4-H Rabbit/Cavy Project Record Book

Cheboygan County

Second and Third Year

(9 and Older)

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____State:_____Zip:_____

Current 4-H Age (as of 1/1 of current year): _____   Number of Years in 4-H: _____

Years in Rabbit/Cavy Project: _____

4-H Club: _____

Record Started: _____ _____ _____   Record Closed: _____ _____ _____
                    Mo.   Day   Year   Mo.   Day   Year

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Objectives of the 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Project

1. To gain knowledge and skills in managing and caring for rabbits/cavies.
2. To learn to select quality rabbits/cavies and how to feed them balanced rations.
3. To maintain management records on which to base decisions regarding feed, production and breeding of rabbits/cavies.
4. To participate in group activities within the club and to assume responsibility in the 4-H Club rabbits/cavies program.
5. To gain satisfaction from completing a project to the member's best ability.
6. To provide members with experience and opportunities to cope with the values and attitudes of responsibility, in a relatively unsupervised environment. The supervision will be on a periodic basis.
7. To provide the member with opportunities to contribute to the family table with rabbit meat, or to experience the marketing process and system in disposal of the product.
8. To encourage the member to participate in showing his/her project animals at local, area, state 4-H Rabbit/Cavy shows.

9. To develop written communications skills. Project record books are to present verbally a complete and accurate picture of the 4-H animals and member.

4-H Rabbit/Cavy Project Guidelines

1. Members should enroll in the fall, even though they may not yet have animals. This will enable members to be well prepared to receive their animals.
2. Project records must be started by May 1st and kept until the end of the project year. The animal(s) must be in the member's possession and registered in the 4-H office by May 1st to show at fair.
3. Members are encouraged to exhibit their animal(s) at least once during the project year. (County fair, area rabbit shows, and the state 4-H rabbit show)
4. Although members are not required to participate in showmanship at fair, it is highly encouraged. If the member wants to show the project animal(s) in 4-H breed and fur classes, showmanship is a pre-requisite.
5. Record books are to be cumulative. Therefore members should include record books from previous years.

4-H Rabbit/Cavy Project Showmanship

1. All members are strongly encouraged to participate in the showmanship division of the 4-H Rabbits/Cavies Project.
2. Exhibitors are to be appropriately and neatly groomed/dressed in a long sleeved white shirt or lab coat and black pants.

Project Summary
Complete this page using your current 4-H animal(s)

Please Circle: 　　 <u>Pet Project</u> 　 <u>Breeding Project</u> 　 <u>Market Project</u>

About my Project Animal(s):

Pedigreed Name(s): _____

Barn Name(s): _____

Breed(s): _____

Gender(s): _____ 　　　　　 Age(s): _____

Rabbit/Cavy Birthdate(s): _____ 　　 Source(s): _____

Colors/Varieties: _____

Tattoo Number(s): _____

My personal goal for my rabbit/cavy project(s) this year is**:** _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

 Personal goal approved by: _____
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Leader Signature

This is a topic I want to research this year: _____

4-H meetings held: _____ 　　　 4-H meetings I attended: _____

Number of 4-H meetings held _____ 　　 Number of meetings I attended this year _____

Other education events/meetings attended: _____

Number of talks/presentations given: _____

Where was the talk/presentation presented? _____

 How many people were present? _____

Beginning of year photo

Complete Show Record – This is to be cumulative.

Ear # or Name of Animal	Date of Show	Location of Show	Type of Show	Class Entered	# In Class	Placing or Award
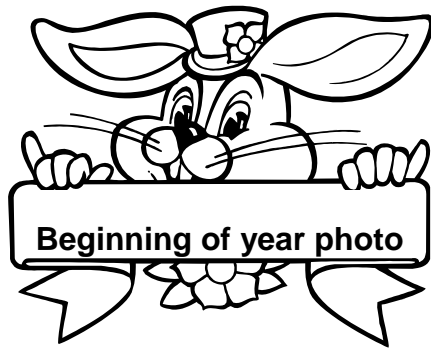
Project Inventory

List rabbits/cavies and any equipment used in this project.

Date	Item	Inventory Value

Date:_____ Inventory Total for Current Year: $_____

Project Expenses
List feed, supplies, vet costs, and miscellaneous.

Date	Expense Item	Cost

Date:_____ Inventory Total for Current Year: $_____

Housing

1. What is the appropriate size housing for your animal(s)? Why?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. How do you keep your hutch(s) clean?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Feeding

1. What kind of food do you feed your rabbits/cavies? How does the food you've chosen benefit your project animal(s)?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. How much food and percentage of protein does/do your project animal(s) require daily and why?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. Detail your project animal feeding schedule including time, amount, frequency, type of food, etc.

Time	Amount	Frequency	Type of food	Other

4. How do you store your feed and what are the advantages/disadvantages of your storage method?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Attach Feed Slip Here

QUESTIONS

When answering these questions, BE SPECIFIC and use examples. You may attach an extra page if needed.

