.
Mounting	This is done to show which rabbit is dominant. One rabbit will mount on top of the other rabbit. This is usually not a sex related move, but to demonstrate that the top rabbit is the boss. This will happen during the bonding process to get the pecking order established. Both males and females will mount other rabbits and the sex of the rabbit has no bearing on which one will mount - it's more a personality trait.
Muzzle	The projecting portion of the head surrounding the mouth, nose, and lower jaw.
Nationals	A national specialty show held by a national specialty club and sponsored by a local club.
Neck	That part of the rabbit connecting the head and body.

Nest Box	A box provided to does so that she can make a nest and have babies in it usually inside the hutch or cage hole where the kits are born and live for the first 18 to 21 days. Also called a kindling box.
Nose Biff	When a rabbit wants your attention or for you to do something, he or she will bump you with their nose.
Nursing	Process of allowing the kits to suckle milk from the mother's teats. A doe's milk is one of the densest, richest milks of any animal. She will usually only nurse the kits once a day.
Off-colored	Applied to several hairs or patches of fur foreign to the standard color of the rabbit.
Open	Shows that are open to exhibitors of all ages. Usually refers to an all "adult show." Which means anyone of any age is allowed to enter, but it is usually adults competing with other adults. They will usually add the letters: A, B and C to the end of "Open Show" if they are having multiple shows.
Open Coat	Fur that is beginning to lose its texture and luster and is almost ready to moult.
Oryctolagus Cuniculus	Oryctolagus relating to Genus, Cuniculus relating to Species. The scientific name given to the European rabbit or common rabbit, a species native to southwestern Europe
Out Breeding	A breeding program involving the mating of unrelated rabbits of the same breed.
Palpation	Feeling a doe's abdomen to determine the presence or absence of embryos. A method of examining by touch used to determine if a doe is pregnant and will bear young.
Patches	Small sections of fur with a color foreign to the standard of the rabbit.
Paunch	The prominent portion of the abdomen of the rabbit.
Peanut	A bunny with two dwarf genes, which is a fatal combination.
Pedigree	A written chart of the male and female ancestors of a rabbit, showing the date of birth and the parents, grandparents, and great grandparents of the rabbit.

Pelage	The fur coat or covering.
Pellets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some people refer to rabbit poop as "pellets". Because of their dark brown color and round shape.</li> <li>2. Can also mean their food - usually made of a mix hay and protein shaped into a dark green or brown small cylinder.</li> </ol>
Pepper and Salt	A flat, unattractive appearance of black and white ticking.
Phenotype	The appearance of the individual rabbit. i.e. What the rabbit looks like to the eye. For example, a rabbit who looks (phenotype) like a broken chocolate, but their real type (genotype) is broken chocolate steel.
Poor Coat	A rabbit term describing fur that is not in good condition through molting, rust, poor grooming, or ill health of the rabbit.
Pre-Junior	An unofficial term for rabbits that is old enough to be weaned but not mature enough to show as a junior. A show classification for young rabbits only found in very large breeds.
Processing	The sequence of acts in killing and preparing a rabbit for market.
Quad	A group of rabbits that refers to breeding groups. It is usually a non-related buck and two or three does that are sisters (but does not necessarily have to be). This is usually the bare minimum of rabbits that people start out with for their breeding program.
Quality Points	Set number of points earned for each Best of Breed and Best In Show also awarded for each Best Opposite Sex and Best Reserve (also Best 4 Class, when available) won in sanctioned shows.
Quick	The pink part of the toenails/claws that contains the blood vessels and nerves. It is to be avoided when trimming a rabbit's nails. A rabbit can be disqualified from exhibition if it's nails are not trimmed.
Rabbitry	A rabbit-raising enterprise or a place where domestic rabbits are kept.
Racy	A rabbit term meaning slim, trim, slender in body and legs, hare like, alert, and active.

Recessive	This is a gene that is weaker than a dominant gene. A recessive gene can hide <i>behind</i> a dominant gene but, it cannot hide a dominant gene.
Registrar	A person who, after taking a test and meeting other eligibility requirements, is certified (e.g. by the ARBA or BRC) to evaluate rabbits and register them if they meet standards. ARBA or BRC sanctioned shows are required to have a registrar available.
Registration	The process of certifying that a rabbit meets the qualifications established (by the ARBA or BRC) for that breed and has a three-generation pedigree (see pedigree above). Requires examination by a licensed registrar.
REW	Ruby-eyed white; white bunny with ruby eyes resulting from two REW (cc) genes.
Ribs	The curved portions of the sides immediately back of the shoulders and above the belly.
Rump	The hind portion of the back and bones.
Sanctioned	Shows that abide by association show rules and pay sanction fees are said to be sanctioned. Sweepstakes points are accumulated only from sanctioned shows. Only legs earned at sanctioned shows can be used to earn a Grand Champion certification.
Saddle	The rounded, intermediate portion of the back between the shoulder and loin.
Sandy	The color of sand, as in sand-gray Flemish Giants. Gray with reddish brown cast interspersed with dark guard hairs.
Screw Tail	A tail that is twisted. A corkscrew tail has more than one turn and is a disqualification.
Second (2nd) Runner Up	This is the 3rd place rabbit to who won BIS
Self	A fur color pattern where the hair colors are the same on each hair shaft all over the rabbit. The pattern that may be modified by the c-series gene (such as in sable point). Black is an example of a self color.

