



2009 Poultry Information Sheet

Prepared by the 4-H State Fair Poultry Show Committee and the Center for Youth Development

This information sheet gives details on the rules for this year's Minnesota State Fair 4-H Poultry Show. Although some counties may follow slightly different guidelines, these rules will apply at the state level.

Ownership Requirements

- Poultry exhibited must be owned solely by the member, member's family or leased by agreement (if leased, complete lease agreement SALA). The family includes the 4-Her's parents or guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animals may be owned by grandparents the 4-Her's parents actively involved with and working on the farm.

Leasing Program

- If a 4-Her cannot own their own Poultry, they may be leased.
- 4-Hers exhibiting leased animals at the State Fair must present a photocopy of the appropriate "Minnesota 4-H Small Animal Lease Agreement (SALA)" during leg-banding.

Hatch Dates

- All exhibited birds (except pigeons) must be of this year's hatch.
- Suggested hatch dates are:

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| Breeding Poultry and Waterfowl | January 1 or after |
| Egg Production Chickens (will be in two separate lots, white egg layers & brown egg layers) | March 1 or after |
| Market Chickens | March 1 or after – should be 8-10 weeks old at fair |
| → You may need two hatches of market chickens to accommodate an early county fair and (a late August) State Fair. | |
| Domestic Turkey & Market Waterfowl | March 1 or after |
| Pigeons - Breeding pairs must have previous year's seamless band or older on | Young birds must have current year's seamless band on. |
| Guinea – Pearl, White, or Lavender | January 1 or after |

Identification Details

- All birds will be leg banded with a State Fair provided numbered leg band when they arrive at the State Fair.

Weight Guidelines

- To avoid over-finished market chickens, it is recommended that they be as near 8-10 weeks of age at show time as possible.
- Market ducks, geese, guineas and turkeys should be well filled out in the breast and leg.

Identification Forms & Deadlines

- If you own your Poultry, there is not an identification form that needs to be submitted to your county extension offices.
- If an animal is leased, the appropriate "Minnesota 4-H Lease Agreement" must be turned in to your species ID coordinator for submission to your extension office by May 15.

Dates of State Fair 4-H Livestock Encampment & Show Times

- 4-H Livestock Encampment ~ Wednesday, August 26 – Sunday, August 30
 - Show Day & Time ~ Thursday – 1:00 p.m.
- Exhibitors must check in at the Poultry Office upon arrival to pick up leg bands. Please refer to the Poultry section of the State Fair 4-H Premium Book for more details.

Purebred Animals

- All birds exhibited in breeding classes must be purebred and will be judged according to the American Poultry Association (APA) Standard of Perfection. All pigeons will be judged according to the NPA's Pigeon Standard book.

State Fair Health Requirements

- All chicken, guinea, turkey exhibitors must have a "Statement of Origin" indicating their bird is from a Pullorum-Typhoid free flock within 12 months prior to entry day.
- If you do not have a "Statement of Origin", you must provide a Minnesota State Board of Animal Health Certificate stating that your bird tested negative at the Pullorum-Typhoid test.
- The "Statement of Origin" or negative Pullorum-Typhoid test certificate must be attached to the county computer generated 4-H State Fair Specie Verification Report (poultry).
- No health certificates are required for waterfowl or pigeons.

State Fair Interviews ~ Age Divisions: Intermediate = grades 6-8, Senior = grades 9-10, Advanced = grades 11 & up

- Interviews will be from 7:00 am to 10:00 am on Thursday.
- Sign up for an interview time when entering your birds at the Poultry Office.

- To qualify for any awards above and beyond a blue ribbon, exhibitors must participate in the Poultry Interviews.
- The poultry interview process will include a computerized quiz, workshop, and finalist interview.. Questions will be taken from the workshop and Poultry Curriculum. Award Winners will be selected from the Finalists.

State Fair Showmanship ~ Age Divisions: Intermediate = grades 6-8 & Senior = grades 9-10, Advanced = grades 11 & up

- Exhibitors are judged on personal appearance, appearance of the bird, handling of the bird and attention to the judge during the poultry show.
- Exhibitors must bring one of their own birds for showmanship.
- The Champions receive a trophy. The Reserve Champion Advanced, Senior and Intermediate receive a plaque.

State Fair Herdsmanship

- Animals must be maintained and look presentable to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. daily.
- Shavings will be available during designated times of the morning and afternoon. (Check at the Promotion Booth for times.)
- **Bring your own feed.**
- Locks may be used on cages, small locks preferred. .
- See the 4-H State Fair Premium Book for details.

Promotion Booth

- All poultry exhibitors are expected to help in the Poultry Promotion Booth. A schedule will be posted with duty responsibilities.
- 4-Hers are expected to sign in and out of the Promotion Booth and to be present for their county's *entire* scheduled time period.
- Exhibitors who do not complete their shift will receive a white ribbon in Herdsmanship for that day.

Poster Contest

- Any 4-Her enrolled in the Poultry Project may enter a poster. (You do not have to be exhibiting a bird at State Fair to enter.)
- Age Divisions: Grades K-2 ~ Grades 3-5 ~ Grades 6-8 ~ Grade 9+
- Poster size is 14" wide by 22" high. Vertical layout is best for promotional poster.
- Posters must be labeled on the back with the 4-Hers name, grade completed, and county.
- Categories: (1) Promoting 4-H Poultry Project such as; ideas to promote and encourage youth to join 4-H and the Poultry Project and (2) Educational 4-H Poultry Poster such as; ways to encourage learning of more poultry areas like: breeds – eggs- marketing – production- nutrition.
- One poster will be chosen as next year's cover for the 4-H State Fair Poultry Show Catalog. (Must be a flat design that can be reproduced on a copy machine. Trade-marked characters or themes cannot be considered). Simple design with 2 colors work best.
- One poster will be chosen as next year's 4-H Poultry t-shirt design. (Must be a flat design that can be reproduced. Trade-marked characters or themes cannot be considered)
- Simple Design with 2 colors work best.

Poultry Judging Contest

- **8:30** a.m. on Sunday in the Sheep Arena.
- Open to any 4-Her. (You do not have to be exhibiting a bird at State Fair to enter.)
- Divisions: Intermediate = grades 6-8 & Senior = grade 9+. Classes will include laying hens, eggs, ready-to-cook chicken, and oral reasons.
- Top five scoring contestants will represent Minnesota at the National 4-H Poultry Judging Contest (Louisville, KY in November).
- Any 4-Her who has participated in the National Contest can not compete again at the State Level.
- Anyone interested in the egg preparation demonstration at the National 4-H Poultry Contest held in Louisville, KY must notify a member of the State Fair Poultry Show Committee.

Open Quiz Bowl

- 6:00 p.m. on Friday in Sheep Arena.
- Patterned after the 4-H Project Bowl program that takes place in the Spring.
- Open to any 4-Her. There is no pre entry required. (You do not have to be exhibiting at State Fair.)
- 4-Hers assemble into teams of four and strive to answer questions related to poultry.

Chicken BBQ Contest

- Open to any 4-Her. Pre entry required. **A completed Form 15 is Required.** (You do not have to be exhibiting at State Fair.)
- See the 4-H State Fair Premium Book for complete details and rules. Contestants will be allowed 2½ hours to prepare four chicken halves and will be scored for barbecue skills and sensory evaluation. A table top, chicken, BBQ grills, charcoal, and additional lighter fluid will be provided. Participants need to supply cooking materials (including sauce) and additional equipment.
- Top Seniors will have the option to represent Minnesota at the National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference, in the chicken or turkey BBQ or Egg Preparation Demonstration.