

## 227 PET RABBIT

### Project Description

This project is for the 4-H member who does not want to raise several rabbits for breeding or marketing. You may already have a pet rabbit or would like to purchase one. You will learn about rabbits in general by choosing from topics such as the history of the rabbit, selection/breeds, housing and equipment and nutrition. Information on the pet rabbit will help you learn about rabbit communication, behavior and temperament, ownership, factors to consider when buying a rabbit, rabbit proofing, etc.

### To Complete the Project

Use your project book as a guide to do the following:

1. Obtain your rabbit by May 1.
2. Study 1 or more Topics of Interest from your Rabbit Resource Handbook. Write a summary of the topic you studied and what you learned.
3. Complete a minimum of 8 activities from the list of project “Levels & Activities” that are listed for your age category.
  - For grades 3 - 5 or the first 3 years of this project, these are found on pages 5 through 11.
  - For grades 6-8 or the 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> year of this project these activities are listed on pages 12 - 19
  - For 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above or 7<sup>th</sup> year and above with this project, these are found on pages 20 through 27.
4. Take part in at least 2 project experiences each year (pg. 28).
5. Take part in at least 2 citizenship/leadership activities (pg. 29 & 30).
6. Complete the Quality Assurance (pg. 31 - 41) and Rabbit Records section of this project book.

Take part in a project review. If you choose not to participate in judging at the fair, make arrangements to discuss and review completion of your project with your advisor.

### Judging of this Project

This project will be judged as part of Special Interest Judging:

at the Union County Fair on Wednesday – Friday immediately prior to the start of the fair  
OR

at the Richwood Fair on Sunday immediately prior to the start of the fair

Your advisor will tell you a more specific judging time later in the summer. At the specific judging time assigned to you, **bring your completed project book, your rabbit and your project display. Bring your rabbit to judging in a safe traveling cage.** Remember there will be other animals and lots of noise at judging. You will

participate in an interview judging and then leave your exhibit (a display of your project) on display the entire week of the fair.

### **Project Display**

Prepare a display that shows the judge and fair visitors what you learned and accomplished in your project. For example: objects used or created, experiments performed, visuals, and other items used to complete project book activities, or a poster showing project activities and results. **If you choose to make a poster, it must be regular poster board (maximum 22 x 28), not foam board or tri-folds. Your project book cannot serve as your project display.**

### **Display Areas**

At the Union County Fair Special Interest Projects will be displayed in the Armory.

At the Richwood Fair these projects will be displayed in the Jr. Fair Building.

### **Project Pick-Up**

You must pick up your project display at the end of the fair, or arrange for someone to get it for you. At Union County Fair, Special Interest Projects will be released on the final Saturday of the fair from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Projects not picked up by 5 p.m. will be disposed of or donated to charities.

At the Richwood Fair, all Special Interest Projects will be released at 3 p.m. on Monday of the fair and should be removed by 9 p.m.

### **Award Presentation**

Union County Fair Special Interest Project Awards will be presented at the Jr. Fair Awards Program on Tuesday of the fair at the Armory. Richwood Fair Special Interest Project Awards will be presented at the Jr. Fair Awards Program during the fair. Check the fair paper for the day, time, and location of this program.

### **Ohio State Fair Opportunity**

Every 4-H'er who wishes to compete with this project at the State Fair can do so by submitting an Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day Entry Form to The Ohio State Fair Livestock Entry Department. Entries must be postmarked by (to be announced). Entry fee.

**The entry form and rules may be viewed and printed at this website:**

<https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/companion-animals/companion-animal-resources>