1.   Tell us about a disease you would like to learn more about? Why?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Standard of Perfection

2.   Where are most of the points concentrated in each breed of your rabbit project?

_____

_____

_____

_____

3.   What is the IDEAL weight of a SENIOR BUCK for each breed of your rabbit project?

_____

_____

_____

4.   What is the IDEAL weight of a SENIOR DOE for each breed of your rabbit project?

_____

_____

_____

_____

5. Identify each rabbit/cavy of your projects as a 4 or 6 class. Explain:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

6. List some disqualifications or faults associated for each breed of your rabbit/cavy project:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

7. List 4 varieties for each breed of your rabbit/cavy project.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Parts of a Rabbit

*Drawing a line to match the parts of a rabbit with the parts listed below.*

Leg

Tail   Eye   Cheek   Belly

Shoulder
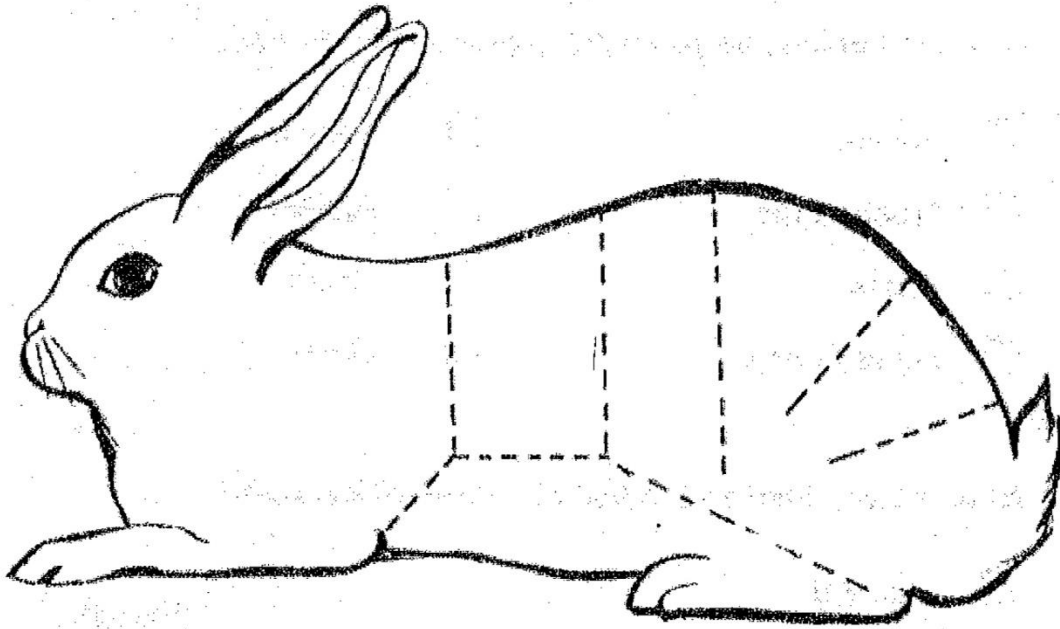
Ears

Dewlap   Flank

Loin

Hip   Rump

Rib

Cavy Parts

Breed Exploration

Year:_____ Project Animal:_____

Using a current copy of the ARBA Standard of Perfection, look up three or more different breeds and record information (type) on a separate sheet of paper (one per breed) for each using the format below. Include a picture, if possible. Insert your breed exploration pages after this page in your record book.

Breeds I explored:

1.   _____   .

2.   _____

3.   _____

4.   _____

5.   _____

(Breed Exploration Format)

Breed:

Varieties:

Classes and weights:

Schedule of Points (include at least one fault and one disqualification for each category):

     General:

     Fur:

     Color:

     Condition:

     Other:

Rabbit Health Chart

Include one chart for each project animal

Rabbit's Pedigreed Name: _____

Barn Name: _____

Variety: _____   Sex: _____

Ear #: _____   Date of Birth: _____

Date	Weight	Health Check	Specify Procedure	Comments
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		

Cavy Health Chart

Include one chart for each project animal

Cavy's Pedigreed Name: _____ Sex: _____

Barn Name: _____ Variety: _____

Ear #: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Date	Weight	Health Check	Specify Procedure	Comments
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		
		☐		

Project Story

Option 1: Write about any funny, exciting or educational experience that you encountered over this past year involving your rabbit/cavy project.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Option 2: Write about what you learned this year in your rabbit/cavy project and what you want to learn more about next year.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

End of year photo

End-of-year signatures

Your 4-H club leader will ask to see your record book periodically throughout the year and can help you to know how to fill it out. This is a tangible record of what you have accomplished and learned throughout the year; therefore you will want to do your very best work. Cloverbuds can ask parents or leaders to help write their answers in their record books.

At the end of the 4-H year, when you are finished preparing your record book, your leader will review it with you. We ask that you, a parent, and your leader sign it before entering it into the fair.

My signature below confirms that this is my record book, that I have completed it by myself, and that it is correct to the best of my knowledge.

_____

4-H Member Signature and Date

_____

Parent's Signature and Date

_____

4-H Club Project Leader and Date