



**Riverside County 4-H  
Project Proficiency  
Program**

**Rabbit**

## Riverside County 4-H Rabbit Proficiency Program

### Level I – Explorer

	Activity	Date completed	Approved by
1.	Identify, describe, and tell the important characteristics of three breeds of domestic rabbits.		
2.	Name, point out, and spell the following parts of a rabbit: hip, loin, saddle, shoulder, belly, chest, pad, dewlap, hock, and back.		
3.	Describe the undesirable characteristics of rabbits: buck teeth, bowed legs, excessive fat, and narrow body.		
4.	Describe and explain the following: registered, purebred, crossbred, vaccinate, parasite, insect, virus, and wean.		
5.	Explain which feeds are important for rabbits. Know how much a daily ration for your rabbit is.		
6.	Demonstrate you are willing to provide fresh water, feed, and daily care for your rabbit.		
7.	Keep a record of your rabbit project including expenses and income.		
8.	Describe a suitable type of hutch for your rabbit and how to equip it for use.		
9.	Describe what you might do for your rabbit's protection during extremely hot or cold weather.		
10.	Explain the difference between a rabbit and a hare.		
11.	Show and tell how to lift, hold, and carry a rabbit.		
12.	Make a report on your breed of rabbit, including the standard weight classification.		
13.	Give a demonstration or talk to your club.		

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Riverside County 4-H Rabbit Proficiency Program

### Level II – Producer

	Activity	Date completed	Approved by
1.	Name and describe six additional breeds of rabbit.		
2.	Build a suitable carry case, tattooing box, feeder, or some other rabbit equipment.		
3.	Demonstrate how to tell the sex of a young rabbit (approximately 8 weeks old).		
4.	Explain why the doe should be taken to the buck's hutch for breeding. Give at least two reasons.		
5.	Build or prepare a nest for your doe and know the proper time to provide her with it.		
6.	Take part in a Rabbit Judging Contest.		
7.	Take part in a 4-H Rabbit showmanship contest.		
8.	Describe the following diseases and their remedy: ear canker, sore hocks, snuffles, and diarrhea.		
9.	Describe the following faults in a rabbit: buck teeth, hernia, crooked legs, and wry tail.		
10.	Describe the desirable characteristics of a rabbit's hip, loin, saddle, shoulder, and legs.		
11.	Visit a commercial rabbitry to see how rabbits are housed, fed, watered, bred, and marketed.		
12.	Start a library on rabbit literature: magazines, books, bulletins, and 4-H materials.		
13.	Arrange a tour for your club.		

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Riverside County 4-H Rabbit Proficiency Program

### Level III – Consumer

	Activity	Date completed	Approved by
1.	Keep a doe production record for two litters. Include the quality of the offspring.		
2.	Explain breeding, contraction, pregnancy, and gestation periods in rabbits.		
3.	Illustrate and explain the digestive system of a rabbit.		
4.	Tell about control of parasites such as maggots, lice, ticks, pin worms, and coccidiosis.		
5.	Describe parts of a wool breed.		
6.	Invite and introduce a guest speaker to one of your project meetings. Ex: local rabbit breeder, feed dealer, a judge, registrar.		
7.	Describe three more diseases of rabbits and their treatment.		
8.	Explain how good selection can improve your stock. Explain inbreeding, line breeding, crossbreeding, and the advantages and disadvantages of each.		
9.	Tell the functions of protein, carbohydrates, fats, water, vitamins, and minerals in rations for rabbits.		
10.	Tattoo a rabbit.		
11.	Describe the differences in rex fur, wool, and normal fur.		
12.	Describe why the rabbit is not a rodent. What genus do rabbits belong to?		
13.	Teach showmanship to another member.		

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Riverside County 4-H Rabbit Proficiency Program

### Level IV – Leader

	Activity	Date completed	Approved by
1.	Make a report on the best market breeds of rabbit.		
2.	Describe all Netherland dwarf varieties.		
3.	Make a report to your club on how to prepare and enter a rabbit at an ARBA open show.		
4.	Attend, and if possible enter your rabbit in an ARBA open show.		
5.	Name and explain characteristics or conditions of rabbits due to inheritance.		
6.	Name and explain characteristics or conditions of rabbits due to environment and feed.		
7.	Demonstrate how to palpate a doe.		
8.	Compare and contrast different brands of feed. What are best for market, show, and breeding.		
9.	Identify parts of the rabbits reproductive system.		
10.	Describe the process of accepting a new breed or variety.		
11.	Make a rabbit game and play it at a meeting.		
12.	Keep a buck production record.		
13.	Write out a pedigree.		

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Riverside County 4-H Rabbit Proficiency Program

### Level V – Researcher

	Activity	Date completed	Approved by
1.	Join ACBA.		
2.	Learn the registration process.		
3.	How does someone become a judge or a registrar?		
4.	Do a report on the breeding and potential outcome of rabbits with peanut gene factors.		
5.	Make a written and pictorial record of your rabbit's strengths and weaknesses. Chose a mate for it and record the offspring's strengths and weaknesses.		
6.	Select three feeding programs and feed it to three different groups of cavies for three months and record the effects on condition.		
7.	Study and prepare a paper on one of the following and send it to the county newsletter: 1. General management of rabbits 2. Rabbit feeds, feeding, and nutrition 3. Rabbit diseases, prevention, and control 4. Markets and methods of marketing rabbits 5. Reproduction, breeding, and genetics 6. Record keeping as a basis for improving your project		
8.	Sell a litter and record your marketing techniques and the money earned.		
9.	Host a rabbit breed ID, judging, or showmanship competition or clinic.		
10.	Help another member start their project.		
11.	Become a junior or teen leader.		
12.	Clerk at a show.		

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Project Leader signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Certificate of Achievement



**Explorer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leader's Initials*

**Producer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leader's Initials*

**Consumer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leader's Initials*

**Leader**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leader's Initials*

**Researcher**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leader's Initials*

*This certifies that*

\_\_\_\_\_

*has completed the Rabbit Proficiency*

*in the Riverside County 4-H Youth Development Program*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leader

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date