

# 2024-2025 CITRUS COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION

## Youth Pen of Meat Rabbit Show Rules & Regulations

1. (A) All Exhibitors must be 8 years of age as of September 1, 2024 to show a Pen of Meat Rabbit. Exhibitor must register their animal with the Citrus County Fair Association. All exhibitors must be a Citrus County 4-H or FFA member for the duration of their project. The 4-H Club or FFA Chapter must be recognized by the 4-H office or School to register to show a sale animal.  
  
(B) Entry form and Entry fee must be in the fair office by 5:00 pm Friday, February 7, 2025. No post marked or metered mail will be accepted after this date.  
  
A \$25.00 (Non-Refundable) Entry Fee due at Registration.  
A \$ 5.00 (Non-Refundable) Showmanship Fee due at Registration, Showmanship is optional.  
  
(C) MANDATORY TO ATTEND ONE EDUCATIONAL MEETING. The Livestock Committee will present at least **two** educational meetings during the project period (August through February). REFER TO THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING INFO SHEET. The Exhibitor and a Parent or Legal Guardian WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND TOGETHER, at least ONE of these to SHOW and SELL. Exhibitor and Parent or Legal Guardian, must STAY for the meeting AND sign in and sign out to receive credit for attending. **If you and your parent or legal guardians are unable to attend one of these meetings, the intended exhibitor should not register an animal to show and sell.**
2. (A) **All animals will be weighed at check-in. Any animal not meeting the minimum weight requirement will be disqualified and must be removed from the fairgrounds.**  
  
(B) A pen of meat consists of three rabbits of the same breed and variety. All Rabbits must weigh **between 3 1/2 to 5 1/2 lbs** and not be over 70 days of age at Fair time. They should be of equal size and **weigh between 3 1/2 and 5 1/2** pounds to participate for Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion and not over **70 days old** at Fair time. They can be opposite or same sex and at registration exhibitor needs to provide the tattoo identification that will be used on the Pen of Meat rabbits. All rabbits must be brought to the Citrus County Fairgrounds on the date designated by the Livestock Committee for marking of the animal for identification if requested. If rabbits already have markings, then they will be verified on that date. **THIS IS MANDATORY-** the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Pen of Meat Rabbits (3 to a pen) will be auctioned off; this is for 4-H and FFA members only. This is a project for you to raise and sell at the Fair. Silent Auction Pen of Meat Rabbit may remain until close of fair. Exhibitors will be responsible for the care of their rabbits until they leave the fair.
3. **NO SICK OR DISEASED ANIMALS WILL BE ALLOWED.** They will be checked for ear mites and additional health issues. All animals will be inspected.
4. Two separate Buyer Letters (One to a Previous Buyer and one to a New Buyer, Addressed, Stamped, and unsealed with your name and your return address) will be required for sale animal exhibitors, and must be turned in to the Fair Office. Buyer Letter deadline is on the Important Dates and Educational Meeting Info sheet. Only two (2) letters will be accepted at the Fair Office; however, you are encouraged to send out more on your own. All exhibitors must use the current list of previous buyers posted online at [citruscountyfair.com](http://citruscountyfair.com) or you can pick up a list from the Fair office.
5. Proof of "Project Work" for Youth 4-H or FFA exhibitors will be your completed record book. If entering more than one animal, then each animal will need to have a separate information page included in the record book. **All completed record books are due at check-in.**
6. All rabbits must be delivered to the Fairgrounds on Thursday, March 27, 2025 between the hours of 8:00 AM until 10:00 AM. All Livestock Exhibitors will be admitted Free for the duration of your project through the Livestock Gate. **ALL OTHERS MUST PAY GATE PRICE OR SHOW A FAIR MEMBERSHIP CARD. THE MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE IS ON THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING INFO SHEET.**
7. Exhibitors must be present and able to handle their animals during the fair.

8. Exhibitors cannot compete against themselves.
9. Thank you letters for Buyers, Add-Ons, Skill-a-thon and all Awards must be in the Fair Office before a check will be issued to the Exhibitor. Bring your letters to the Fair Office; deadline is on the Important Dates and Educational Meeting Info sheet. **(No Letters will be taken at Barn Clean-up)**. Letters must be stamped, addressed and **unsealed with your name and your return address on the envelope**. All money will be withheld until letters are written. **Should deadline be missed there will be a \$150.00 fine or forfeit your premium monies and Exhibitor will become ineligible to Show/Sale for the following Fair year.** Sponsor address label is on the bottom of all awards and a list of Sponsors with addresses is on file in the Fair Office.

10. Exhibitors and their parent or guardian will be required to sign a drug certificate which must be turned in to the Superintendent at the Exhibitors meeting. By signing the drug certificate, you are certifying that all drugs and feed additives received by these animals have been used in conformity with the feed or drug manufacture's dosage directions and withdrawal times.

11. Limitation of entries may be enforced by the show superintendent due to limited space.

12. Normal release time is Saturday, March 29, 2025 at the designated time by the Rabbit Superintendent. It is the EXHIBITORS responsibility to follow up for any changes. WE WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ANIMAL LEFT AFTER 10:00 PM. Other arrangements must be made in advance and approved by the show superintendent.