Self-Colored	Same as Self
Senior	A show class term referring to rabbits that fulfill the weight requirements of the breed and that are: 6 months of age and older in those breeds having two show classes (Junior and Senior) or 8 months of age and older in those breeds having three show classes (Junior, Intermediate, and Senior).
Service	The mating act of the buck with the doe.
Sexing	Rabbit term used for the technique of looking at the rabbits genitals to determine if it is male or female.
Shaded	Refers to colors like Sable Point. These colors have darker colors on the nose, ears, and other parts of the body. While the whole of the body is one solid lighter color.
Shoulder	The uppermost joint of the foreleg, connecting it with the body.
Silvered	A rabbit term describing an abundance of silver-white or silver-tipped guard hairs interspersed through the fur that produces a lustrous silvery appearance.
Sire	Male rabbit that produced an offspring. A rabbit's sire is its father.
Six Class Rabbits	Rabbit show category for all breeds having ideal senior weight of 9 pounds and over. There are six show classes for these rabbits: senior bucks, senior does, intermediate bucks, intermediate does, junior bucks and junior does.
Slipping Coat	A coat that is shedding or molting a profusion of hairs.
Slobbers	Excessive salivation creating wet or extremely moist and unsightly fur around the mouth and lower jaw and forelegs.
Smut	A rabbit term describing slate grey fur that is foreign to the standard color for the breed. Example: Creme D'Argent.
Snipey	A rabbit term describing a narrow and elongated head, with an appearance of undue leanness.
Solid-Colored	The condition of having the same color uniformity over the entire animal, not mixed with any color. Having no markings or shadings.

Sport	A rabbit not true to the characteristic markings of its breed. Examples: English Spots, Rhinelanders, or Checkered Giants lacking white color.
Spraddled Legs	A rabbit term describing forefeet bowed outward when viewed from the front. Knock-kneed. Hind feet not set parallel with the body. Turned outward from the hock joint.
Stops	In the Dutch for example when the white part of the hind foot extends upward from toes and ends abruptly about one third of the way to the hocks.
Strain	A race or stock of rabbits in any standard breed of the same family blood, having the quality of reproducing marked racial characteristics.
Stringy	The quality of having a ropy or sinewy finish, noticeable in the larger breeds of rabbits if not properly fattened for market.
Submissive	The less dominant rabbit behavior. They will normally groom or kiss or lick the dominant rabbit and is known as being the bottom bunny in a mount to show dominance.
Sway Back	The condition of having a distinct fall or scoop in that portion of the back between the shoulders and hindquarters, as distinguished from a gradually arching back.
Symmetry	A breeder's rabbit term meaning the harmonious proportion of head, ears, legs, and body structure conforming to the standard type of the breed represented.
Tail Carriage	Rabbit term describing the way in which a rabbit carries its tail. A tail being carried to one side or the other has poor tail carriage.
Tattoo	A code punched in the ear as a permanent method of identification.
Territorial	Rabbits, especially dwarf female rabbits are extremely protective of their living and sleeping areas. They have a defined area that they call their own turf and if an outsider or interloper wanders into their area, they will urinate and poop to mark the borders to claim the area(s) as theirs. They will also fight if necessary.
Texture	The character of fur as determined by feel or touch, such as "fine" or "coarse" texture.



Thumping	When a rabbit is afraid of something, it will bang or stomp its hind legs on the ground making a loud thudding noise. This is to warn other rabbits to be afraid or be on alert from a predator or other threat.
Ticking	A wavy distribution of longer guard hair throughout the fur. Ticking is usually produced by black-tipped guard hairs and adds to the beauty of the fur. Examples: Chinchillas, Flemish Giants, and Belgian Hares.
Tort	A rabbit term that is short for tortoiseshell, the most prevalent Holland Lop fur color; when used alone refers to black tortoiseshell rather than blue, chocolate or lilac tortoiseshell.
Trance (Trancing or To Put in a Trance)	When a rabbit goes limp and relaxed, in a state of almost being dead. A natural trigger and prey response to avoid being eaten. (Position is when you hold a rabbit on its back, cradled in the crook of your arm, much like holding a human infant with their hind feet in your other hand).
Trio	One buck and two does.
Type	A rabbit term used to denote body conformation of a rabbit or shape of a particular part of a rabbit, as in "head type". The general description of the physical makeup of the rabbit.
Typical	A rabbit term describing an ideal representative of any given breed or variety as applied to type, color, or fur quality.
Under color	The base of the fur shaft. Shaft next to the skin. Not the belly fur of the rabbit.
Uterus	Organ in the doe in which developing kits are contained and nourished before birth. Also called the womb.
Variety	A rabbit term meaning a subdivision of any recognized standard breed, distinct in color of fur from other subdivisions.
Wall Eyes (Moon Eyes)	The condition of having a milky film over the cornea or appearance similar to a moonstone. colored eyes having an extremely light iris, giving the eye a glazed appearance.

Weaning	The process by which young rabbits become independent of the doe for their nourishment. A young rabbit is weaned when it is between 4 and 8 weeks old, depending on the breeding schedule used and the breed of rabbit.
Weepy Eye	An eye infection where the eye gets red and discharges fluid to the point where the fluid is running down the buns face. The fur under or around the eye be will wet and matted. (Should have the vet see your rabbit for treatment which is normally eye drops and also a tear duct flush.)
Wolf Teeth	Protruding or elongated teeth in the upper and lower jaw caused by improper alignment of the upper and lower front teeth preventing normal eating action.
Wool	A rabbit term describing the fur of Angora rabbits. The guard hairs and under-fur being 2-1/2 to 5 inches long and resembling fine wool in texture.
Wry Tail	A rabbit term meaning abnormally bent, curled, or twisted tail. Permanently held to one side. A disqualification for a rabbit.
Youth	Exhibitors under age 19 and at least age 5. Can be an all youth only show. Only those 18 and under are allowed to enter these shows. Youth breeders must put their own rabbits on the judging table.



4-H Youth Development, 209 North Main Street, Burlington, WI 53105  
[www.racine.uwex.edu](http://www.racine.uwex.edu)