RABBITS

Name: _____Club:_____

Date	Leaders Initials

Guidelines for Project Proficiency Award

BEGINNING (2 years in the project OR 13 years or older by Jan. 1)

1.	Identify and describe three breeds of domestic rabbits.	
2.	Name, point out, and spell the following parts of a rabbit: Hindquarters, loin, saddle, shoulder, belly, chest, dewlap, and hock.	
3.	Demonstrate (show and tell) how to lift, hold and carry a rabbit.	
4.	Describe a good type of hutch and the equipment that a beginner should have.	
5.	Explain what feeds are important for rabbits.	
6.	Know the standard weights for your breed of rabbit.	
7.	Demonstrate how to tell the sex of a young rabbit.	
8.	Explain how and why you would tattoo a rabbit.	
9.	Explain why the doe should be taken to the buck's hutch for breeding.	
10.	Explain and demonstrate how to prepare a nest box for a doe and when the correct time to put it in a hutch would be.	
11.	Describe proper management for providing fresh water, clean feed, clean hutch, financial records, and general care of your rabbit.	
12.	Be familiar with rabbit showmanship techniques.	
13.	Give one or more examples each of rabbit breeds used for meat, fur, fancy, and laboratory purposes.	
14.	Describe desirable characteristics of meat type rabbits; hindquarters, loin, saddle and shoulders.	
15.	Know what ARBA stands for and what ARBA district you are located in.	
16.	Name all of the rabbit body types.	
17.	Name all of the rabbit fur types.	
18.	Name all of the rabbit eye colors.	
19.	Describe the difference between a disqualification and a fault.	
20.	Give a rabbit demonstration at your project or club meeting.	

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Guidelines for Project Proficiency Award

INTERMEDIATE (3 years in the project OR 14 years old and completed a minimum of 2 years in the project)

	Date	Leaders Initials
1. Identify and describe six breeds of domestic rabbits.		
2. Name and label ALL body parts of a rabbit.		
3. Describe or demonstrate what you might do for the protection of your rabbit during hot weather and during cold weather.		
4. Describe, give control measures and possible treatment for at least three diseases or problem conditions in a rabbit, such as ear canker, soar hock, diarrhea, or vent disease.		
5. Explain what the top three feed ingredients are in your rabbits feed and why they are important for rabbits.		
6. Know the standard weights for at least three breeds of rabbit.		
7. Visit an approved rabbitry and learn how rabbits are housed, fed, watered and bred; how the young are cared for; and how the rabbits are marketed.		
8. Demonstrate how to tattoo a rabbit.		
9. Make out a pedigree for one of your rabbits.		
10. Invite and introduce a guest speaker at one of your project or club meetings. For example: a local producer, butcher, farm advisor, judge, feed dealer, or a housewife who cooks and serves rabbit.		
11. Submit management records covering a minimum of 30 days or more in providing fresh water, clean feed, clean hutch, financial records, and general care of your rabbit.		
12. Attend at least two rabbit shows.		
13. Assist as a clerk at a rabbit show.		
14. Participate in at least two rabbit showmanship events.		
15. Build a piece of equipment for use in your rabbitry.		
16. Know where the ARBA headquarters is located and who the current president is.		
17. Explain the difference between a fryer, a roaster and stewer.		
18. Know the point breakdown for your breed of rabbit.		
19. Give examples of at least three disqualification and three faults in a rabbit.		
20. Give a rabbit demonstration at your local club meeting or county presentation day.		

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Guidelines for Project Proficiency Award

ADVANCED (5 years in the project OR 16 years and completed a minimum of 2 years in the project)

1. Know how many recognized breed of rabbits there are and be able to identify and describe at least ten breeds of domestic rabbits.
2. Complete a junior or teen leader program in the rabbit project.
3. Assist younger members in designing and construction of needed equipment.
4. Prepare teaching materials for use at a rabbit project meeting.
5. Serve as a guest speaker on a rabbit-based subject before an organization or club other than your local 4-H club.
6. Assist at a rabbit show or field day as a clerk, a secretary, a recorder, or as an assistant to a judge (ramrod).
7. At a rabbit project meeting demonstrate how a rabbit is registered and explain the "leg" process.
8. Keep a doe production and breeding record for 90 days minimum.
9. Develop a breeding program for your own rabbit stock. Chart the procedures and analyze genetic results for key characteristics.
10. Demonstrate how to check a doe for pregnancy.
11. Prepare a nest box for a doe and put it in a hutch at the right time before kindling.
12. Make a chart explaining how good selection can improve your stock, using your own animals in the chart. Explain inbreeding and its advantages and disadvantages.
13. Complete financial management records covering a minimum of one year for your rabbitry, showing income and costs incurred.
14. Demonstrate showmanship at a rabbit project or club meeting.
15. Help process a rabbit.
16. Assist in cooking a rabbit.
17. Give a rabbit demonstration at a County Field Day.
18. Orally summarize a 300 word report at your rabbit project, club meeting, county meeting, or an educational event. Use one of the following subjects:
    a. Management of rabbits.
    b. Rabbit feeds, feeding and nutrition.
    c. Rabbit diseases, prevention and control, and general sanitation.
    d. Markets and methods of marketing rabbits.
    e. Reproduction, breeding, and genetics.
    f. Meat or fur preparation for market, how to market, and use.
    g. Keeping and using records as a basis for improving your 4-H rabbit project.

Leaders Signature: _____Date:_____