EXCEPT for the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Animals. They will be released to the buyer. Other arrangements must be made in advance and approved by the show superintendent. Silent Auction Pen of Meat Rabbits may remain until close of fair. **Auction Pen of Meat Rabbit are sold alive and it is the responsibility of the exhibitor or buyer to arrange processing.**

13. SALE of Pen of Meat Rabbits other than the SILENT AUCTION is PROHIBITED and prize monies will be forfeited.

14. AWARDS & PREMIUMS: RIBBONS WILL BE AWARDED 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>  
1<sup>st</sup> \$10, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$5.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$4.00, 4<sup>th</sup> \$3.00, 5<sup>th</sup> \$2.00, 6<sup>th</sup> \$1.00

**AWARDS:** Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.

Payout for Showmanship is a % of entry fees collected. Ribbons will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

1 <sup>ST</sup>	25% OF THE ENTRY FEES	4 <sup>TH</sup>	15% OF THE ENTRY FEES
2 <sup>ND</sup>	20% OF THE ENTRY FEES	5 <sup>TH</sup>	12 1/2% OF THE ENTRY FEES
3 <sup>RD</sup>	17 1/2% OF THE ENTRY FEES	6 <sup>TH</sup>	10% OF THE ENTRY FEES

15. All exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the optional Rabbit Skill-a-thon during Fair Week. The age of skill-a-thon and record books will be determined by the Exhibitor's age, prior to September 1, 2024.

16. Failure to comply with any of the above rules and regulations will subject the exhibitor to disqualification and removal from the project or Fairgrounds.

17. ALL ANIMALS MUST CONFORM TO ALL STATE OF FLORIDA HEALTH RULES. During the FAIR at the Superintendents discretion may send home ANY Rabbit should they show signs of illness or become ill.

18. Mandatory to attend Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-Up - **REFER TO THE IMPORTANT DATES AND EDUCATIONAL MEETING INFO SHEET**. Exhibitor must sign in and sign out to receive credit for attending. Anyone unable to attend must contact the Livestock Committee Chairman, in writing, prior to Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-up. Failure to attend and participate in Barn Set-up **OR** Barn Clean-up will result in a **\$150.00 fine** or forfeit their premium monies, to be put into the Dr. Dumas Scholarship fund.

19. All show and sale animals will be cared for at the exhibitor's residence unless granted permission by the Livestock Board, in writing for the animal to be cared for at another location.
20. **PEN of MEAT Rabbit Exhibitors Dress Code during Show, Showmanship & Sale night will be as follows:**
  - (1) DARK BLACK SLACKS OR DARK BLACK JEANS WITHOUT HOLES.
  - (2) WHITE DRESS SHIRT OR WHITE BLOUSE WITH COLLAR, TUCKED INTO PANTS.
  - (3) DARK BOOTS OR LEATHER LACE -UP SHOES (**6" UPPER**)
  - (4) **4-H** JACKET OR VEST - IF NOT WEARING A 4-H JACKET OR VEST, A 4-H PATCH IS REQUIRED.
  - (5) **FFA** OFFICIAL DRESS IS REQUIRED INCLUDING A JACKET AND TIE OR SCARF, WHICH SHOULD BE TIED ON THE OUTSIDE OF A WHITE COLLARED SHIRT.
  - (6) SHOW, SHOWMANSHIP AND SALE NIGHT - NO HATS OF ANY KIND PERMITTED. NO GUM, CANDY OR OTHER MATERIALS IN THE MOUTH OF EXHIBITOR. YOUR ANIMAL MAY BE DECORATED BUT THE COSTUME MUST BE APPROVED IN WRITING BY THE SUPERINTENDENT.
21. All entries must be shown by their designated exhibitor unless otherwise approved by the Livestock Board, this includes showmanship classes.
22. Grooming will be done by the Exhibitors ONLY in all Youth shows. No parents or guardians/leaders will be allowed in the rabbit barn prior to show.
23. Each exhibitor **must be** present during the entering of their animal and furnish feed and care for his/her animal while at the Fair. Each exhibitor is required to maintain clean and attractive quarters at all times. An Exhibitor showing neglect of their animal and/or exhibit area, shall forfeit all prize money.
24. This is a Terminal Show. No Market Animal may be shown in **ANY SHOW** after it has been sold in the live auction at the Citrus County Fair. Any exhibitor doing so will become ineligible to participate in the Citrus County Fair next year. If the exhibitor is a graduating senior, a 25% assessment of the sale price will be charged.
25. Failure to comply with any of the above rules and regulations will subject the exhibitor to disqualification and removal from the project or Fairgrounds.

**EXHIBITOR: FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BE SURE TO READ THE LIVESTOCK ADDENDUM, IAFE AND NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS, GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS AND LIVESTOCK SCHEDULE AS THEY PERTAIN TO ALL LIVESTOCK SHOWS.**

REV. 6/2024