

# Frequently Asked Rabbit Project Questions

Q: What is a breeding rabbit and what is a market rabbit?

A: Breeding rabbits are not sold for meat and are shown by their breed at the fair. Market rabbits are meat rabbits that will go through the sale at the fair. The most popular breeds used for market purposes are Californian, New Zealand or any combination of the two.

Q: How do I find breeding and market rabbits?

A: Breeding rabbits are sold by a number of local breeders including fellow 4-H members. Contact your advisor for guidance on local resources. Also, you can access [www.arba.net](http://www.arba.net) for a complete listing of breeders throughout the state.

A. Market Rabbits: Contact your advisor for local sources including fellow 4-H members. You may also find breeders through local feed stores, or by word of mouth from other 4-H project members and their families. You need to contact and get on a list for a breeder with the desired number of rabbits very early. You will not pick up your market rabbits until just prior to registration in July.

Q: What is a senior rabbit and what is a junior rabbit?

A: Senior rabbit: Any rabbit that is over 6 months of age at the time of the fair.  
Junior rabbit is any rabbit that is under 6 months of age at the time of the fair.

Q: How do I know what breed of rabbit I have?

A: Review the ARBA Standard of Perfection to see what qualities fit your rabbit. Another option is to contact a local rabbit breeder or resource person to help you determine what breed of rabbit you have.

Q: How do I care for my rabbit?

A: The 4-H Rabbit Resource Book will provide an overview of care, equipment, breeds and diseases.

Q: Do I give my rabbit a bath?

A: Rabbits are very clean animals. You do not want to wash a rabbit within 30 days of the fair. When a rabbit gets a bath they will molt or shed their hair within 30 days. A rabbit that is molting / shedding does not show well.

Q: How do I keep my rabbit cool in the hot summer?

A: Freeze water in 20 oz. beverage bottles and put them in the cage. In the summer a rabbit must be kept in a cool, shaded area with a light breeze. Rabbits are prone to heat exhaustion when kept in direct sunlight.

Q: What is rabbit registration?

A: Every rabbit that is shown at the Hartford fair must be registered and entered. Registration is when the rabbit is brought to the fair on a designated day and their tattoo, breed, sex and age is recorded in a database under the exhibitor showing the project. This must be done each year.

Registration is separate from the fair entry.  
In order to exhibit at the fair each exhibitor must do BOTH.

# Important Rabbit Dates and Project Information:

## Exhibition and Judging...

- **Rabbit Projects Shown at the Fair:**  
Breed Rabbit Project and Market Rabbit Project.
- **Special Interest Project:**  
Pet Rabbit project **DOES NOT** show at the fair through the Junior Fair rabbit show.  
-The Pet Rabbit Project is judge at Special Interest Project Judging in July.

## Important 2017 Dates:

- Rabbit Registration:  
*The Rabbit has to come to the Hartford Fairgrounds for registration. If the 4-H or FFA member is unable to bring the rabbit it is acceptable for someone else to bring the rabbit to the fairgrounds.*  
  
If you are unable to attend a registration day, you will need to contact Senior Fair Board Director Ed Piar at 740.627.0197.
- Senior Rabbits: The First Saturday in May  
May 6, 2017  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the Rabbit & Poultry Barn at the Hartford Fairgrounds
- Junior Rabbits and Market Rabbit Projects: The Second Saturday in July  
July 8, 2017  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the Rabbit & Poultry Barn at the Hartford Fairgrounds
- Rabbit and Poultry Fun Show:  
Date TBA  
Location TBA
- Licking County Rabbit Queen and Princess Contest:  
Date TBA  
Licking County Extension Office
- Alisha Tilley Rabbit Showmanship Clinic-FREE!  
Date TBA  
2:30 PM in the Rabbit & Poultry Barn at the Hartford Fairgrounds  
Advisors Please Note: Alisha will **not** be available to visit individual clubs this summer.  
Please encourage your members to attend this clinic for showmanship, care and tips in preparation for the Hartford Fair.